

There's a Psalm for This

I must admit I'm still a bit shaken by the events at the U.S. Capitol last week. I never expected a violent group to gain access to our nation's seat of government, and even if they did, I couldn't imagine they would come as close as they did to gaining access to our Vice President, Speaker of the House, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and all the other members of Congress. Were it not for some smart actions by Capitol Police Officers, the situation could have been so much worse than it is.

So while thinking about what to write this week, "Psalm 37" popped into my head, when David reminds us not to get too worried when the "wicked" seem to always win, but instead put our hope in God who frustrates the wicked and blesses the righteous. I'll include an excerpt here, but as always, I encourage you to read the whole Psalm.

Psalm 37:1-7, 27-29, 34-40 (CEB)

Of David.

Don't get upset over evildoers; don't be jealous of those who do wrong,
because they will fade fast, like grass; they will wither like green vegetables.
Trust the Lord and do good; live in the land, and farm faithfulness.
Enjoy the Lord, and he will give what your heart asks.
Commit your way to the Lord! Trust him! He will act
and will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, your justice like high noon.
Be still before the Lord, and wait for him.
Don't get upset when someone gets ahead—someone who invents evil schemes.

Turn away from evil! Do good! Then you will live in the land forever.
The Lord loves justice. He will never leave his faithful all alone.
They are guarded forever, but the children of the wicked are eliminated.
The righteous will possess the land; they will live on it forever.

Hope in the Lord and keep his way! He will lift you up so you can possess the land.
When the wicked are eliminated, you will see it for yourself!
I myself have seen wicked powerful people, exalting themselves like a stately cedar.
But when I came back, they were gone!
I looked all over for them, but they couldn't be found!

Observe those who have integrity and watch those whose heart is right
because the future belongs to persons of peace.
But wrongdoers will be destroyed all together;
the future of the wicked will be cut short.
The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord;
he is their refuge in times of trouble.
The Lord will help them and rescue them—rescue them from the wicked—
and he will save them because they have taken refuge in him.

Holy Cross Announcements

This Sunday we celebrate the **Baptism of Our Lord**. This feast remembers when Jesus went to the Jordan River to be baptized by his cousin, John the Baptist. It marks the beginning of Jesus' earthly ministry and, with it, our readings begin to shift to cover the first half of Jesus' time as an adult on the earth. Our paraments are white in celebration of our Lord and Savior.



Because of our county's "High" Transmission Level, **we will be meeting online-only until that Transmission Level changes**. We feel this is our best path forward to show love to all our neighbors, especially as our hospitals and medical works are overwhelmed.

Our state and local health departments' COVID-19 Transmission Level for our county is "High". This means social gatherings are limited and mask-wearing is required in public spaces. This is in addition to all the regular recommendations of practicing physical distancing, good hygiene practices, and staying home when sick. For more information visit coronavirus.utah.gov.

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!

In lieu of collecting coats, **Box Elder Interfaith Council** is collecting money to purchase new coats during spring sales to donate to schools in the fall. If you'd like to donate to the coat drive, send it to the church marked "Interfaith Council Coat Drive".

If you're a Thrivent member, you may have **Thrivent Choice Dollars** to distribute! Visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836 to find out if you are eligible.

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.

Sunday School for children is recessed. Adult Sunday is posted to YouTube on Sunday mornings.

Holy Cross Quilters will continue refraining from meeting.

This Week's Readings:

Baptism of our Lord – *Jesus' Baptism* – Psalm 51:6-17; Luke 3:1-22

Next Week's Readings:

3rd Sunday after Epiphany – *Fish for People* – Psalm 90:14-17; Luke 5:1-11

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

Amy, Michelle's sister, for a safe, uneventful and happy arrival for baby girl.

Byron Quick for a successful and safe heart bypass surgery this week.

Family & Friends of Ty Jordan, a University of Utah football player, who passed away.

Robert Quick, for healing from ulcers.

Ryan, Kendra, and family, friends of Lexa. Prayers for comfort and peace after Brooks passed away.

Bobby Morstadt, for healing from severe acid reflux.

Jeff & Darlene Hoedt, for safe travels and for staying healthy over the holiday.

Mary, daughter-in-law of Pastor Mike's friends, prayers for healing.

Lisa Weaver, friend of Kosbabs, is home but still has a long recovery ahead.

Sherri Rackham recovering after a dog bite.

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

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.

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

Brittany, friend of Pastor Mike, seems to be recovering well from COVID-19. Prayers for continued healing.

Elias, Pastor Mike's friend's son, is doing much better!

Bryce and Emily Herman and newborn daughter, nephew & family of the Kosbabs, have recovered well.

Claudia Long, Andrea's mom, is doing much better but still needs prayer for strength and health.

Tripp, newborn son of Lexa and Kyler, is off oxygen and 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. Out of concern for people's privacy, we haven't been adding specific prayers to our church live-stream, but we continue to pray for all those needs and concerns.