

Third Sunday of Lent

“The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; My God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.”

Psalm 18:2

In this psalm, David praises God for manifold blessings. In my life, I was blessed by a loving extended family, and my son and daughter and their spouses, my grandchildren, brothers, cousins, and friends are more blessings. My grandparents used to say that “work is a blessing,” and I remember this often. I have had the opportunity for steady work in my life, and I thank God for that; I have met so many wonderful people, in teaching, printing, and in retirement communities. After I moved to Florida, my mother and I joined this wonderful First Presbyterian church and loved going to Sunday services and special music programs. I also enjoyed going to Wednesday night classes and educational seminars. We learned that we need to trust God and read the Bible daily. As the two of us sat together in church, listening to the sermons and music, we were thankful for our God-given time. Through life’s joys and trials, we were uplifted by God’s presence, prayers of the congregation, and multitude of angels in the sanctuary. We were especially glad when family members could visit. We shared fun at home too, as we loved to read, cook, and sew. I also met many times with the late Rev. Piersma, who encouraged me to write a Biblically based cookbook and a book of angel poems. He thought the books were a gift from God. So, I know God has been guiding me, as I hold His hand. God truly is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer.

Dear God, I am thankful that You always hold my hand. Thank You for answering my prayers for wisdom and guidance through the years. My faith in You sustains me and I pray for You to direct our pastors and staff, and the congregation. Amen.

Barbara Cook

