

# A Word on Wednesday from Pastor Tonia

## "Praise God" 11/1/23

*Every day I will bless You, and praise Your name forever and ever.*

*Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; His greatness is unsearchable. (Ps 145:2-3)*

Who is this God we worship? Is there a God? Were we fearfully and wonderfully made, or just happenstance? Is a God really watching over us, or are we just meandering along on our own? Is anybody there? Does anybody care?

These questions come to most people, even people of faith. Some days, some situations are beyond understanding. "How can this happen?" we ask, when life throws us a curveball. How does the batter hit a curveball? Life is full of questions. There are days we get it and days we don't. Do we each have to come up with our own answer or is there an acceptable answer which fits everybody? Some days I feel like I ask more questions than I receive answers for. Does everybody have these kinds of days? Some people seem to have all the answers, they never question life, they handle everything without ruffling their feathers. I don't get it. Maybe they just wear a good mask.

I choose to believe in God, not sure that's theologically correct, but it works for me. I believe God is who God says He is, as written in scripture, as seen in creation. I believe Jesus is His Son and the Holy Spirit, following Jesus' death and resurrection, is the person of Triune God sent to be with us in our - here and now.

Life is not easy, stuff happens, we are not always in control, such a shame; but God is still God no matter how we slice it. And who is this God? I am put at ease by David's psalm of praise: I will extol You, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you, and praise Your name forever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; His greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall laud Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works, I will meditate. The might of Your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare Your greatness. They shall celebrate the fame of Your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of

*Your righteousness.*

*The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. (Ps 145)*

This is the God in whom I put my faith. This is the God who delivered the children of Israel, leading them from oppression to freedom. This is the God from whom all blessings flow, this is the God to whom we lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving. We are strengthened as we praise His Name, as we share His love. Life does throw out curveballs, but God remains the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Thanks be to God.

## **Please pray with me:**

Lord, I lift Your name on high. I give You thanks and praise for Your love and compassion, for Your creation, for sending Your Son, for removing what separates us from You. Thank You for Your continued presence and protection. May my life reflect Your love to others. Help me to remember always Your wondrous works and goodness.

**Amen.**