

Mercy in the Beginning, Mercy in the End, Mercy Throughout
Peggy Guerrero
“That All My Know the Savior”

At the very beginning of the Book of Genesis we can read stories of creation. These help us to understand questions that are big, and deep, including questions about God, including God’s actions in creating. And in the last book of our sacred scripture, Revelation, we read of the creation of a new world, the world ruled by the risen Christ. The story tellers and writers of this part of the world in ancient times didn’t want to write the same words over and over, so they used a kind of shorthand to get their point across. If something was true at the beginning, and the same thing is true at the end, then they meant for us to understand that it is true throughout the whole of the book.

God is creating the world at the beginning of scripture. God is also creating at the end of scripture, a new world, one that will not end. And when we read scripture as the writers intended, then we see God creating throughout all the rest of scripture. In fact, God is always creating, that’s what we profess in our creed. Creation happened, and creation is happening. We see it in obvious ways, and that helps us to see it in the not-so-obvious ways of everything else.

In fact, the ongoing creating of God is yet another way of experiencing the unbounding mercy of God. We are created, being created, every second; we are held into being by the creating mercy of God. We sometimes confuse this mercy of God’s pity. We might think that God allows us to live because God feels sorry for our miserable selves. It isn’t pity, it is God’s unconditional, creative, love that we experience as God’s mercy that calls us into being and holds us in being.

We know this to be true because we have seen it, we have tasted it, and we have heard it in the person of Jesus. We have experienced this mercy being created in the church. We pray to be the expression of this mercy in our lives.