

## ***Sing to the Lord a new song!***

"Sing to the Lord a new song!" is a familiar phrase that we often read in the bible. Yet what does the phrase "new song" mean?

In church we know all too well what it means to sing a song that is new to us-a "new song" is unfamiliar, the words come too fast and we don't remember the melody easily. New songs produce an uneasy feeling in us and they may hinder our worship. Why then did the psalmist exhort us to sing a "new song" and tell us that "He hath put a new song in my mouth."? (Ps 40:3)

Since the psalms are poetry, "new song" leads me to the conclusion that it is the literary device of anthropomorphism. In this poetic device, the human characteristic of the person singing is given to the song. Therefore, the phrase means that it is actually a **NEW PERSON** singing a song! This resonates with the message of the gospel because we know that if anyone is in Christ he is a "new creation, the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17) God has saved us through the washing and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior..." (Titus 3:5 & 6), and as a consequence we are "made new in the attitude of our minds." (Ephesians 4:23)

Being a new creature, we approach life differently. We venture into unfamiliar territory with a Godly perspective - we learn new truths in faith and keep on growing, to the glory of God, emboldened to sing and worship as we grow! If we have our attitudes in line with God's perspective, we have nothing to fear.

As a music director I can also offer you practical help with new songs - come and see me and ask me to sing with you and learn the new songs - in that way we will grow together!

Sincerely,  
Rosemary

PS: Something to do at home: a scripture check: Find and read all nine places in the bible where the phrase "new song" is written. (Psalms 33:3, 40:3, 96:1, 98:1, 144:9, 149:1, Isaiah 42:10, Revelations 5:9, 14:3)