

# A Prayer of Encouragement for Times of Storm and Stress

(by Scotty Smith)

*But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; When you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my eyes, and honoured, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life. Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. Isaiah 43:1-5 ESV*

Heavenly Father, the Scriptures are a balm for the broken, ballast for the bewildered, and bread for the hungry. Your Word is both timeless and timely—a treasury to be mined and a voice to be trusted. You know what to say just when we need to hear from you. No god is as near as you are and no god is as good as you are, in every storm and stressful season. Theses words from Isaiah don't give us promises to be claimed but a God to be known. We come to you now as you run to us in your Word.

Father, you've created us and you're redeeming us, all for your glory. You've summoned us by name, calling us to life in the gospel. You've given us a new name and its "Mine." There's no sweeter name we could possibly hope to be called. We praise you for the security of being in your family and embrace.

We also praise you for your honesty. You've never promised we won't experience floods and torrents, and fires and flames. But you do promise you'll be with us at all times. To know you are near and to know you are good is all we really need. We'll go anywhere and do anything, as long as we're certain you'll never abandon, shame or reject us. In the gospel, you give us this certainty.

Father, we know ourselves to be precious and honoured in your sight, and greatly loved, only because you gave Jesus in exchange for us. Though Jesus was rich, yet for our sakes, he became poor, so that through his poverty we might become rich (2 Cor. 8:9). We praise you for the one and only truly indescribable gift! (2 Cor. 9:13) And since you didn't spare your own Son, we can trust you graciously to give us everything else we need (Rom. 8:32), for every season and storm ahead.

We don't have to be afraid of anything or anyone. You are with us and you are for us. Continue to write bigger and better stories of redemption than we, ourselves, would ever choose to pen. So very Amen, we pray, in Jesus' bold and beautiful name.



30 September 2018 | Service Times: 9am & 11:30am

## Welcome, we're glad you're here!

We are a church family committed to following Jesus Christ as Lord. We do this by getting to know him through his living Word, the Bible, which is why the sermon is the key part of our Sunday services. Find out more about us at [www.slechurch.org.au](http://www.slechurch.org.au).

### This Week: Isaiah #11— The Only Saviour and God

Israel needed to be saved in two deeply connected ways: from their spiritual condition of sin and their national crisis of exile to Babylon. The LORD God shows Himself to be the only Saviour as He overthrows Babylon through His anointed Cyrus (chs. 43-48) and as He forgives sins through His chosen Suffering Servant (chs. 49-55).

**Next Week:**

Isaiah #12[Isaiah 49—55]



## Today's Service

<b>Welcome and Singing</b>	Indescribable How Great Is Our God No Other Name
<b>Holy Communion</b>	
<b>Offering</b>	
<b>Community News</b>	
<b>Bible Reading</b>	Isaiah 42:18—43:15; 45:1-7
<b>Sermon</b>	By Pastor Ben Ho
<b>Song of Response</b>	You Alone Can Rescue

## Stay Connected

-  [facebook.com/slechurch](https://facebook.com/slechurch)
-  [slechurch.org.au](http://slechurch.org.au)
-  +61 7 3371 7589
-  [info@slechurch.org.au](mailto:info@slechurch.org.au)
-  83 Ryans Road, St Lucia 4067

Check out [slechurch.org.au/groups](http://slechurch.org.au/groups) to find a group that you can join.

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# Say hello

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Join us for morning tea at 10:30am.  
We'd love to have a chat and get to know you better.

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## Our Pastors

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### PASTOR BEN HO

**Mobile:** +61 433 581 335

**Email:** ben.ho@slechurch.org.au

### PASTOR STEVEN TRAN

**Mobile:** +61 411 621 159

**Email:** steven.tran@slechurch.org.au

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## Financial Update

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Last Week	\$6,790.61
Weekly Required	\$5,520
Shortfall 2018	\$0.00

### Giving by Electronic Funds Transfer

**A/C Name:** SLE Church  
**Bank:** National Australia Bank  
**BSB:** 084-424  
**A/C No:** 396558544

SLE Church is a branch church of Chinese Christian Church Brisbane

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## Prayer Points

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**GIVE PRAISE TO THE GOD** and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction.

**PRAY THAT WE WHO HAVE RECEIVED** comfort from God—the comfort of forgiveness of sins through the gospel of Jesus Christ, and the many comforts of joy and peace through the trials and sufferings of life because of the hope we have in Christ—may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction.

**PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE** suffering in different ways—for bearing the name of Christ at home or in the workplace, in their battle against the sinful flesh, in emotional and relational distress, and in other trials and temptations that we daily face.

**CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR OUR** mission and ministry partners. Pray for their Christian character and convictions to keep growing as they serve. Pray for endurance and opportunities to keep preaching the gospel to the lost.

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## Community News

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### BLOOM #3 – 20 OCT 1:30-4PM

At our last Bloom session for the year, we will gather to hear answers to *your* questions about God's design for woman. The afternoon will include a Q&A session with a panel of speakers, book reviews, and testimonies from women who will share their journey in discovering and living out God's design for women.

Don't miss this opportunity to meet with other women to wrestle and think through how we can live out God's design practically and wholeheartedly in every aspects of life.

### MISSION DISCUSSION GROUP

Do you have a heart for cross-cultural mission? Are you interested in being better equipped to serve in, or to support, inter-cultural missions? If so, please give your name and contact details to Elder Mike Husband or to Shaopeng Chen so that we can arrange an initial meeting to organize and ongoing discussion—perhaps once per month. Topics for discussion might include:

- Understanding other cultures and languages
- Understanding short term and long term mission
- Open access and creative access nations
- Understanding mission organization requirements and screening processes
- Supporting missions and missionaries—prayer, finance, practical support
- Possible short term trip opportunities

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## Serving

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	Today	Next Week
<b>Chair</b>	Joshua	Randy
<b>Preach</b>	Ps Ben	Ps Steven
<b>Bible Read</b>	TBA <i>Jessica</i>	Boon Cheng <i>Alice</i>
<b>M.Tea</b>	Tania  Winnie W.	YF Fri/Sat  YF Fri/Sat
<b>Wash Up</b>	SOS Dan	YF Fri/Sat
<b>Welcome</b>	Ken  Steph  Amy  <i>James</i> <i>Marcus</i> <i>Leya</i> <i>Marilyn</i>	Esther  Richard  Georgie
<b>Stewards</b>	Meng Yin  David Chong  <i>Nethanel</i>  <i>Yong Seng</i>  <i>Sarah</i>	Philip  Graham  <i>Stanley</i>  <i>Josh</i>  <i>DT</i>
<b>Piano</b>	Liesl	Sylvia
<b>Guitar</b>	Shao Peng	Dom
<b>Bass</b>	Ethan	Chuan Yuan
<b>Drums</b>		Marcus
<b>Vocal</b>	Sarah	Shaun
<b>PA</b>	Reuten  <i>Chris</i>	William  <i>Daniel</i>

# The Only Saviour and God (Isaiah 43-48)

C. Besides God, there is no other (44:6-18; ch 46)

1. Introduction: Behold (more of) God!

*Israel's need for salvation (42:18-25)*

*From Babylon (43-48)*

*From sin (49-55)*

2. The LORD God: Israel's Only Saviour

A. Belonging and beloved of God (43:1-13)

B. Bringing Babylon down (43:14-21; ch 45; ch47)

3. Conclusion