Responsive Reading : Psalm 69:1-18

Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck.

**I sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold;**

I have come into deep waters, and the flood sweeps over me.

**I am weary with my crying out; my throat is parched.**

My eyes grow dim with waiting for my God.

**More in number than the hairs of my head are those who hate me without cause;**

mighty are those who would destroy me, those who attack me with lies.

**What I did not steal must I now restore?**

O God, you know my folly; the wrongs I have done are not hidden from you.

**Let not those who hope in you be put to shame through me, O Lord GOD of hosts;**

let not those who seek you be brought to dishonor through me, O God of Israel.

**For it is for your sake that I have borne reproach, that dishonor has covered my face.**

I have become a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my mother’s sons.

**For zeal for your house has consumed me, and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me.**

When I wept and humbled my soul with fasting, it became my reproach. When I made sackcloth my clothing, I became a byword to them.

**I am the talk of those who sit in the gate, and the drunkards make songs about me.**

But as for me, my prayer is to you, O LORD. At an acceptable time,

**O God, in the abundance of your steadfast love answer me in your saving faithfulness.**

Deliver me from sinking in the mire;

**let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep waters.**

Let not the flood sweep over me, or the deep swallow me up, or the pit close its mouth over me.

**Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is good; according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.**

Hide not your face from your servant, for I am in distress; make haste to answer me.

**Draw near to my soul, redeem me; ransom me because of my enemies!**