

## There's a Psalm for This

The people of Israel faced a lot of enemies. While blessed by God (and that's probably the reason they lasted so long as a nation!), Israel was at the crossroads of major empires – Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, and Phoenicia at various times – and was a prime target for those who wanted to control the West Asian region. Even before the rise of those powerful empires, Israel was surrounded by a number of people-groups who sought to capture the land for themselves, doing away with Israel in the process. Psalm 83 cries out to God for rescue against these powerful enemies.

### Psalm 83 (CEB)

*A song. A psalm of Asaph*

God, don't be silent! Don't be quiet or sit still, God,  
because—look!—your enemies are growling; those who hate you are acting arrogantly.  
They concoct crafty plans against your own people; they plot against the people you favor.  
“Come on,” they say, “let's wipe them out as a nation!  
Let the name Israel be remembered no more!”  
They plot with a single-minded heart; they make a covenant against you.  
They are the clans of Edom and the Ishmaelites, Moab and the Hagrites,  
Gebal, Ammon, Amalek, Philistia along with the citizens of Tyre.  
Assyria too has joined them—they are the strong arm for Lot's children. *Selah*

Do to them what you did to Midian, to Sisera, and to Jabin at the Kishon River.  
They were destroyed at Endor; they became fertilizer for the ground.  
Make their officials like Oreb and Zeeb, all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna—  
those who said, “Let's take God's pastures for ourselves.”  
My God, make them like tumbleweeds, like chaff blown by wind.  
Just like a fire consumes a forest, just like flames set mountains ablaze,  
pursue them with your storm, terrify them with your hurricane.  
Cover their faces with shame, Lord, so that they might seek your name.  
Let them be shamed and terrified forever. Let them die in disgrace.  
Let them know that you—your name is the Lord!—  
you alone are Most High over all the earth.

We can also feel surrounded by enemies, though our enemies are not typically empires. Yet our enemies are no less real: medical enemies, like disease and infirmity; financial enemies, like crushing debt or depleted savings; emotional enemies, like uncertainty and fear; and so many more! When we focus on those enemies, we can become overwhelmed and feel surrounded, like we have enemies on every side, just like the Israelites!

But just like the Israelites, we also cry out to God for rescue. And just like the Israelites, we can trust in God's rescue because of what has happened before. The Israelites look backward to other times God saved them to give them hope for God to save them this time; we can do the same. We remember the times God acted in our lives to give us hope for God to act when we need it.

Pastor Mike Galica

## Holy Cross Announcements

We're in the **Season after Pentecost**, a time in the church year of studying the Scriptures in order to learn to follow Jesus more closely. Our paraments are green to symbolize growing more Christ-like each day.

The **Bear River Health Department** is administering COVID-19 vaccinations to all those over 12! For more information and to check availability, visit <https://brhd.org/covid-19-vaccine-information/>

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 is recessed.

**Adult Sunday School** videos are posted to the church's YouTube page on Sunday mornings.

**Holy Cross Quilters** will start meeting again on October 20 at 9:30 AM.

### This Week's Readings:

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – *God's Name Is Revealed* –

Exodus 2:23-25, 3:1-15, 4:-10-17; John 8:48-58

### Next Week's Readings:

20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – *God Provides Manna* – Exodus 16:1-18; John 8:48-58



## 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**

**Brenda**, Pastor Mike's cousin, with pancreatic cancer.

**Alan**, Pastor Mike's cousin, having a triple bypass.

**Shirley**, Pastor Mike's great-aunt, with heart and lung issues.

**Holly**, Bob Kosbab's cousin's daughter, hospitalized with COVID-19.

**Bob Quick**, for healing

**Ann**, Jeff Hoedt's daughter, **and her baby due in October**. Ann has gestational diabetes.

**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.

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

**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.

**Gloria Perry**, for healing from health problems.

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

### **Give thanks to God**

**Holly**, Bob Kosbab's cousin's daughter, is home from the hospital!

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

### **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.*