

# Looking for the Light

a devotional from  
ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

by Geoff Snodgrass

## Read:

*Psalm 147:1-11*

- 1 Praise the Lord!  
How good it is to sing praises to our God;  
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.
- 2 The Lord builds up Jerusalem;  
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted,  
and binds up their wounds.
- 4 He determines the number of the stars;  
he gives to all of them their names.
- 5 Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;  
his understanding is beyond measure.
- 6 The Lord lifts up the downtrodden;  
he casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;  
make melody to our God on the lyre.
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds,  
prepares rain for the earth,  
makes grass grow on the hills.
- 9 He gives to the animals their food,  
and to the young ravens when they cry.
- 10 His delight is not in the strength of the horse,  
nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;
- 11 but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him,  
in those who hope in his steadfast love.

## Reflect:

We often turn to God in times of turmoil and strife. But how often do we glorify God when life is going well? I am sometimes guilty of taking God for granted as I go about my daily tasks. It shouldn't take a pandemic to make us stop and reflect on the

majesty of God, the awesome power of nature and our role in contributing to human misery. Even when times are good for us, others are suffering. The poor are hungry, nations are embroiled in war, the seas are exploited and the earth is ravaged by human activity. The Psalmist implores us to fear the Lord and hope in His steadfast love. We can hope and we can pray, but we can also alleviate much of what we have wrought by following the tenants of our faith by loving others as we love ourselves, trusting in God and working together to build a better world.

**Pray:**

Gracious God, we come to you in times of hardship because we seek refuge from things beyond our control. We ask you to protect us from sickness and disease and from those troubles that we ourselves have caused. Help us to open our hearts to your love that we may better serve You and humanity by becoming better stewards of the world You have prepared for us.

*To send us your prayer requests, click on [this link](#) and our church staff and prayer group will add you to our weekly prayer list. You will have the option to specify your request as confidential.*

*If you would like to contribute to our daily devotionals, please email Pastor Sarah, [sarah@scapc.org](mailto:sarah@scapc.org).*

[www.scapc.org](http://www.scapc.org)

*Disclosure: The recipients of this message are associated with St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church (SCAPC), either by way of membership, visitation, expressed interest, or participation in SCAPC's programs. If you no longer wish to receive email from SCAPC, please click below to unsubscribe. This will exclude you from ALL church emails, including meeting notices.*

St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church | 1545 State Street, New Orleans, LA 70118

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by [events@scapc.org](mailto:events@scapc.org)