

A Kingdom of Truth

“What is truth?” asked a sardonic Pilate and did not wait for an answer. As Jesus stood before him, the Roman skeptic challenged Christ’s claim to know the truth. In all his court learning he had not found the truth. The Greek and Roman philosophers admittedly had not arrived at certain knowledge of the truth. How could this Jesus, a hitherto obscure person from a country village in Galilee, presume to know the truth?

Multitudes today join Pilate in denying that there is any absolute and unchanging truth. All truth is regarded as relative. What is true today may be proved false tomorrow. There is no final standard of right and wrong.

Before the confusion and contradictions of men Christ stands to proclaim today as he did to Pilate, “To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth.” Christ is a king of truth. His kingdom is permeated with truth.

What is truth? “I am the truth,” said Jesus. Christ is the living personification of all that is truth. “Your word is truth,” Jesus said as he prayed for the sanctifying of the members of his kingdom. The word of the living God is true. God, the author thereof, is himself called the “Lord God of truth.”

It is only by the truth that the kingdom of God can be extended. There is no other way. “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” The truth of the gospel alone can save. The truth of God’s word alone can build us up in the faith. “And now I commend you to God and the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among them that are sanctified.”

Know the truth. Speak the truth. Live the truth. Only thus can Christ’s kingdom grow.

*Justice and judgment
are the habitation of
thy throne: mercy and
truth shall go before
thy face.*

*Blessed is the people
that know the joyful
sound: they shall walk,
O Lord, in the light of
thy countenance.*

Psalms 89:14, 15

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

MORNING WORSHIP – 11:00 A.M.

THE LORD CALLS US TO HIMSELF

Salutation and Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise # 125

“Let All Things Now Living”

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 10

“Hallelujah! Hallelujah!”

CONFESSION OF SIN AND THE LORD'S ASSURANCE

The Law of God

Exodus 20:1-17

Confession of Sin (Congregation in Unison)

Almighty God, we are unworthy to come into your presence, because of our many sins. We do not deserve any grace or mercy from you, if you dealt with us as we deserve. We have sinned against you, O Lord, and we have offended you. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offenses, so also do we acknowledge you to be a merciful God, a loving and favorable Father, to all who turn to you. And so we humbly ask you, for the sake of Christ your son, to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our offenses. Forgive the sins of our youth, and the sins of our old age. By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts, so that, not only the actions of our life, but also the words of our mouths, and the smallest thought of our minds, may be guided and governed by you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Assurance of Forgiveness

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1John 1:9)

OFFERING OURSELVES IN THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Worship in Giving

Hymn of Thanksgiving # 463

“A Debtor to Mercy Alone”

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

Wayne K. Forkner, Minister

510-928-8024

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*Hymn of Preparation # 620 *“O Lord, I Love You, My Shield, My Tower”*

Sermon Text

Isaiah 39

Sermon

THE BABYLONIAN EXILE ANNOUNCED

THE LORD'S TABLE

*Hymn of Preparation # 429

“Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured”

Celebrating the Supper

*Hymn of Response # 305

“Arise, My Soul, Arise”

THE LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING

*Gloria Patri (Praising our Gracious Lord)

734

*The Lord's Benediction

Announcements

Today. 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.

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.

Saturday, September 13, 12:00pm – 4:00pm. Our annual Fall church picnic takes place at Picnic Area #4 (near the concrete slide) at Codornices Park in Berkeley (1201 Euclid Ave., Berkeley, CA 94708). Please use the QR Code to access the online potluck sign-up sheet.

