

# KINGDOM

FIVE WEEKS ON HOW GOD'S KINGDOM COMES TO US

*Who God's Kingdom is For*

July 19, 2020

## **Prayer before worship:**

Heavenly Father, I thank you for bringing me into your kingdom of peace and rest. In your kingdom, I find deliverance from the burdens of sin in my life. And you have called me into your kingdom through the good news of Jesus' great love for me. Thank you. In your reigning name I pray, Amen.

## **✠ The Order of Service ✠**

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C:** Amen

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M:** Let us pray.

God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen

## ✠ The Word ✠

### FIRST LESSON: Joshua 23:1-11

<sup>1</sup>After a long time had passed and the LORD had given Israel rest from all their enemies around them, Joshua, by then old and well advanced in years, <sup>2</sup>summoned all Israel—their elders, leaders, judges and officials—and said to them: “I am old and well advanced in years. <sup>3</sup>You yourselves have seen everything the LORD your God has done to all these nations for your sake; it was the LORD your God who fought for you. <sup>4</sup>Remember how I have allotted as an inheritance for your tribes all the land of the nations that remain—the nations I conquered—between the Jordan and the Great Sea in the west. <sup>5</sup>The LORD your God himself will drive them out of your way. He will push them out before you, and you will take possession of their land, as the LORD your God promised you.

<sup>6</sup>“Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, without turning aside to the right or to the left. <sup>7</sup>Do not associate with these nations that remain among you; do not invoke the names of their gods or swear by them. You must not serve them or bow down to them. <sup>8</sup>But you are to hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have until now.

<sup>9</sup>“The LORD has driven out before you great and powerful nations; to this day no one has been able to withstand you. <sup>10</sup>One of you routs a thousand, because the LORD your God fights for you, just as he promised. <sup>11</sup>So be very careful to love the LORD your God.

### SECOND LESSON: Romans 7:15-25a

<sup>15</sup>I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. <sup>16</sup>And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup>As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. <sup>18</sup>I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. <sup>19</sup>For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

<sup>21</sup>So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup>For in my inner being I delight in God’s law; <sup>23</sup>but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. <sup>24</sup>What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup>Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!

## **GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 11:25-30**

<sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. <sup>26</sup> Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure.

<sup>27</sup> "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

## **SERMON: Matthew 11:25-30**

"Who God's Kingdom is For"

## **APOSTLES CREED**

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYER**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

**M: The Lord bless you and keep you.**

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

**C: Amen.**