

Hi Everybody,

Let's talk about the Psalm 147 this week. Please read it slowly and share anything that comes to mind.

Love,

John

Psalm 147:1-7

Alleluia

How good it is to make music for our God,
how joyful to honour him with Praise.
The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and gathers together the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the broken hearted
and binds up all their wounds.
He counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.
Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
his wisdom is beyond telling.

The Lord lifts up the poor,
but casts down the wicked to the ground.
Sing to the Lord with Thanksgiving;
make music to our Lord upon the lyre.

“How good it is to make music for our God”. I have been feeling that very much this plague season. How good it is to hear a flute or a violin or a human voice ringing in our lovely stone church. How blessed we are when music helps to still our busy minds - even if it's for just a moment – because a moment is all the Holy Spirit needs.

Let us say that Jerusalem is our church, and we are the outcasts of Isreal. “The Lord gathers us together, heals our broken hearts, and binds up our wounds”. It isn't just the musicians who have been brought in from that rough old world and given a chance to serve. The gardeners and the cleaners, the priests and the readers – those who disinfect, those who do the planning and those who do the repairin: our church family is like a musical ensemble. Each of us has a part to play.

“The Lord counts the number of stars and calls them all by name.” As a humble outcast, I sometimes think God Almighty couldn't possibly have time for my prayers. And isn't it a little presumptuous of me to bother Him with my pretty problems, when there are billions of others whose suffering is far greater then mine?

No. “Great is our Lord and mighty in power.” His grace and mercy are infinite. It is God who untiringly breathes life into all things. There is more then enough of Him to go around. “No work too hard for Him”, the hymn says. It's as simple a that.

So we can pray with confidence. And however humbly we serve, let's do it with a song in our hearts. “Sing to the Lord with Thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the Lyre.”

JP