

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

MAY 16, 2022

This week as we consider the times in which we live, times when we can sometimes be overwhelmed by the amount of “bad” news that we hear, it is important for us to remember that we are “in the world but not of the world.” I do not intend that we interpret that quote from scripture as enabling us to isolate ourselves from the difficulties of our time. Just the opposite. We are to involve ourselves in every situation in which we can be of help.

At the same time, we must practice self-care if we are to be of help to others. We must remember who we are and Whose we are. Through the years, one of the most reassuring passages of scripture remains:

*But now, this is what the Lord says –  
He who created you, O Jacob,  
He who formed you, O Israel:  
“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name; you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters,  
I will be with you;  
And when you pass through the rivers,  
They will not sweep over you.  
For I am the Lord your God,  
The Holy One of Israel, your Savior...  
Since you are precious and honored in my sight,  
And because I love you...”  
(Isaiah 43:1, 2a, 3a,4a)*

These words are alive because they are spoken to us by God and they never change. If we continue to focus our eyes upon God and upon the Christ in whom we have placed our faith, and allow the Holy Spirit to lead our lives, we will walk out of these days into the sunshine of the future that God has prepared for us.

*Lord God, our creator, our redeemer, and our sustainer, we fix our eyes upon You;  
we listen to the voice of your Spirit as it leads us; we follow your Son, our Savior.*

*Amen. Pastor Louise*