

Scripture:

Psalm 147:1, 8-11

¹Praise the Lord. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him!

⁸He covers the sky with clouds; he supplies the earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills. ⁹He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call. ¹⁰ His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of the warrior; ¹¹ the Lord delights in those who are in awe of him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.

Jude 17-21, 24-25 ¹⁷But you, my dear friends, must remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ predicted. ¹⁸They told you that in the last times there would be scoffers whose purpose in life is to satisfy their ungodly desires. ¹⁹These people are the ones who are creating divisions among you. They follow their natural instincts because they do not have God's Spirit in them.

²⁰ But you, dear friends, must build each other up in your most holy faith, pray in the power of the Holy Spirit, ²¹ and await the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will bring you eternal life. In this way, you will keep yourselves safe in God's love...

²⁴Now all glory to God, who can keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault. ²⁵ All glory to him who alone is God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power, and authority are his before all time, and in the present, and beyond all time! Amen.

Questions:

- What do you fear? Whom do you fear?
- Do you believe God has the power and desire to give you an inner calm when facing the storm of life? How might God go about doing this? Do you/will you allow this?
- A quote from Martin Luther King today says this: "At times we feel that we do not need God, but on the day when the storms of disappointment rage, the winds of disaster blow, and the tidal waves of grief beat against our lives, if we do not have a deep and patient faith our emotional lives will be ripped to shreds. There is so much frustration in the world because we have relied on gods rather than God." From Strength to Love/Our God, pg. 508, a sermon preached by Martin Luther King, Jr. What do you think about that? Do you agree or not? What makes you say what you say? How might you continue to grow ever more into that patient and deep faith?

Reading for the Week:

Monday: Psalm 46:1-3 Tuesday: Genesis 50:21 Wednesday: 2 Timothy 1:7 Thursday: Isaiah 41:10 Friday: Hebrews 13:6

February 9 – Our God is Able

Our God is able...do you believe that? Really? Do you believe God is able to hold you, carry you, sustain you? Do you believe God is able to make a difference in your life? To handle your fears and worries? We often talk about how God shows up for us, but this weekend, we will, alongside Martin Luther King, delve into the truth that our God is able – probably far more able than we think or imagine sometimes!