STAYING CONNECTED

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR OUR MCIVOR CHURCH FAMILY

November 1, 2026

PSALM 77 – A PSALM OF ASAPH

For Jeduthun, the choir director: A psalm of Asaph.

I cry out to God; yes, I shout.
Oh, that God would listen to me!

When I was in deep trouble,
I searched for the Lord.
All night long I prayed, with hands lifted toward heaven,
but my soul was not comforted.

I think of God, and I moan,
overwhelmed with longing for His help.
Interlude

You don't let me sleep.
I am too distressed even to pray!

I think of the good old days,
long since ended,

when my nights were filled with joyful songs.
I search my soul and ponder the difference now.

Has the Lord rejected me forever?
Will he never again be kind to me?

Is his unfailing love gone forever?
Have his promises permanently failed?

Has God forgotten to be gracious?
Has he slammed the door on his compassion?
Interlude

And I said, "This is my fate;
the Most High has turned his hand against me."

But then I recall all you have done, O Lord;
I remember your wonderful deeds of long ago.

They are constantly in my thoughts.
I cannot stop thinking about your mighty works.

O God, your ways are holy.
Is there any god as mighty as you?

You are the God of great wonders!
You demonstrate your awesome power among the nations.

By your strong arm, you redeemed your people,
the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.

Interlude

When the Red Sea saw you, O God,
its waters looked and trembled!
The sea quaked to its very depths.

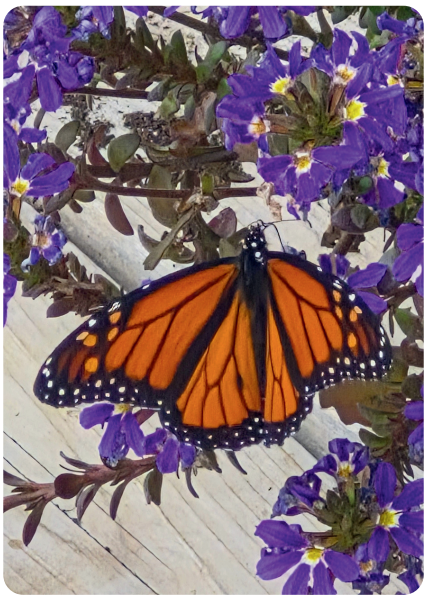
The clouds poured down rain;
the thunder rumbled in the sky.
Your arrows of lightning flashed.

Your thunder roared from the whirlwind;
the lightning lit up the world!
The earth trembled and shook.

Your road led through the sea,
your pathway through the mighty waters—
a pathway no one knew was there!

You led your people along that road like a flock of sheep,
with Moses and Aaron as their shepherds.

REFLECTIONS ON PSALM 77 – PASTOR SHERRYL



This month I was able to take eight days to celebrate my 65th birthday together with a friend that I have had since grade 1. She also turned 65 this year, so we thought it would be great to celebrate so many years of friendship and such a significant season in life!

Spending time together enjoying the beauty of southeastern Ontario was such a gift! We walked, talked, cycled, drove around, sat in a hot tub, laughed, cried and reminisced on the very good and extraordinary ways God has worked in our lives.

Reflection can be such an incredible thing as we look at our relationships with others, but also as we look at our relationship with Jesus Christ.

If we take a look at Psalm 77:11-12 we find these words of the writer Asaph "*...But then I recall all You have done, O Lord; I remember Your wonderful deeds of long ago. They are constantly in my thoughts. I cannot stop thinking about Your mighty works.*"

What is interesting about this Psalm is that in verses 1-10, Asaph is crying out to God and feels abandoned by Him. Then comes the word BUT in verse 11 and there is a complete turn around in Asaph's words and reflections from this verse until the end of the Psalm in verse 20. Asaph remembers so much of God's goodness, faithfulness and leading the people of Israel through the Red Sea that he breaks out in praise to God.

If you are like me, this Psalm is one that I can easily identify with, especially if I find myself in a difficult season of life. However, after the first 10 verses, reflection brings Asaph to a place of remembering the many awesome acts of God, God's presence in all seasons of His life and how God rescued not only him, but also the people of Israel.

God has faithfully been with me in every season!

My vacation was a time to reflect and to recognize how God has faithfully been with me all these many years of my life and a reminder to cling to the faithfulness of God. No matter what season I find myself in, God will not abandon me!

My challenge now is to not only do this on vacation, but on a regular basis while at home and caught up in the daily-ness of life.

Here are but a few photos from my trip to see how awesome God as creator is! He gives us endless beauty to enjoy!



GIVING

We accept donations by cash, cheque, e-transfers to mcivor@mcivorchurch.com, or via credit card (scan the QR code). For Direct Deposit, contact the office.

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