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 in Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

1 O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works. 3 Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD  rejoice. 4 Seek the LORD  and his strength; seek his presence continually. 5 Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered, 6 O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob,  his chosen ones. 7 He is the LORD  our God; his judgments are in all the earth. 8 He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations, 9 the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac, 10 which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, 11 saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan as your portion for an inheritance."...45b Praise the LORD!

I don’t know about you, but I need to hear this today. We need to remember how God has saved us countless times in the past. The psalmist is recalling how God saved the Israelites time and time again. The psalmist implores us to give thanks, sing praises, and tell of God’s wonderful works.

Lord knows there’s enough bad news going on these days. The COVID-19 virus is spiking in Kentucky and around the nation. Those in leadership don’t seem to care. Politicians have made the safety of children returning to school into a political ping pong game. And mercy, there are so many Christians behaving badly yelling about their freedoms.

I would remind all of us, myself included, that we are to seek the God and God’s strength; to continually seek God’s presence. There may be some of you, like me, facing dire consequences from losing jobs and no funds to pay bills. You may have loved ones, who have COVID-19, as do I. And, you may have loved ones, who have died, just as I have. And God is the one who will carry us through.

As we keep praying for God to make a way where there seems to be no way let us keep our eyes on the One, who will keep covenants with us. Let us remember our baptisms and be grateful that we are One in the Spirit and God will see us through. Let us remember God will save us again and again as we give thanks and sing praises in the midst of whatever we endure.

Please pray with me: Gracious and Merciful God, we are most grateful for Your steadfast love that endures forever. Help us to keep our eyes, ears and hearts turned towards You. Grant that we may remember Your steadfastness and how to save us days without end. Help us to hold one another up during these trying times. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

Rev. Janice Stamper