Dear Ones in Christ,

I greet you in the name of the One who is Love. Let us quieten our hearts to hear God’s word for us today.

Today’s Lectionary psalm is Psalm 104:24-34, 25b

24 O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. 25 Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great. 26 There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it. 27 These all look to you to give them their food in due season; 28 when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they  are filled with good things. 29 When you hide  your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. 30 When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground. 31 May the glory of the LORD  endure forever; may the LORD  rejoice in his works —  32 who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke. 33 I will sing to the LORD  as long as I live; I will sing  praise to my God while I have being. 34 May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD. 35 (b) Bless the LORD, O my soul.  Praise the LORD!

First off, the psalmist says the earth is filled with diversity of creatures all made in God’s wisdom. This psalm is reminiscent of the creation story of all living things great and small and they all look to God for food and their very breath.

God is the one who has made every living thing in God’s wisdom. Diversity is created by God and each time we speak evil of any of God’s creation, we are insulting God.

The psalmist shouts may the glory of the LORD endure forever and rejoice in his works. Acknowledging that the LORD is our Creator and Sustainer the psalmist erupts into praise saying he will render praise for as long as he lives.

On this day when we celebrate Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, I challenge you to think of the wonders of God in diversity in this world. Then write your own psalm of praise.

Please join me in prayer:

God of wonder and diversity, guide us to see the beauty and holiness in the diversity in this world. Let our praise erupt without ceasing and may it be pleasing to You. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

Rev. Janice Stamper