

The Kingdom of God

Christ came into the world to establish a kingdom. All that he said and all that he did were directed to that end. When he appeared publicly among men it is recorded: “Jesus came into Galilee preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God.” When Christ announced the coming of his kingdom he spoke of this kingdom as the kingdom of *God*.

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

This kingdom exists for God. Israel wanted a kingdom that existed for the sake of Israel. Men today want kingdoms that exist for their sakes. In the view of modern man God exists for him and for his comfort. The idea that man exists for God and must live for the glory of God is offensive to modern rational thinking. But the word of the Lord declares that man is made for God and the kingdom exists to show forth the glory of our God in salvation.

God is the supreme attraction in this kingdom. His personality and character in all their resplendent glory pervade his kingdom. Our union to him is our entrance into the kingdom of God, for “we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son.” Henceforth we enjoy the favor and fellowship of God. We have become “heirs of God”—eternal possessors of all that he is in the fullness of his holiness and grace. “And this is life eternal, that they might know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.”

Do we know the God of this kingdom? Is his grace our only hope—his glory our chief end?

*Now unto the
King eternal,
immortal,
invisible, the only
wise God, be honor
and glory for ever
and ever. Amen.*

1 Timothy 1:17

We extend a cordial welcome to each visitor! We would like to keep in touch with you. Please use the QR code to tell us about yourself.



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

THE LORD'S DAY

September 28, 2025

Covenant Presbyterian Church

MORNING WORSHIP – 11:00 A.M.

THE LORD CALLS US TO HIMSELF

Salutation and Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise # 3

“Give to Our God Immortal Praise”

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 181

“We Come, O Christ, to You”

CONFESSION OF SIN AND THE LORD'S ASSURANCE

The Law of God

Matthew 22:37-40

Confession of Sin (Congregation in Unison)

O most great, most just and gracious God; thou art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity; but thou hast promised mercy through Jesus Christ to all that repent and believe in him. We confess that we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God. We have neglected and abused thy holy worship. We have dealt unjustly and uncharitably with our neighbors. We have not sought first thy kingdom. We have run into temptation; and the sin that we should have hated, we have committed. Have mercy on us, most merciful Father! In thy Son is our salvation, in thy promises our hope.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 1:18 “Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

OFFERING OURSELVES IN THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Worship in Giving

Hymn of Thanksgiving # 252

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

Wayne K. Forkner, Minister

510-928-8024

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*Hymn of Preparation # 371

“O Lord of Hosts, How Lovely”

Sermon Text

Isaiah 40:3-5

Sermon

THE ROYAL ROAD

*Hymn of Response # 161 “O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart’s Desire”

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. All are welcome.

Tuesday, 7:30pm. Weekly Bible Study at the church or via Zoom. We are studying the book of Deuteronomy. 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.

Sunday, October 5. We remember the Lord's death in the Communion service during morning worship. Our Communion service is open to those who have been, or are now, communicant members of an evangelical church. But those who are not communicant members of our Church are asked to meet with the elders of the Church before partaking of the Lord's Supper. It is required that they meet with the elders only once.

Sunday, October 5. Our quarterly offering for the Deacons Fund will be received during the singing of the hymn following The Lord's Supper.