

A Lament for Today's World (July 2025)

*Are You Listening?*

Rev. Elizabeth Hartung

Are You Listening?

Oh God, that has many names –

I call out,

We call out,

Are you listening?

Merciful God, God of Laughter, God of Grace, God of Folly,

Mother, Father, Creator God,

Are you listening?

Lord of all, God of all,

Are you listening?

Don't you have the eyes to see or the ears to hear?

We are languishing in the outer darkness.

Waiting, gnashing our teeth.

How many names must we use before you hear?

Are your eyes and ears closed to the evil that ascends?

Evil that builds schools, cities, roads, businesses, and governments that suffocate your creation.

Creation breathes evil's quagmire and is no longer able to feed herself.

Are your eyes and ears closed to the evil that ascends?

Evil abuses those hiding in the margins, waiting in the outer darkness for your outstretched hands.

Evil creates fear in homes, families, and communities to allow violence and rape to be tolerated and used as a means of control.

Are your eyes and ears closed to the evil that ascends?

Evil has hold of our leaders who trap, trample, and starve the foreigner.

Evil manifests itself in white supremacy and Christian nationalism, creating harm that knows no bounds in our communities of color.

Evil starves, imprisons, kills, and kidnaps our defenseless neighbors.

Evil infects our white siblings with desires to hold on to false narratives.

I am weak, we are weak as Evil ascends and infects.

Are your eyes and ears closed to the evil that ascends?

God of Gods and Lord of Lords, your arms will envelope us and raise us out of the evil quagmire.

Your eyes will open as the sun rises and sets.

Your stars will shine the light on the path that leads towards freedom and broken chains.

Your rivers will flourish and sustain the earth, so once again the earth's breath is clean.

God of Gods and Lord of Lords, your arms will envelope us and raise us out of the evil quagmire.

Your ears will open and hear the cries of your people living in the outer darkness.

Your ears will hear the teeth that grind at night because of aching hearts abused by hardened hearts.

God of Gods and Lord of Lords, your arms will envelope us and raise us out of the evil quagmire.

God of Gods and Lord of Lords, lift us out of the quagmire and guide our path away from evil towards your steadfast love.

Your Steadfast love endures forever.

Your steadfast love follows us forever.

Your steadfast love continually conquers evil.

Your steadfast love stops evil at the bottom of the mountain.

Your love ascends from the depths of oceans to the stars above.

God of Gods and Lord of Lords, lift us out of the quagmire and guide our path away from evil towards your steadfast love.

God, I praise your holy name for all the blessings bestowed.

God, we praise your holy name for all the blessings bestowed.

God, we see your eyes are open and your ears hear us.

God, your love abounds, your grace restores, and your forgiveness heals.

Your Steadfast love endures forever.

Your steadfast love follows us forever.

Your steadfast love continually conquers evil.

God of Gods and Lord of Lords reveal your love so we can lift ourselves from the quagmire and stop the ascension of evil and bring about God's kingdom on earth.