

## Session II: Psalms of Praise

1. Psalm 122 is a reflection on God's commitment to peace. Jerusalem, the religious, political and cultural center of the nation of Israel pledges to reflect this value. How do we express this goal of peace: Individually? As a Congregation? As a Nation?
2. Christians frequently characterize the God of the Hebrew Scriptures as a "God of Vengeance". Yet the Psalms constantly praise a God of mercy and love. Psalm 103 is a meditation of God's forgiveness even in our unworthiness. How is this Psalm similar to the depiction of God in the Lord's Prayer?
3. Psalm 136 is the epitome of call and response. The verses relate God's saving actions from the Creation up to the (then) present time. Between each verse is the refrain that emphasizes God's nature: "For His steadfast love endures forever". How do you see the balance of these two aspects of God—Infinite Might and Infinite Love?