

Northminster Presbyterian Church
Weekly Devotional
Week of November 16th – November 22nd, 2008

Scripture Readings

- Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
- Psalm 100
- Ephesians 1:15-23
- Matthew 25:31-46

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
Come before him with joyful songs.
Know that the Lord is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
We are his people,
The sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving
And his courts with praise;
Give thanks to him and praise his name.
For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
His faithfulness continues through all generations
Psalm 100:1-5

This psalm is an excellent example of an ancient musician at his best. Only the Twenty-third is more widely known and loved in all of Christendom. However, sometimes the things that we know best are the things we appreciate least. I asked myself why this passage has remained one of the best-loved in all the Bible.

It seems to me there are at least five reasons.

1. The Lord is God – Creator, Sustainer, Redeemer (v. 3)
2. He made me and I belong to Him My identity is in Him. I'm not a faceless nonentity, floating through the impersonal cosmos, but a child of God (v. 3)
3. The Lord is good. He wishes me good, not evil (v. 5)
4. God loves me with an endless love because I am infinitely precious to Him (v. 5)
5. God's covenant of love extends to my children – Ainsley and Alex – and to any grandchildren they may give me someday! (v. 5)

Such good news fills me with joy and a desire to “enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise.”

Pastor Stacey