



# Gathering

*During the Prelude we invite you to greet one another with love outside the Chapel, and allow those within to meditate, pray or just listen.*

Prelude                    “Promised Land”                    Traditional, arr. by Joseph M. Martin

Welcome

\*Call to Worship *(from Psalm 99)*

\*congregation please stand in body or spirit

Leader:            The Lord is King; let all the peoples rejoice!

**People:            God sits enthroned upon the cherubim. Let the earth tremble!**

Leader:            The Lord is great in Zion. The King is exalted.

**People:            Let us praise God’s great and awesome name. Holy is the Lord!**

Leader:            The King loves justice and has established equity.

**People:            Extol the Lord our God; worship at God’s footstool. Holy is the Lord!**

\*Opening Hymn #310 “I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord”

Poem                    “A Blessed Reality”                    by Sue O'Donnell

*Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. And whatever we ask we receive from God, because we keep God’s commandments and do those things that are pleasing in God’s sight.*

(John 3 v 21, 22)

God’s kingdom  
As a real possibility.  
A blessed reality  
The Spirit shares, spreads  
The giftings Jesus wishes for us,  
That fullness is ours.  
The Spirit making us  
Strong in Jesus,  
And the power of His might.  
For the goodness of God,  
The Spirit shows us, in all kindness,

Always reflecting the godly personality of Jesus,  
To help us know this.  
Reverence develops as we listen  
To the Word of God  
Heard as a blessed reality,  
Under the guidance of the Spirit of development.  
For thankfully this is worthy of all praise for love's guidance  
Enlightenment Enablement Empowerment Enrichment,  
This the Spirit  
Will accomplish  
For us, in Jesus.  
No more darkness, Love's witness  
Is Jesus, the Lord, God's Word.  
Jesus is God's wisdom Amongst us,  
By the Holy Spirit,  
Who calls us to faith Through Jesus, Reverencing God's kingdom.

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, we cannot talk about your kingdom without recognizing and confessing that our pursuits are often more about our own kingdoms than yours. We are quick to criticize and judge while your kingdom calls us to love. We defend our rights and needs while your kingdom calls us to lay down self to serve others. Forgive us, Lord. Deepen our desire for you and for the kingdom life to which you call us, for the sake of Christ our Lord, we pray.**

### Time for Silent Confession

### Assurance of Pardon

**Leader:** God's kingdom overflows with mercy and teems with new life.  
Friends, hear the Good News and believe!

**People:** **In Jesus Christ, we are made whole and renewed in body, mind, soul and spirit. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\*Musical Response #175 "Seek Ye First" verse 1

## \*Passing of the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## The Word

### Prayer for Illumination

Scriptures: Luke 17:20-21 and Mark 1:14-20

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church!

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “The Kingdom of God: What Is It?”

\*Hymn #2190 “Bring Forth the Kingdom” (STF)

### Time for Response to Sermon

### Joys and Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

Leader: Lord in your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayers**

### The Lord’s Prayer

### Announcements

## Sending

\*Closing Hymn #853 “We Are Marching In the Light of God”

### \*Benediction

Postlude “Jesus Is King” by Dick Torrans

*Feel free to stand, chat and generally share in Fellowship as the Postlude sends us out into the world in Love.*

We welcome all who worship with us this day. May you experience God’s presence and find inspiration for your journey of faith. This morning the leaders in worship are:

**Rev. Michelle Fincher**, Pastor; **Heidi Thomas**, Music Director;

**Eddie Lovegren**, Liturgist; **Ryan Hodel**, Zoom Host

*All music today is used by CCLI –1800777/One License #A-725921*