

Psalm 111:1

Praise the Lord! I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.

The most commonly used Hebrew word for praise is the word hallal. This is the word used for praise in the first sentence of this verse. Hallal means to shine; to make a show, to boast; and thus to be clamorously foolish; to rave; to celebrate. The second praise is the word yadah. Yadah means to use (i.e. hold out) the hand; to revere or worship with extended hands.

You might translate the verse like this: I will make a show, rave about and be clamorously foolish in my celebration of the Lord. I will reverence and worship the Lord with lifted hands whenever the righteous are gathered together.

Scripture references:

Psalm 35:18:

I will give You thanks in the great assembly; I will praise You among many people.

Psalm 22:22

I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.

Psalm 22:25

My praise shall be of You in the great assembly; I will pay My vows before those who fear Him.

Psalm 149:1

Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, and His praise in the assembly of saints.