



*United Presbyterian Church
Harrodsburg, Kentucky
Meditation for Sunday August 9th*

Rev. Janice Stamper

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 105:1-6, 16-22, 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... 16 When he summoned famine against the land, and broke every staff of bread, 17 he had sent a man ahead of them, Joseph, who was sold as a slave. 18 His feet were hurt with fetters, his neck was put in a collar of iron; 19 until what he had said came to pass, the word of the LORD kept testing him. 20 The king sent and released him; the ruler of the peoples set him free. 21 He made him lord of his house, and ruler of all his possessions, 22 to instruct his officials at his pleasure, and to teach his elders wisdom. ..45b Praise the LORD!

Like many psalms, this one calls us to give thanks, seek the Lord, and remember God's work in the world. Like the psalmist recalling the life of Joseph, we are to remember God's works, miracles, and judgments.

When things are tough it can be hard to recall anything good. During difficult times it is not easy to recall the goodness of the Lord, yet that is exactly what the psalm is calling us to do.

This past week a dear friend and colleague, Rev. Dr. Steve Montgomery died from someone hitting him while riding his bike. Then Dr. Joey Minter, a local veterinarian for many in eastern KY, died from complicated health issues. Countless people wrote about both men recalling all the good they did in their lives. It reminded me of this psalm where we are urged to recall all the goodness God has and is doing in our lives.

Take some time to remember God's work and faithfulness. Recall the miracles! Ponder the judgments. This will lead us to sing and give thanks because we will remember God has not left us alone during this difficult time. God is here. God is present. God is alive and active in our lives. Praise the Lord!

Please join me in prayer. *Gracious and everlasting God, how we praise you for your love for us. Grant that we may remember your wonderful works and endless mercy. Let us seek you and your strength to carry us through these trying times. In Christ's name, I pray. Amen.*

Rev. Janice Stamper