

Catherine Petrany

## Pedagogy, Prayer and Praise

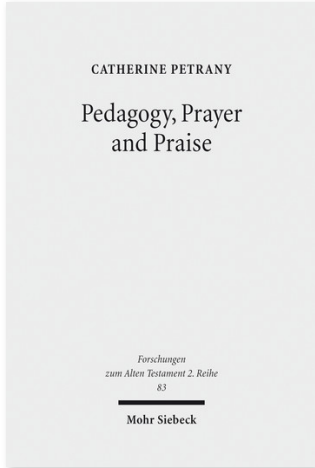
### The Wisdom of the Psalms and Psalter

[Pädagogik, Gebet und Lobpreisung. Die Weisheit der Psalmen.]

Published in English.

The presence of didactic, wisdom-like passages in the Book of Psalms presents a puzzle because it suggests a non-liturgical origin and pedagogical aim distinct from the more dominant psalmic language of lament and praise. Catherine Petrany argues for a literary and theological approach to the question of wisdom's role in the psalms that accounts for its meaningful integration with these other kinds of discourse. The unique contextualization of wisdom motifs in the psalms creates a pedagogical platform unique to the book, one related to but distinct from the pedagogies of the biblical wisdom corpus. Human wisdom speech in the psalms points beyond the classroom to the congregation and asks its hearers to become speakers, that is, to enter into conversation with the divine.

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2015. IX, 249 pages. FAT II 83

ISBN 978-3-16-154273-2

DOI 10.1628/978-3-16-154273-2

eBook PDF 104,00 €

ISBN 978-3-16-154272-5

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