

+Week One + Sunday Morning

O Lord, open my lips.

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

You created the day and the night, O God;
you set the sun and the moon in their places;
you set the limits of the earth;
you made summer and winter. (Ps.74:16,17, GNB)

Psalm 119: κ

Those whose way is blameless—
who walk in the Lord's Instruction—are truly happy!
Those who guard God's laws are truly happy!
They seek God with all their hearts.
They don't even do anything wrong!
They walk in God's ways.
God, you have ordered that your decrees
should be kept most carefully.
How I wish my ways were strong
when it comes to keeping your statutes!
Then I wouldn't be ashamed
when I examine all your commandments.
I will give thanks to you with a heart that does right
as I learn your righteous rules.
I will keep your statutes.
Please don't leave me all alone!

Psalm 104

Let my whole being bless the Lord!
Lord my God, how fantastic you are!
You are clothed in glory and grandeur!
You wear light like a robe.

You open the skies like a curtain.
You build your lofty house on the waters;
you make the clouds your chariot,
going around on the wings of the wind.
You make the winds your messengers;
you make fire and flame your ministers.

You established the earth on its foundations
so that it will never ever fall.
You covered it with the watery deep like a piece of
clothing;
the waters were higher than the mountains!
But at your rebuke they ran away;
they fled in fear at the sound of your thunder.

They flowed over the mountains,
streaming down the valleys
to the place you established for them.
You set a boundary they cannot cross
so they'll never again cover the earth.

You put gushing springs into dry riverbeds.
They flow between the mountains,
providing water for every wild animal—
the wild donkeys quench their thirst.
Overhead, the birds in the sky make their home,
chirping loudly in the trees.

From your lofty house, you water the mountains.
The earth is filled full by the fruit of what you've
done.

You make grass grow for cattle;
you make plants for human farming
in order to get food from the ground,
and wine, which cheers people's hearts,

along with oil, which makes the face shine,
and bread, which sustains the human heart.

The Lord's trees are well watered—
the cedars of Lebanon, which God planted,
where the birds make their nests,
where the stork has a home in the cypresses.
The high mountains belong to the mountain goats;
the ridges are the refuge of badgers.

God made the moon for the seasons,
and the sun too, which knows when to set.
You bring on the darkness and it is night,
when every forest animal prowls.
The young lions roar for their prey,
seeking their food from God.

When the sun rises, they gather together
and lie down in their dens.
Then people go off to their work,
to do their work until evening.

Lord, you have done so many things!
You made them all so wisely!
The earth is full of your creations!

And then there's the sea, wide and deep,
with its countless creatures—
living things both small and large.
There go the ships on it,
and Leviathan, which you made, plays in it!

All your creations wait for you
to give them their food on time.
When you give it to them, they gather it up;

when you open your hand, they are filled completely
full!

But when you hide your face, they are terrified;
when you take away their breath,
they die and return to dust.
When you let loose your breath, they are created,
and you make the surface of the ground brand-new
again.

Let the Lord's glory last forever!
Let the Lord rejoice in all he has made!
He has only to look at the earth, and it shakes.
God just touches the mountains, and they erupt in
smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I'm still alive.
Let my praise be pleasing to him;
I'm rejoicing in the Lord!

Let sinners be wiped clean from the earth;
let the wicked be no more.
But let my whole being bless the Lord!
Praise the Lord!

Psalm 116

I love the Lord because he hears
my requests for mercy.
I'll call out to him as long as I live,
because he listens closely to me.

Death's ropes bound me;
the distress of the grave found me—
I came face-to-face with trouble and grief.
So I called on the Lord's name:

“Lord, please save me!”

The Lord is merciful and righteous;
our God is compassionate.
The Lord protects simple folk;
he saves me whenever I am brought down.

I tell myself, You can be at peace again,
because the Lord has been good to you.
You, God, have delivered me from death,
my eyes from tears,
and my foot from stumbling,
so I'll walk before the Lord
in the land of the living.
I have remained faithful, even when I said,
“I am suffering so badly!”
even when I said, out of fear,
“Everyone is a liar!”

What can I give back to the Lord
for all the good things he has done for me?
I'll lift up the cup of salvation.
I'll call on the Lord's name.

I'll keep the promises I made to the Lord
in the presence of all God's people.
The death of the Lord's faithful
is a costly loss in his eyes.

Oh yes, Lord, I am definitely your servant!
I am your servant and the son of your female servant
—
you've freed me from my chains.
So I'll offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to you,
and I'll call on the Lord's name.

