

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Rev. Jeff Duncan

*O God, from my youth you have taught me, / and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.
So even to old age and gray hairs, / O God, do not forsake me,
until I proclaim your might to another generation, / your power to all those to come.
Your righteousness, O God, / reaches the high heavens.
You who have done great things, / O God, who is like you?
You who have made me see many troubles and calamities / will revive me again;
from the depths of the earth / you will bring me up again. ~ Psalm 71:17- 20*

Proclaiming His Love: The Indispensable Aging

Even to old age and gray hairs, you are indispensable! What worth do you have? What remains your vocation when your muscles atrophy, your mind slips, your eyesight diminishes, your hearing is spotty, and your desire is just to stay in bed all day as the world goes by? Witness!

Psalm 71:18 proclaims, *“So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim Your might to another generation, Your power to all those to come.”*

The aging in faith are indispensable witnesses of our Lord Jesus Christ. You have remained faithful all these years. You have placed hope and trust in the Lord since youthful days. You are the recipients of our Lord's provision. His grace in Word and Sacrament has sustained you, fed you, forgiven you. His righteousness is yours through the cross. Your rescue awaits; a sweet entrance into the sleep of paradise promised so long ago for those remaining faithful to the end.

Your aging voice – even though cracked or strained through whispers – is the voice that calls upon the Lord as the rock of refuge. He is the One whom you have leaned upon from before birth, the One who took you from your mother's womb, and the One for whom your praise has been continually raised! This witness of Life is powerful for another generation. In the midst of all the turmoil and sorrow of this modern age, watching you hope continually and praise Him with your voice is powerful! It's inspirational! It's dynamic! It's an indispensable witness of His love and mercy to those yet to come.

Prayer: O Lord, hold me close and keep me in true faith that I might continually give witness to You and proclaim my own indispensable creation to Your glory. Amen.