

There's a Psalm for This

Do you ever just feel down? I sure do. Whether it's the sameness of days and weeks going by, the stress of a half-finished project, or the pandemic we continue to face; sometimes God just feels far away – sure, I know that God is always with me, but it doesn't always *feel* that way. We all have seasons in our life when God just feels distant. We remember the times when God felt close to us, but other times it is hard to feel God's presence in our lives.

Yet sometimes it's remembering those times when God felt close that can get us through the times God is far away. In Psalm 74, Asaph cries out to a God who feels distant, but in remembering God's works, Asaph is comforted in the midst of his sorrow. So when we find ourselves just not quite 100%, let's remember the ways God has worked in us in the past to get us through until we feel God's presence again.

Psalm 74:1-3, 10-21 (CEB)

A maskil of Asaph.

God, why have you abandoned us forever?

Why does your anger smolder at the sheep of your own pasture?
Remember your congregation that you took as your own long ago,
that you redeemed to be the tribe of your own possession—
remember Mount Zion, where you dwell.

March to the unending ruins, to all that the enemy destroyed in the sanctuary.

How long, God, will foes insult you? Are enemies going to abuse your name forever?
Why do you pull your hand back?

Why do you hold your strong hand close to your chest?

Yet God has been my king from ancient days—

God, who makes salvation happen in the heart of the earth!

You split the sea with your power.

You shattered the heads of the sea monsters on the water.

You crushed Leviathan's heads. You gave it to the desert dwellers for food!

You split open springs and streams; you made strong-flowing rivers dry right up.

The day belongs to you! The night too!

You established both the moon and the sun.

You set all the boundaries of the earth in place.

Summer and winter? You made them!

So remember this, Lord: how enemies have insulted you,
how unbelieving fools have abused your name.

Don't deliver the life of your dove to wild animals!

Don't forget the lives of your afflicted people forever!

Consider the covenant! Because the land's dark places are full of violence.

Don't let the oppressed live in shame. No, let the poor and needy praise your name!

Holy Cross Announcements

We are in the **Season after Epiphany**, a time when we study the first half of Jesus ministry leading up to the transfiguration. It is a time of growth in faith as we hear the things Jesus has to teach us. Our paraments are green as a symbol of this growth.

Because of the pandemic, we are holding a **Mail-In Annual Meeting** this year. If you are in our records as a voting member, keep an eye on your mail for a letter from the church with the 2020 Annual Report as well as ballots to return to the church. If you have any questions, contact Arnie or Pastor Mike.

The **Bear River Health Department** has begun COVID-19 vaccinations for those over 70. For more information and to check availability, visit <https://brhd.org/covid-19-vaccine-information/>

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:

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

Next Week's Readings:

4th Sunday after Epiphany – *Healing on the Sabbath* – Psalm 92; Luke 6:1-16



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

Kyra, Quick's granddaughter, has COVID. Prayers for a quick recovery and safety for her family.

Byron Quick recovering from heart bypass surgery last week.

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

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.