Wednesday of the Second Week of Easter - Psalm 148

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! ² Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts! ³ Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars! ⁴ Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! ⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created. ⁶ And he established them forever and ever; he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away. ⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, ⁸ fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word! ⁹ Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! ¹⁰ Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds! ¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! ¹² Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted;his majesty is above earth and heaven.

¹⁴ He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his saints,

for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD! I would like you to focus on verse 14, which is a prophecy of Christ. Zechariah, John the Baptist's father says, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed His people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David…" (Luke 1:68-69).

The psalmist tells us that God is to be praised because He has provided us a mighty victory in Christ Jesus our Lord. He has made us His holy people and a people of His nearness not by what we do or how we behave but by God's grace. There is still reason give God praise.

The psalmist today runs throughout the creation, from sun, moon, and stars to kings and princes, from mountains and hills to old men and youths, from them all, including you, he calls for praise. It might be counterintuitive, but often in hard days praise comes easier. Those things which we took for granted are seen with new eyes and appreciated. Heed the psalmist today – Praise the Lord!

God be with you until we meet again. In Jesus' love and mercy, Pastor Wulf