

## There's a Psalm for This

As we come to the close of the Easter season in our church year, with the celebration of the Ascension this week and Pentecost next week, we also wrap up the “chapter” in God's Story of the Word-made-meat dwelling among us, and prepare to enter a time of the Spirit's presence, who arrives in an obvious way at Pentecost and works in and through the church and all humanity to bring the good news of Jesus to all people. (Not that the Spirit wasn't already active in humanity, but I'm trying to avoid ending up in a complicated Trinitarian something – we'll enough of that on Trinity Sunday in two weeks!)

But as we celebrate the ascension, it sometimes seems like we ask the same question as the Psalmist: who can stand in God's presence?

### **Psalm 24 (CEB)**

*A psalm of David.*

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and its inhabitants too.  
Because God is the one who established it on the seas; God set it firmly on the waters.

Who can ascend the Lord's mountain? Who can stand in his holy sanctuary?

Only the one with clean hands and a pure heart;

the one who hasn't made false promises,

the one who hasn't sworn dishonestly.

That kind of person receives blessings from the Lord

and righteousness from the God who saves.

And that's how things are with the generation that seeks him—

that seeks the face of Jacob's God. *Selah*

Mighty gates: lift up your heads! Ancient doors: rise up high!

So the glorious king can enter!

Who is this glorious king?

The Lord—strong and powerful! The Lord—powerful in battle!

Mighty gates: lift up your heads! Ancient doors: rise up high!

So the glorious king can enter!

Who is this glorious king?

The Lord of heavenly forces—he is the glorious king! *Selah*

So, who can stand in God's presence? Who can be at God's right side? Well, it's Jesus – the Son of the Father. But because of Jesus' work and because Jesus became like one of us, we can join him in the presence of God! God's “holy sanctuary” is no longer just for the right priest at the right time for a little bit of time, like Zechariah entering the Most Holy Place to burn incense at the beginning of Luke's gospel. Now, the presence of God is for all who put their trust in Jesus, something that will become incredibly obvious next week as God's powerful Spirit will rest on Jesus' followers and do wonderful things through them.

Pastor Mike Galica

## Holy Cross Announcements

This Sunday is **Ascension Sunday**, which celebrates Jesus' return to the Father in preparation of the coming of the Spirit. Jesus ascends into heaven in a cloud and promises, through messengers, to return in the same way. Officially, the Ascension is celebrated 40 days after Easter, on Thursday, but we celebrate it on the following Sunday. Our paraments are white to reflect the glory of God.



The **Bear River Health Department** is administering COVID-19 vaccinations to all those over 16! For more information and to check availability, visit <https://brhd.org/covid-19-vaccine-information/>

Our state and local health departments' COVID-19 Transmission Level for our county is "Medium". This means that we will be now offering in-person worship again! Please review the Holy Cross COVID-19 plan on our website to review the requests and requirements for meeting together. Most importantly, wear a mask and continue to maintain social distancing!

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

If you want to give an offering to the church but are either unable to or don't feel comfortable with attending in person, 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 and adults is recessed.

**Holy Cross Quilters** will continue refraining from meeting.

### **This Week's Readings:**

Ascension Sunday – *One in Christ* – Galatians 3:1-9,23-29; Luke 24:50-53

### **Next Week's Readings:**

Pentecost Sunday – *Fruits of the Spirit* – Acts 2:1-4, Galatians 4:1-7,5:16-26; Luke 11:5-13

# 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**

**Family of Brian Hohn**, friend of Bob Kosbab, who passed away

**Matt Long**, Andrea's brother, for healing and a successful surgery.

**Matt**, Deborah Kay's cousin, for healing.

**Tyson**, Michelle's dad's friend's son, for mental health.

**Sharon**, for a swift recovery after surgery.

**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**

**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 no longer speak people's names in the worship service, but we continue to pray for all their needs and concerns.*