

Thy Kingdom Come

Why pray this prayer? Does not God rule the universe? How else could it operate? How else would it exist? The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His kingdom rules over all. He does as He pleases in the armies of heaven and on the earth. Why, then, pray, “Thy kingdom come”?

God is Lord of all. And yet it is His will that within the bounds of His control a lesser kingdom, rebellious against His will, should be permitted for a time. With much longsuffering, God allows the forces of evil to work their pleasure until His own designs are fulfilled. Then He will call a halt to the forces of evil and will banish them. And all things will submit to His rule. Christ, the Prince of Peace, will cast out the prince of darkness. Chaos will give place to order. Joy will banish sorrow. Freedom and relief will replace oppression and suffering. This is the day for which creation groans. It will break with the dawning of the Sun of righteousness.

The kingdom of God is future to the extent that the rule of God is yet to assert itself against the reign of evil so as to destroy it forever. It is the time of the undoing of the works of the devil through the work of Christ. We are to pray for the coming of God’s kingdom because it pleases God to fulfil His plans partly through the cry of His people—in response to it. He wills to be received by them gladly. He wills to be honored by their ready admission that the kingdom of hell was the heaviest of burdens and the most galling of yokes; that sin was not liberty but slavery; that we can come to our own only in that submission to the Creator for which we were designed. We turned from Him willingly. Heartily we must once more own His rule. And if we truly believe in the blessing of His kingdom, we will join in the chorus that for centuries has echoed the cry, “Thy kingdom come!” It will show that we have had enough of wandering and going astray.

Thy kingdom come.

Matthew 6:10

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 # 297 *“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”*

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 372 *“Praise Waits for Thee in Zion”*

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 # 87 *“The Lord’s My Shepherd I’ll Not Want”*

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

Wayne K. Forkner, Minister

510-928-8024

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*Hymn of Preparation # 335 *“Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me”*

Sermon Text Isaiah 43:22-44:5, pew Bible p. 604

Sermon ISRAEL’S FAILURE AND FUTURE

*Hymn of Response # 92 *“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”*

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, February 1. 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.