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 8

1 O LORD,  our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!    You have set your glory above the heavens. 2 Out of the mouths  of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger. 3 When I  look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; 4 what are human  beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? 5 Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them  with glory and honor. 6 You have given them dominion  over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, 7 all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, 8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. 9 O LORD,  our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

The height and depth and breath and width of God’s glory and majesty resounds in this psalm. In light of such glory the psalmist asks what are humans that God is mindful of us and cares for us. God has made us just a little lower than God’s self, and crowned us with glory and honor.

If we truly let this psalm sink into our hearts and souls then we’d honor God’s majesty and stop trying to control others. There would be no racism and hatred and murder. And as we honor God we are to honor all creation and all creatures. We have been given the charge to care for creatures and creation, not dominate them for greed of more money.

Protests we have seen recently have arisen because humanity has failed to live honoring God and one another. For too long black lives, LBGTQ lives, brown lives, other lives have not mattered as much to white folks in this country as white lives. Let us begin again today to praise God’s majesty and treat others with the honor and glory with which they were created.

When we open ourselves to God’s majesty we will treat one another with the glory and honor. If God is sovereign then we need to start again to live that way and stop bowing to the powers and principalities of this world.

O LORD,  our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Please join me in prayer:

God of majesty and delight, all glory and honor belong to you. You care for us in ways we can’t even begin to imagine. We are grateful. Revive us to honor care for all lives and to take care of creation and all Your creatures. Sustain us in these times of unrest. Let us see Your Spirit moving in new and mysterious ways. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

Rev. Janice Stamper