

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

The Power of Praise March 13, 2018 Suzi Armstrong

The very presence of God comes to inhabit the praises of His people. We host the presence of God in our praise and in our exaltation of His name and His glory. When we testify to the goodness of God – who He is and what He has done, His goodness and faithfulness, His mercy and grace, that He is the creator of all and the giver of life – transformation comes. The atmosphere changes, lives change, hope is infused. Worship God because the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. Prophecy connects the future to the now. Praise brings God's kingdom and dominion. The enemies of God cannot live in the atmosphere of praise and worship. Praise opens the heavens and the hearts of people.

The sound of praise impacts every dimension of culture and society. The sound of praise is the sound of freedom over the land. When Paul and Silas were in prison the power of the presence of God inhabiting their praises shook the very ground, opened prison doors, broke shackles and chains of bondage. The jail keeper and his family turned their hearts to Jesus – revival broke out in the jail. With a shout of praise the walls came down around Jericho. David modeled a nation and land that released a continuous sound of praise over the cities and the people. The sound of praise brings transformation.

We release the sound of our praise over Detroit, over this region and all of the people. We declare the glories of our God and King to the land and every sphere of influence. We prophesy to Detroit that God is good and His mercies endure forever! We declare to you Detroit, that God has a plan for you, a plan to prosper you and to bring you into the fullness of your purpose. You are a city of influence Detroit, by the hand of God. For the Lord is filling your mouth Detroit, with His sound and you will bellow the NOW sound of the glory of God throughout this nation and the nations of the earth. This is your destiny Detroit. The new wine and the oil will flow through you Detroit and saturate the earth. To you Detroit we declare that in this day God is restoring David's fallen tent, repairing its broken places, restoring its ruins so that the remnant of the Lord may possess their inheritance and all the nations that bear His name. It is the Lord who will do these things.

Psalm 42.1-2, 7-8 NIV reworded

¹ As the deer pants for streams of water,
so **Detroit pants for you, my God.**

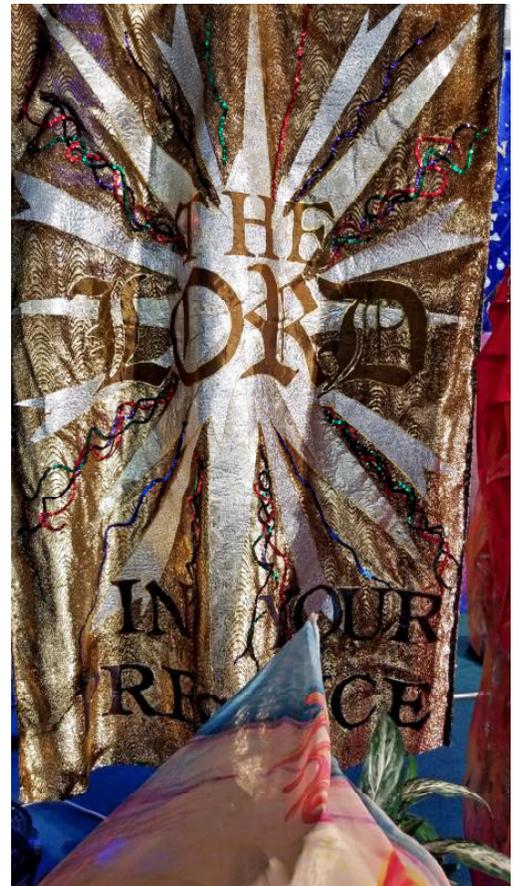
² **Detroit thirsts for God, for the living God.**

When can Detroit meet with God?

⁷ Deep calls to deep

in the roar of your waterfalls;
all your waves and breakers
have swept over Detroit.

⁸ By day the LORD directs his love,
at night his song is with Detroit—
a prayer to the God of Detroit's life.



Psalm 95.1-7 NIV reworded

Hear this Detroit:

¹ We come, and sing for joy to the LORD;
we shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

² We come before him with thanksgiving
and extol him with music and song.

³ For the LORD is the great God, Detroit,
the great King above all gods.

⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth,
and the mountain peaks belong to him.

⁵ The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.

⁶ We come and bow down in worship,
we kneel before the LORD our Maker;

⁷ for he is our God and the God of this city
and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.



Today Detroit, you will hear His voice,

- **Today Detroit**, greater transformation has come to you.
- **Today Detroit**, the increase of God's kingdom is here.
- **Today Detroit**, the sound of praise to God blankets you and all that is in you.

Psalm 96.3-9 NIV reworded

³ We declare his glory among the nations and in this city,
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

⁴ For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;
he is to be feared above all gods.

⁵ For all the gods of the nations are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.

⁶ Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and glory are in his sanctuary.

⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, Detroit,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering and come into his courts.

⁹ Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness;
tremble before him, all of Detroit.

Psalm 97.1-6 NIV reworded

¹ The LORD reigns in Detroit, let the earth be glad;
let the distant shores rejoice.

² Clouds and thick darkness surround him;
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

³ Fire goes before him
and consumes his foes on every side.

⁴ His lightning lights up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.

⁵ The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,
before the Lord of Detroit and all the earth.

⁶ The heavens and Detroit proclaim his righteousness,
and all peoples see his glory.

Detroit, you are demonstration and a sign for the One True God. The nations will see and turn to the Lord as you proclaim His righteousness. Those who worship images will be put to shame. For the Lord is the Most High over all of the earth, exalted far above all gods. Shout for joy Detroit! Burst into jubilant song, make music to the Lord. Let the City of Detroit resound with the sound of praise! Not based upon circumstances, but based upon the Lord Most High maker of the heavens and the earth who is faithful to all He speaks.

