

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 144 (145): 8–9. 10. 15. 17–18. R. 9a

R. How good is the Lord to all.

8 The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

9 How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. R.

10 All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.

15 The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time. R.

17 The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.

18 He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. R.

Responsorial Psalms

Usually the first reading in the wedding service is followed by a psalm. This is known as the 'Responsorial Psalm' because it is a way of saying 'Yes, we agree, and we are right behind what that first reading has said'. There are many musical versions of psalms available. The texts come from 'The Book of Psalms' or songs which are part of our Jewish-Christian heritage, at the heart of the Old Testament. We know Jesus himself prayed the psalms. We in our day use these words of our ancestors to respond to the reading from scripture. Someone may sing the psalm verses, and the congregation have a refrain to sing. The *Order of Christian Matrimony* gives you seven choices of psalm. However you may have a psalm that has particular resonance for you, and which you find most fitting for your readings and Gospel, enhancing the whole celebration.

For Reflection

- Look through each psalm choice, and see which speaks most about God's love for you, the love you have for one another, and how God blesses your love. You can ask the same questions of your psalm choice.