

"Voices Together" for the week of 1/13-19/2020

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Monday, 13 January 2020 Psalm 85:1-3

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob. You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin. Selah You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.

Again and again, Lord, You have called Your people out of their Egypt. You, the Gracious God call to Your people in revival and restoration. We, Your church, have sinned, we have followed other gods, we have forsaken our first love, and yet You, in Your grace and mercy, have reached out to gather us in again.

Today's readings in the Psalms:

Morning: Psalm 146

Mid-day: 119:17-24

Evening: Psalm 30

Please address comments to voices@ailbe.org

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Tuesday, 14 January 2020 Psalm 85:4-7

Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us! Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations? Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you? Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

And now the time has come again, Lord, we have forsaken You, we have followed false teachings, we have turned to idolatrous practices and allowed sexual iniquity to invade our assemblies, our works are in Your name but are intended to glorify us and our names, and we have allowed the fire of our faith to die out and to no longer blaze with

a white-hot heat. Fill our hearts with shame and bring us to our knees in repentance.

Today's readings in the Psalms:

Morning: Psalm 147

Mid-day: 119:25-32

Evening: Psalm 31

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Wednesday, 15 January 2020 Psalm 85:8-9

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly. Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.

Lord, call out some God-fearing leaders who dare to call Your church to repentance. We need shepherds who will lay our unfaithfulness before us and implore us to fall to our knees and repent. We need to cry out to You to restore and renew us, to fill us once again with that white-hot heat of our first love. Restore us, O Lord, let Your face shine upon us that we may be saved.

Today's readings in the Psalms:

Morning: Psalm 148

Mid-day: 119:33-40

Evening: Psalm 32

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Thursday, 16 January 2020 Psalm 85: 10-12

Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other. Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky. Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

Your steadfast love, O Lord, pours down upon us like the warm, nourishing spring rain, and our soul responds in faithfulness; Your righteousness envelops us as a soft quilt, and our souls are

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filled with peace. To be faithful in Your eyes is to invite Your righteousness into our lives and live in harmony with You.

Today's readings in the Psalms:

Morning: Psalm 149

Mid-day: 119:41-48

Evening: Psalm 33

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Friday, 17 January 2020 Psalm 85:13

Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps away.

Yea, you do give Good to us, and our lives yield the fruit of Your grace and mercy. As we draw near to You, the Joy of the Presence begins to flood our souls slowly transforming us from glory into the glory of Your image. Praise You, Lord.

Today's readings in the Psalms:

Morning: Psalm 150

Mid-day: 119:49-56

Evening: Psalm 34

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Saturday, 18 January 2020 Psalm 119:153-154

Look on my affliction and deliver me, for I do not forget Your law. Plead my cause and redeem me; give me life according to Your promise!

Lord, we still find that the reactions of others to what we say or do is of significant importance to us. Why do we look to others for a sign of approval when You have given us a scripture to share or meditate upon? Why do I hunger for someone to tell me I heard You? Why can we not trust that we do listen to You and do hear the leading of Your Holy Spirit?

Give us life, Lord, give us life that feeds upon You and Your "Well done," not some weak

substitute for life that Satan tells us is necessary for the peace of our souls. Lord, bring the eyes of our hearts to see you and without distraction.

Today's readings in the Psalms:

Morning: Psalm 1

Mid-day: 119:57-64

Evening: Psalm 35

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Lord's Day, 19 January 2020 Exodus 20:1-2, 4-6

And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ... You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

We keep searching for those idols of our manufacture and filled with sorrow that they are not that hard to find. Even this column can become something that supersedes Your call to be with You in quiet and solitude. My sinful nature urges me to be compulsive about self-assumed obligations, and ignoring that gentle call is to be with You. Forgive me, Lord.

Today's readings in the Psalms:

Morning: Psalm 2

Mid-day: 119:65-72

Evening: Psalm 36

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