

Wed., Dec. 14, 2011

The Rev. Dr. Mary L. Buckley '00/'05, Interim Program Coordinator of the Metro-Urban Institute

Scripture

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.

Devotional

The Psalmist in the text reminds us of how important it is for us to praise the Lord. Praise should be a continual act of sacrifice that we offer to the Lord daily. While we are praising God we are placing our entire focus on God. We forget for a moment about ourselves. This Psalm reminds me of how omniscient God is and how God's love for me is seen in nature. I remember how I felt when I saw snow for the first time.

Prayer

We thank you Lord for sharing your creative powers with us. We give thanks to God because you have included us in your master plan. We thank you God for receiving our songs of praise. We thank you God for allowing our hearts to burst and swell because you are our God. Amen.