I'll keep the promises I made to the Lord
in the presence of all God's people,
in the courtyards of the Lord's house,
which is in the center of Jerusalem.
Praise the Lord!

Psalm 145

I will lift you up high, my God, the true king.
I will bless your name forever and always.

I will bless you every day.
I will praise your name forever and always.
The Lord is great and so worthy of praise!
God's greatness can't be grasped.

One generation will praise your works to the next one,
proclaiming your mighty acts.
They will talk all about the glorious splendor of your
majesty;
I will contemplate your wondrous works.

They will speak of the power of your awesome deeds;
I will declare your great accomplishments.
They will rave in celebration of your abundant
goodness;
they will shout joyfully about your righteousness:

“The Lord is merciful and compassionate,
very patient, and full of faithful love.
The Lord is good to everyone and everything;
God's compassion extends, to all his handiwork!”

All that you have made gives thanks to you, Lord;
all your faithful ones bless you!
They speak of the glory of your kingdom;

they talk all about your power,
to inform all human beings about God's power
and the majestic glory of God's kingdom.
Your kingdom is a kingship that lasts forever;
your rule endures for all generations.

The Lord is trustworthy in all that he says,
faithful in all that he does.
The Lord supports all who fall down,
straightens up all who are bent low.

All eyes look to you, hoping,
and you give them their food right on time,
opening your hand
and satisfying the desire of every living thing.

The Lord is righteous in all his ways,
faithful in all his deeds.
The Lord is close to everyone who calls out to him,
to all who call out to him sincerely.

God shows favor to those who honor him,
listening to their cries for help and saving them.
The Lord protects all who love him,
but he destroys every wicked person.

My mouth will proclaim the Lord's praise,
and every living thing will bless God's holy name
forever and always.

Psalm 76

God is known in Judah;
his name is great in Israel.
His dwelling place became Salem;
his habitation was Zion.
It was there that he broke the fiery shafts of the bow,

the shield, the sword—even the battle itself!

You are ablaze with light,
mightier than the mountains that give food.
The brave-hearted lie plundered.
They sank into deep lethargy.
All the strong troops
couldn't even lift their hands!
At your rebuke, Jacob's God,
both chariot and horse were stopped dead-still.

You! You are awesome!
Who can stand before you when you are angry?

You have announced judgment from heaven.
The earth grew afraid and fell silent
when God rose up to establish justice,
when God rose up to save all of the earth's poor.

Even human rage will turn to your praise
when you dress yourself
with whatever remains of your wrath.
Make promises to the Lord your God and keep them!
Let all around him bring gifts to the awesome one.
He breaks the spirit of princes.
He is terrifying to all the kings of the earth.

DAILY READING

Romans 13:8-10

"Don't owe anything to anyone, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your neighbor, you see, you have fulfilled the law. Commandments like 'don't commit adultery, don't kill, don't steal, don't covet'—and any other commandment—are summed up in this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' Love does no wrong to its neighbor; so love is the fulfillment of the law."

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Satisfy us with your love in the morning,
and we will live this day in joy and praise.

Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new. Especially we thank you for

- the beauty of your creation . . .
- the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness . . .
- the sustaining love of family and friends . . .
- the fellowship of faith in your church. . . .

Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord.

Especially we pray for

- those who govern nations of the world . . .
- the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare . . .
- all who work for peace and international harmony . . .
- all who strive to save the earth from destruction . . .
- the church of Jesus Christ in every land. . . .

Today we lift up in prayer the following members and friends of FPCB:

John & Judi Almand, Don & Nannette Amaden, Ed & Linda Argersinger, Priscilla Babas, Roland & Heather,

Tyler & Troy Baggs; Robert & Anne Baker; Suzan Barkley; John, Margaret, Robbie & Alex Barlow; Don & Gay Zegel; Dan, Angela, Dakota & Celia Zane; Jim & Sally Yockey, Mike Yasenchak, Merle Wooten, Dennis & Elizabeth Woodall, Doug & Mary Ellen Witt, Paul & Marilyn Winter...

Our Father...

Eternal God,
our beginning and our end,
be our starting point and our haven, and accompany us in this day's journey.
Use our hands
to do the work of your creation,
and use our lives
to bring others the new life you give this world in Jesus Christ, Redeemer of all.
Amen.

*May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.*

References:

*Psalms from the Common English Bible
Romans reading from the Kingdom New Testament,
trans. by NT Wright
Prayers from Book of Common Worship*