Listening Prayer – An Experience of Lectio Divina

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Psalm 98 RSV

O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.
The LORD has made known his victory,
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!
Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together
before the LORD, for he comes
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

For Reflection and Prayer:

Was there a word, a phrase, image, or feeling that 'shimmered' as you listened? Allow it to land in your heart. Stay with it. Savor it.

Reflect on what you heard. What effect does it have on you? What meaning does it hold for you? What does the Holy Spirit seem to be conveying to you? Talk it over in your prayer. Perhaps you want to draw or color your prayer or journal the conversation.

As the time of prayer comes to a close, share some moments of quiet with Jesus, simply resting safely in his presence.

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Psalm 98 The Message

Sing to GOD a brand-new song. He's made a world of wonders!

He rolled up his sleeves, He set things right.

GOD made history with salvation, He showed the world what he could do.

He remembered to love us, a bonus To his dear family, Israel—indefatigable love.

The whole earth comes to attention. Look—God's work of salvation!

Shout your praises to God, everybody! Let loose and sing! Strike up the band!

Round up an orchestra to play for God, Add on a hundred-voice choir.

Feature trumpets and big trombones, Fill the air with praises to King God.

Let the sea and its fish give a round of applause, With everything living on earth joining in.

Let ocean breakers call out, "Encore!"
And mountains harmonize the finale—

A tribute to GOD when he comes, When he comes to set the earth right.

He'll straighten out the whole world, He'll put the world right, and everyone in it.