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 99.

1 The LORD  is king; let the peoples tremble!
 He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
2 The LORD  is great in Zion;
 he is exalted over all the peoples.
3 Let them praise your great and awesome name.
 Holy is he!
4 Mighty King, lover of justice,
 you have established equity;
you have executed justice
 and righteousness  in Jacob.
5 Extol the LORD  our God;
 worship at his footstool.
 Holy is he!
6 Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
 Samuel also was among those who called on his name.
 They cried to the LORD, and he answered them.
7 He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;
 they kept his decrees,
 and the statutes that he gave them.
8 O LORD  our God,  you answered them;
 you were a forgiving God to  them,
 but an avenger of their wrongdoings.
9 Extol the LORD  our God,
 and worship at his holy mountain;
 for the LORD  our God is holy.

This is the last of 6 Enthronement psalms of God as sovereign over all creation. This one proclaims the LORD is king and calls for all people to tremble and the earth to quake. This is not just for Israel or a single group of people, yet for all people everywhere.

The LORD is a lover of justice and has established equity, not just for some, but for all; not just for Israelites or Christians or believers, but for all people. Then the psalmist turns towards Israel mentioning Jacob recalling how the LORD interacted with them.

The LORD is sovereign and the LORD our God is holy. We don’t have an edge on God. We can only see from our perspective which has been influenced by our upbringing, teachings, and beliefs. God is not confined to our beliefs about God; God is much bigger than we can conceive.

This psalm calls us beyond our own understanding God. The LORD is holy! The LORD is a lover of justice as many spit on those who are protesting for justice. The LORD has established equity for all people even though many cling to white supremacy while belittling black and brown people.

Extol, God, not your beliefs. Worship God where God is, not where and how you try to confine God. For the LORD is King! The LORD our God is holy!

Please join me in prayer: O God of the heavens and all of creation, as we declare You are God of our lives so help us to bow down with trembling and fear of You greatness. Grant that we may move beyond our beliefs and boundaries to worship You, not as we believe, yet as You desire. In Christ’s name I pray. Amen.