

Lent 4 Midweek

March 25, 2020

Z E C H A R I A H

YOUR
KINGDOM
COME



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WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

In the season of Lent this year, our focus will be on the book of Zechariah. The prophet's chief concern is God's kingdom. Throughout all fourteen chapters, Zechariah joyfully and profoundly announces that God's kingdom is coming through Jesus Christ our Lord. We will be exploring the stunning portraits of our Savior that the book of Zechariah is filled with. This evening our theme is, "First secure your own oxygen mask." This directive is familiar to anyone who travels on commercial airplanes. This is also Zechariah's directive for us today! God's blessings on your worship this evening!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

INVOCATION and CALL TO WORSHIP

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

C: Amen.

P: Behold, your King comes to you—

C: Righteous and having salvation.

P: Speaking peace to the nations.

C: And ruling from sea to sea—

P: To the ends of the earth!

C: God's kingdom comes—

P: To us!

ALL: Through Jesus Christ our Lord!

HYMN — "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain" # 435 vv. 1-3

**Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain, sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain flows for you, for me, for all,
In a full, perpetual tide, opened when our Savior died.**

**Come in poverty and meanness, come defiled, without, within;
From infection and uncleanness, from the leprosy of sin,
Wash your robes and make them white; ye shall walk with God in light.**

**Come in sorrow and contrition, wounded, impotent, and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission, here the troubled, peace may find.
Health this fountain will restore; they that drink shall thirst no more.**

by James Montgomery. Public Domain

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

P: Come to Calvary's holy mountain, sinners ruined by the fall.

C: Here a pure and healing fountain flows for you, for me, for all.

P: In a full, perpetual tide—.

C: Opened when our Savior died!

P: Coming to Calvary's holy mountain, we confess our sins.

[Silence for reflection and confession.]

P: Merciful Father—

C: I am wrapped up in myself.

P: I cling to comfort and choose the easy way.

C: I want tweaking, not transformation.

P: Greed, envy, intolerance and jealousy mark my life.

C: I fail to learn, and what I have learned, I fail to practice.

P: I judge others with a standard I use myself.

ALL: Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

P: Zechariah 13:1 states, "On that day there will be a fountain opened to cleanse from sin and uncleanness." Because of Christ's cross and crucifixion—Zechariah's day is today! Here a pure and healing fountain flows for you, for me, for all. In a full, perpetual tide opened when our Savior died! In Jesus' name, you are absolved, forgiven and loved! God's kingdom comes to us—

ALL: Through Jesus Christ our Lord!

HYMN — "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain" # 435 v. 4

**They that drink shall live forever; 'tis a soul renewing flood.
God is faithful; God will never break His covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died, sealed when He was glorified.**

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, your crucified, risen, ascended Son has sent us into the world to share the good news of your kingdom: inspire us with your Holy Spirit and fill our hearts with the fire of your love, that all who hear the Gospel may be drawn to saving faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS (The readings are about God's mission to seek and save lost people)

Old Testament Reading — Zechariah 8:20-23

²⁰ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: Peoples shall yet come, even the inhabitants of many cities. ²¹ The inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, 'Let us go at once to entreat the favor of the LORD and to seek the LORD of hosts; I myself am going.' ²² Many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem and to entreat the favor of the LORD.

²³ Thus says the LORD of hosts: In those days ten men from the nations of every tongue shall take hold of the robe of a Jew, saying, 'Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.'" (ESV)

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading — *Colossians 4:2-6*

² Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. ³ At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison — ⁴ that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. ⁵ Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. ⁶ Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person. (ESV)

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading — *Luke 15:1-10*

¹ Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." ³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. ⁸ "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents." (ESV)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

CHOIR — “Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

MESSAGE –*Your Kingdom Come: First Secure Your Own Oxygen Mask!* – Zechariah 8:20-23

“As a result of what you have heard from God’s Word today, what is He giving you to believe or do this coming week? _____

HYMN — “Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling” # 826

**Hark, the voice of Jesus calling,
“Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting
who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calleth;
Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying,
“Here am I, send me, send me”?**

**If you cannot speak like angels,
if you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus,
you can say He died for all.
If you cannot rouse the wicked
with the judgment’s dread alarms,
You can lead the little children
to the Savior’s waiting arms.**

**If you cannot be a watchman,
standing high on Zion’s wall,
Pointing out the path to heaven,
off’ring life and peace to all,
With your prayers and with your bounties
you can do what God commands;
You can be like faithful Aaron,
holding up the prophet’s hands.**

**Let none hear you idly saying,
“There is nothing I can do.”
While the multitudes are dying
and the Master calls for you.
Take the task He gives you gladly,
let His work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when He calleth,
“Here am I, send me, send me!”**

GATHERING OF OUR OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Our King comes to us, righteous and having salvation. May God hear our prayers, because of our crucified and risen King—Christ Jesus.

[Brief silence for personal prayers.]

P: Heavenly Father, we invite you into our lives—

C: We make ourselves available to your holy will.

P: Help us become living examples of your love in the world.

C: Open our hearts to the areas of our lives that need to change—

P: So that we carry out the mission of your church—

C: Connecting People to Jesus.

P: Inspire us to live the Christian life—

C: In ways that are dynamic and engaging.

P: Bring renewal to our church.

C: And make us hunger and thirst for more of Jesus.

P: Give us courage when we are afraid.

C: Hope when we are discouraged.

P: And clarity in times of decision.

[Special intercessions.]

P: They that drink shall live forever, 'tis a soul renewing flood.

C: God is faithful, God will never, break his covenant of blood.

P: Signed when our Redeemer died—

ALL: Sealed when he was glorified. Amen.

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: Behold, your King comes to you—

C: Righteous and having salvation.

P: Speaking peace to the nations.

C: and ruling from sea to sea—

P: To the ends of the earth!
C: **God's kingdom comes—**

P: To us!
C: **By His Spirit.**

P: God's kingdom comes through us—
C: **To the ends of the earth.**

ALL: Amen.

HYMN — “The Wonderful Cross”

**When I survey the wondrous cross; On which the Prince of Glory died.
My richest gain I count but loss; And pour contempt on all my pride.**

**See with His head, His hands, His feet; Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet; Or thorns compose so rich a crown.**

**Refrain: O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross;
Bids me come and die And find that I may truly live.
O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross;
All who gather here by grace draw near and bless Your name.**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine; That were an offering far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine; Demands my soul, my life, my all.**

Refrain and verse 1

by Chris Tomlin, Isaac Watts, J. D. Walt, Jesse Reeves & Lowell Mason
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Silent Prayer: Jesus, breathe Gospel power into my heart, so that others see you in me and are saved! Amen.

Wednesday Lenten Services

Meal @ 5:30 pm Service @ 6:30 pm

Wed. Feb. 26th at St. John, Hamilton
First Things First!

Wed. Mar. 4th at St. Paul's, Aleman
It's Tool Time!

Wed. Mar. 11th at St. John, Hamilton
Silencing Satan!

Wed. Mar. 18th at St. Paul's, Aleman
Who Will Take the Garbage Out!

Wed. Mar. 25th at St. John, Hamilton
First Secure Your Own Oxygen Mask!

Wed. Apr. 1st at St. Paul's, Aleman
The Redeemer's Refinery!