

The Kingdom of God

THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF
LUKE



Online Worship Resource (Sunday, May 15, 2022)

BOLD TYPE IS SPOKEN BY THE CONGREGATION

FLOWERS: Given to the glory of God by Justina Ampadu-Boateng in Honor of her birthday.

Prelude :

Andante

Benjamin Goddard

“...and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” -Micah 6:8
Jane Kerr, Organist

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Angela Yeboah, Liturgist

Please stand as you are led and join me in our responsive Call to Worship:
Love the Lord your God,

with all my heart, and with all my soul, and with all my strength, and with all my mind!

Love your neighbor, as yourself,

with all my heart, and with all my soul, and with all my strength, and with all my mind!

Do this and you will live!

Let us worship God!

Opening Hymn: "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna work....

I'm gonna pray....

I'm gonna sing.....

Call to Confession (Liturgist)

Secure in the promise of God's knowledge of us, and trusting in God's eagerness to forgive, let us confess our sin, praying together. . .

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we are your sons and daughters, but all too often our speech does not honor you and our actions belittle the love you have for us. We do not defend the poor or lift up the oppressed. We do not disturb our convenience or comfort to help the weak. Rather than extending kindness or mercy, we stay safely uninvolved. We avoid difficult responsibilities to our neighbors. Forgive us, Lord. Free us from attitudes of bias, apathy, and selfishness, strengthening us to be your faithful followers.

Assurance of Pardon

Good News abounds! Jesus Christ is merciful to all who turn to him in repentance.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

Response: "Da n' ase"

Praise God, all you nations. People of God, sing praise! (Repeat)

God's love is great and endures forever, Praise God, all you nations. People of God, sing praise.

Da n'ase! Da n'ase! Da Onyame ase! (Repeat)

Efiaise oye, n'a n'a doe doe so, Da n'ase! Da n'ase! Da Onyame ase!

Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Time with Children

Prayer for Illumination

(Liturgist)

Let us prepare our hearts to hear God's Word by praying together the prayer for Illumination:

Holy God, this is the time when we quiet our hearts and minds to pay attention--to really pay attention--to what you have to say to us today. Fill us with your Word, and give us understanding by the power of your Holy Spirit, that having heard your Word, we may live lives worthy of you and your generous kindness towards us. Amen.

Scripture Reading Luke 10:25-37

²⁵ Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷ He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹ But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.'

³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Kindness Contagion

Rev. Michelle Fincher

Hymn after Sermon: "The Servant Song"

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on the road.
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

Call to offering (Liturgist)

As a family of redeemed sisters and brothers, we live for giving thanks! We know that everything we do and everything we have, comes from God, whose unconditional love and kindness lifts us up each day. Let us continue our worship and thanksgiving with grateful hearts, giving out of our blessings that others may also be blessed. Please pray with me our prayer of dedication. . .

Prayer of Dedication

Thank you, God, for pouring out your extravagant kindness upon us. With joy and gratitude we share our gifts, asking that you use them to extend your kingdom of grace and joy, peace and hope to our neighbors near and far. For the sake of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn: "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord (2x)
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

REFRAIN:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand (2x)
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land. (Refrain)

We will work with each other, we will work side by side, (2x)
And we'll guard human dignity and save human pride. (Refrain)

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ
Jesus, God's only Son;
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one. (Refrain)

Benediction

Postlude: (#749)

We Are Called

David Haas

Today's Worship Participants:

Rev. Michelle Fincher, Jane Kerr, organist, Judy Viccellio, guitar,
David Maley, piano, Angela Yeboah, liturgist, and
Whitney Roberts, technology team