

# The Kingdom of God

THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF  
LUKE



Online Worship Resource (Sunday, February 27, 2022)

**BOLD TYPE IS SPOKEN BY THE CONGREGATION**

**FLOWERS:** Given to the glory of God by Danny & Pam Williams for all family birthdays in February.

Prelude: **O SPLENDOR OF GOD'S GLORY BRIGHT** arr. H. Hopson

*O Splendor Of God's glory bright, from light eternal bringing light;  
O Light of Light, light's living spring, true Day, all days illumining.*  
Jane Kerr, Organist

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship Kwabena Sintim-Aboagye, Liturgist

Please stand as you are led and join me in our responsive Call to Worship from Psalm 99:

The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.

**Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

O Lord our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings.

**Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy.**

**Opening Hymn:** "O Splendor of God's Glory Bright"

O Splendor of God's glory bright, from light eternal bringing light; O Light of Light, light's living spring, true Day, all days illumining.

Come, Holy Sun of heavenly love, rain down your radiance from above, and to our inward hearts convey the holy Spirit's cloudless ray.

O joyful be the passing day with thoughts as clear as morning's ray, with faith like noon-tide shining bright, our souls unshadowed by the night.

O Lord, with each returning morn, your image to our heart is born; O may we ever clearly view our Savior and our God in you.

Call to Confession

(Liturgist)

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God. Let us pray. . .

**Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us.**

**Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.**

Silent Confession

**Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**With a grateful and joyful heart, I receive God's gifts of love and forgiveness. Alleluia! Amen.**

**Response:** "Christ Be Beside Me"

Christ be beside me; Christ be before me; Christ be behind me, King of my heart.

Christ be within me; Christ be below me; Christ be above me, never to part.

## **Passing the Peace**

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **Children's Time**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

(Liturgist)

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

**Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing, we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Scripture Reading: Exodus 34:29-35 and Luke 9:28-36

<sup>29</sup> Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. <sup>30</sup> When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup> But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. <sup>32</sup> Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup> When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; <sup>34</sup> but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, <sup>35</sup> the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

<sup>28</sup> Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup> Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup> They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. <sup>33</sup> Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. <sup>34</sup> While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" <sup>36</sup> When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

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

Sermon

Don't Look Away

Rev. Mel Baars O' Malley

**Hymn after Sermon:** "Be Thou My Vision"

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me save  
that thou art;

Thou my best thought by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy pres-  
ence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee, and thou with  
me, Lord.

Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;  
raise thou me heavenward, O  
Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise;  
thou mine inheritance now and al-  
ways.

Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright  
heaven's Sun!

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Call to Offering

(Liturgist)

We are the body of Christ, surrounded by the many needs of the world around us. Let us bring our tithes and offerings, that these gifts may foster hope and peace. Let us pray. . .

### **Prayer of Dedication**

**Gracious and holy God, accept what we offer today: our checks and cash, our faltering steps, our brokenness, our leftovers, our hope, our risking, our lives. Bless and transform all that we offer and that we hold back, that new life may be ours, to celebrate and share in Jesus' name. 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:** "Christ, Be Our Light"

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

### REFRAIN

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts, Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us, Make us your living voice. (REFRAIN)

Many the gifts, many the people, Many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come. (REFRAIN)

## Benediction

Postlude: **Sing Glory to the Name of God** arr. Lani Smith

*Sing glory to the name of God, whose holy splendor shines abroad.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Enthroned above the crashing waves, the God of grace and  
glory saves. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

**Mel Baars O'Malley** is a Major in the U.S. Army and serves as an Army chaplain at Fort Belvoir. Before her current assignment, she was a chaplain at Arlington National Cemetery, chaplain for the Warrior Transition Battalion in Fort Carson, Colorado, hospital chaplain at Brooke Army Medical Center and was deployed for one year as a chaplain at the largest detention facility in Afghanistan. Before serving in the Army, she spent six months at the Presbyterian Church of Chestertown as a missionary in residence and two years in Gugulethu, South Africa as an associate pastor at JL Zwane Presbyterian Church. She is married to Greg O'Malley, and they have a son, Thomas and a daughter, Sara.

### Today's Worship Participants:

Chaplain (MAJ) Mel Baars O'Malley, guest preacher, Jane Kerr, organist,  
David Maley, piano, Kwabena Sintim-Aboagye, liturgist, and  
Whitney Roberts, technology team