

There's a Psalm for This

This week we celebrate Pentecost, and for reasons I'm not entirely sure of, the expression of God's Spirit on that day got me thinking about the old paradox: "Can God create a rock so big even God can't move it?" It's a version of similar paradoxes as "What happens when an irresistible force meets an immovable object." When it really comes down to it, the paradoxes are thought exercises that are designed to have no resolution, but it got me thinking about the many and varied ways we turn God into a being far less powerful than God is.

I'll always remember a statement I heard on Christian radio ages ago that "God can't be in the presence of sin," and when I heard it I thought, *Well, if that's the case, we're all in trouble!* It also doesn't seem to be Biblical. God the Son, took on our sin. When humanity sinned in the garden, God sought out Adam and Eve. But it creates a something God "can't" do, which is a problem as well. God is bigger than we can comprehend, and that's a good thing!

Psalm 104:1-6,24-28 (CEB)

Let my whole being bless the Lord!

Lord my God, how fantastic you are! You are clothed in glory and grandeur!
You wear light like a robe; you open the skies like a curtain.

You build your lofty house on the waters;

you make the clouds your chariot, going around on the wings of the wind.

You make the winds your messengers; you make fire and flame your ministers.

You established the earth on its foundations so that it will never ever fall.

You covered it with the watery deep like a piece of clothing;
the waters were higher than the mountains!

Lord, you have done so many things! You made them all so wisely!

The earth is full of your creations!

And then there's the sea, wide and deep, with its countless creatures—
living things both small and large.

There go the ships on it, and Leviathan, which you made, plays in it!

All your creations wait for you to give them their food on time.

When you give it to them, they gather it up;

when you open your hand, they are filled completely full!

I encourage you to read the rest of Psalm 104 as well; it's full of images of the things God has done – things that show us how powerful and big God is. (I do absolutely love the image of Leviathan, the mighty and frightening sea monster, playing in the sea God made – makes me think of a small child at play in a kiddie pool! Even Leviathan is small compared to God.) And yet we still love to build mental boxes to put God in, and even when we give them fancy, scholarly names, they're still boxes that create limits for God. But as soon as we start to come up with ways God can't do something, God tends to show up and remind us that God is God and God is bigger than what we can imagine.

Pastor Mike Galica

Holy Cross Announcements

Today is **Pentecost Sunday**, when we celebrate the arrival of the Holy Spirit with fire and wind, fifty days after Easter. We rejoice that God sent the Spirit to be with us and fill us with God's presence in our lives. Our paraments are red to symbolize the Spirit's fire.

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 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.

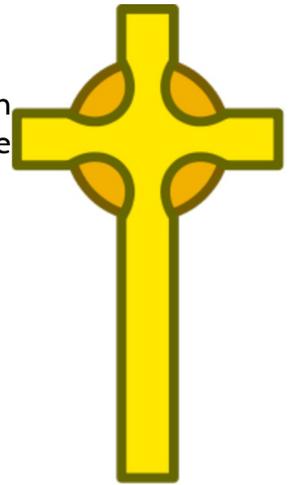
Holy Cross Quilters will continue refraining from meeting.

This Week's Readings:

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

Next Week's Readings:

Trinity Sunday – *Holy Trinity* – Psalm 8; Luke 3:1-22



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.