

There's a Psalm for This

Did you know that God's faithful love lasts forever? I'm sure you did, but just in case you didn't Psalm 136 will make absolutely sure we know it! This is one of the most repetitive Psalms in the Psalter but it's also a great reminder of just who our God is. God is the one who's faithful love lasts forever. God is the one who has done all these great things for us. This Psalm really feels like a song – with one person singing of the things God has done, and the gathered people responding, “God's faithful love lasts forever!”

I left out the middle verses in this excerpt, and I really hope you read the rest. It retells the story of God rescuing his people from slavery and oppression in Egypt, bringing them into the Promised Land and granting them victory in battle. (Victory in battle was a really important statement to make in ancient times. It was more than just winning the fight, but also held supernatural significance. If one nation beat another in battle it also meant that the winning nation's god was superior over the god of the defeated nation, or that the defeated nation had otherwise angered their god and lost because their god chose not to fight for them – it was complicated!)

Psalm 136:1-9,23-26 (CEB)

Give thanks to the Lord because he is good. God's faithful love lasts forever!
Give thanks to the God of all gods—God's faithful love lasts forever.
Give thanks to the Lord of all lords—God's faithful love lasts forever.
Give thanks to the only one who makes great wonders—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
Give thanks to the one who made the skies with skill—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
Give thanks to the one who shaped the earth on the water—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
Give thanks to the one who made the great lights—God's faithful love lasts forever.
The sun to rule the day—God's faithful love lasts forever.
The moon and the stars to rule the night—God's faithful love lasts forever!

God remembered us when we were humiliated—God's faithful love lasts forever.
God rescued us from our enemies—God's faithful love lasts forever.
God is the one who provides food for all living things—
 God's faithful love lasts forever!

Give thanks to the God of heaven—God's faithful love lasts forever!

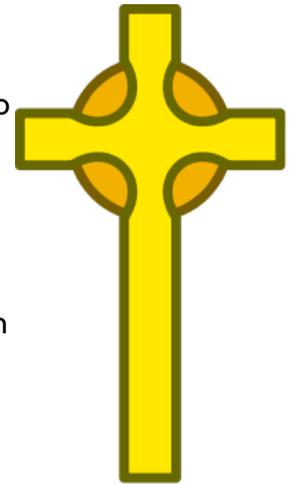
Whenever I read this Psalm or one of the other similar ones, I think, *What would the story of God be in my life? What has God done for me that makes me say, “God's faithful love lasts forever”?* And I inevitably will start thinking about what God has done for me, how I've seen God working, and it leads me to see things God is doing that I didn't necessarily expect!

As you read this Psalm, think about those things God has done in your life. What victories has God won? How has God rescued you? What makes you say, “God's faithful love lasts forever”?

Pastor Mike Galica

Holy Cross Announcements

We are in the **Season after Pentecost**, when we are shaped by the Holy Spirit to learn and grow as followers of Jesus Christ. During this time, the narrative lectionary contains “mini-series” on various topics. This year we have series on the Lord’s Prayer, Job, and 2 Corinthians. Our paraments are green to reflect our growth as disciples of Jesus.



Katie Kihlstadius has started a “**Marco Polo**” **Prayer Group**. If you’d like to join an online group devoted to praying for our churches, communities, and world, reach out to her at 801-675-6279 for more info!

As our statewide COVID-19 cases have begun to drop (though, as I write this, they are plateauing again), the church council has been in conversation about when the best time is to resume in-person worship. If you would like to share your views, please let Pastor Mike know and he’ll pass it along!

Our state and local health departments have maintained the risk phase at “low”, but that still means we should be cautious during this pandemic. The health department recommends maintaining appropriate (6 ft) distance when outside of the home, wearing face coverings, and continuing to practice good hand-washing and other hygiene measures like avoiding touching your face. High-risk individuals (those over 65 or with underlying medical conditions), have stricter recommendations. For more information visit coronavirus.utah.gov.

If, while we can’t meet together, you want to still give an offering to the church, you can mail it to PO Box 732, Brigham City UT, 84302. The post office box gets checked regularly and your giving will be secure.

Please let me know if you have any updates for our **Prayer List**. Out of concern for people’s privacy, I haven’t been adding specific prayers to our church livestream, but we continue to pray for all those needs and concerns.

Sunday School for children and adults is recessed until the fall.

Holy Cross Quilters will resume meeting in the fall.

This Week’s Readings:

11th Sunday after Pentecost – *2 Corinthians: Part 2* –2 Corinthians 2:1-10; Matthew 18:21-35

Next Week’s Readings:

12th Sunday after Pentecost – *2 Corinthians: Part 3* –2 Corinthians 4:1-18; Matthew 5:13-20

Prayer List

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." — Phil 4:6

Keep the following in your prayers

The people of Beirut, Lebanon in the aftermath of a devastating explosion.

Lisa Weaver, friend of Kosbabs, who is hospitalized and in a coma.

Family and friends of Rae Riser, who passed away.

Claudia Long, Andrea's mom, in the hospital for health concerns.

Sharon, Pastor Mike's friend's aunt, in critical condition.

Andrea, for a swift recovery from COVID-19.

Chris, Ashley, and family, Jeff Hoedt's son and daughter-in-law, for health and safety during pregnancy.

Doug Anderson, family of Lexa, in the hospital with heart problems.

Gabe Leathum, friend of Pastor Mike's father-in-law, with major health issues.

Jae-Han, Young's brother, with stomach cancer, for protection and comfort for him and his wife.

Terry Pierce, friend of Bob Kosbab, for an unknown ailment.

Our vulnerable populations, especially those with underlying health conditions, the homeless, and those lacking access to proper medical care in this time.

Nora Greer, for healing.

Trudee Klein, friend of Deborah Kay, for healing from cancer.

Sherri Rackham recovering from surgery.

Tom & Jeanette Croft, friend of Kosbabs, for healing.

Abby Rasmussen and family, friends of Kosbabs, as she struggles with cystic fibrosis.

John Buist, our custodian, for continued health problems.

Lynne, Robert Quick's wife, with health issues.

Aleasa, Robert Quick's daughter, with health issues.

Mark Sparkman, Quick's son-in-law, recurring health problems.

Gloria Perry, for healing from health problems.

Box Elder County Jail Ministry, that the inmates may respond to the Gospel.

Deborah Kay Hansen, prayers for healing from recurring health problems.

Give thanks to God

Catherine, mother-in-law of Michelle's friend Heather, is almost completely healed.

Andrea & Emma are doing much better.

Keep those in prayer who are in harm's way

Medical professionals and all who are continuing to work during this pandemic.

Braxton Jeppsen, serving in the US Navy.

Let Pastor Mike know if there are any petitions you wish to add to our Prayer List. If you added someone to the prayer list, please update us on how they are doing! We love to celebrate praises as well as petitions.