



Wednesday Prayer

Third Sunday of Easter – Trust that God Provides

Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer. How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies? Selah But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself; the LORD hears when I call. When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent. Selah Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD. There are many who say, “O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!” You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound. I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

Psalm 4

This week’s writing comes from Guatemala, while visiting with our Iglesia Luterana Agustino de Guatemala (ILAG) partners in the ELCA. Today we visited the village of Las Rosas, receiving gracious hospitality and delighting in the children’s wonder at the lessons of the solar eclipse and then into the story of Noah and God’s promise. Regarding the eclipse, we learned there are stories of superstition circulating in some villages (similar as in the U.S.), but in Las Rosas, there was one little 6-year-old boy who was very familiar with how the whole process of the earth and moon’s rotations work. He felt safety in his village, and comfort with us as new visitors – a trust in his community and in God.

We also learned of some of the hardships and blessings within the community. A kitchen for the church being built by church and community members so that all may gather, and the extended length of time a project like this takes as funds are available. A new family home for a mother of six whose husband is incarcerated – another project taking years to complete as funds come from his work in the prison and her own work (in addition to raising six children!). Alongside this is the hard work of forgiveness for wrongs done and the trust in God to provide.

“You gave me room when I was in distress.” Often we need room, time and space to let God do God’s work. To me, it seems this community in Guatemala understands this much more so than we often do.

Dear God, as we confront those who oppress us or others, may we cry out to you in prayer, allowing time to lie down and receive the peace and safety you provide. Thank you for the opportunity to learn from one another, to receive the blessings of a community far from home, and to delight in the children’s wonder and knowledge. Amen.

Written by Joy McElroy, Cherish All Children Executive Director.

*Join us April 21 at Valley of Peace Lutheran Church for [Sing, My Soul: Love in Heaven and the Sky](#) offered by Caritas Vocal Ensemble. A free-will offering supports Cherish All Children.