

The Kingdom of God

Christ came into the world to set up his kingdom. All that he said and all that he did were for that purpose. At his first public appearance, Jesus came into Galilee preaching the good news of the kingdom of God (Mark 1:14). Christ identified his kingdom with God's kingdom.

Christ's kingdom is where God rules. It is composed of those who gladly acknowledge and willingly submit to God as Lord and King over their lives. They have become his obedient servants, not by an outward coercion as with earthly kings, but by an inward constraint of God's redeeming love in Christ.

This kingdom exists for God. Carnal Israel wanted a kingdom that existed for the sake of Israel. People today want kingdoms that exist for their sakes. The modern view is that God exists for us and for our comfort. The idea that we exist for God and must live for the glory of God is offensive to modern rational thinking. But Scripture declares that human beings are made for God and the kingdom exists to display the glory of God in salvation.

God is thus the supreme attraction of this kingdom. His personality and character pervade it in all their dazzling glory. Our union with Christ is our entrance into God's kingdom, for “we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son” (Romans 5:10). From now on we enjoy the favor and fellowship of God. We have become “heirs of God”—eternal possessors of everything Christ himself enjoys in the way of holiness and grace. “Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent” (John 17:3).

Do you know the God of this Kingdom? Is his grace your only hope—his glory your chief aim?

*I am the LORD; I
have called you in
righteousness...*

Isaiah 42:6a

Covenant Presbyterian Church
1623 University Avenue, Berkeley, California 94703
www.berkeleyopc.org

MORNING WORSHIP – 11:00 A.M.

THE LORD CALLS US TO HIMSELF

Salutation and Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise # 457

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 235

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

CONFESSION OF SIN AND THE LORD'S ASSURANCE

The Law of God

Matthew 22:37-40

Confession of Sin (Congregation in Unison)

Lord God, Eternal and Almighty Father: We acknowledge before your holy majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and in corruption, prone to do evil, unable of our own power to do good. Because of our sin, we endlessly violate your holy commandments. But, O Lord, we repent and turn away from all our offenses. We condemn ourselves and our evil ways, asking you, through your grace, to relieve our distress. Remind us of your compassion, O Father of mercies. Remind us of all the benefits that are ours in Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. We also ask that you grant us daily increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit, and produce in us the fruits of holiness and of righteousness, which are pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Matthew 11:28-29 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

OFFERING OURSELVES IN THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Worship in Giving

Hymn of Thanksgiving # 508

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

We extend a cordial welcome to each visitor!

Wayne K. Forkner, Minister

510-928-8024

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*Hymn of Preparation # 449

“We Rest on Thee”

Sermon Text

Luke 22:14-20

Sermon

FULFILLING THE PASSOVER

*Hymn of Response # 372

“Praise Waits for Thee in Zion”

THE LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING

*Gloria Patri (Praising our Gracious Lord)

734

*The Lord's Benediction

Announcements

Today, 12:30pm. A potluck luncheon will be held in the church following the morning worship service. All are welcome.

Tuesday, 7:30pm. Weekly Bible Study at the church or via Zoom. Our Bible study at the church begins with dinner at 7:00pm, followed by a time of study at 7:30pm. For information on attending the study via Zoom, please send an email to Pastor Wayne at wforkner86@mac.com.