

**ST. DAVID'S (SHERMAN'S) UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**June 13, 2021**

**8:30 AM & 10:30 AM**

**WELCOME**

**EVANGELICAL & REFORMED HERITAGE VIDEO**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Righteous God, whose works are greater than our wildest imagination and most sophisticated study, plant the seeds of Your Word among us today, and let each of us welcome the good news You would plant within us. Inspire in us deeper thinking and more open receptiveness. May our lives be the fertile ground in which Your love bursts into life to nourish all whom we meet, in Jesus' name. AMEN

**OPENING HYMN: "Jerusalem, My Happy Home"**

Words: F.B.P. (ca 16<sup>th</sup> Century); Music: Land of Rest (American Folk hymn).

This hymn is in the Public Domain: CCLI: 11277885 (Worship)

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| <b>1)</b> Jerusalem, my happy home,<br>When shall I come to thee?<br>When shall my sorrows have an end?<br>Thy joys, when shall I see?                      | <b>3)</b> There David stands with harp in hand<br>As master of the choir:<br>Ten thousand times would one be blest<br>Who might this music hear. |
| <b>2)</b> Thy saints are crowned with glory<br>great;<br>They see God face to face;<br>They triumph still, they still rejoice:<br>In that most happy place. | <b>4)</b> Jerusalem, Jerusalem,<br>God grant that I may see<br>Thine endless joy, and of the same<br>Partaker ever be!                           |

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Each of us has a mandate from God to give our best and bear fruit for God's realm. We who gather in God's house are called to be a faithful community in which all bow humbly before God, motivated by the love of Christ. This is a time to examine ourselves before our Creator.

## **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

We like to have our own way, God, and are upset when others don't fit into our plans. We are content with our privileges and are seldom disturbed by inequities that are tipped to our advantage. Forgive us, O God, for living for ourselves and regarding others from a human point of view. Tune us in to the mind of Christ. Hear our personal prayers ...

## **A TIME OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION**

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old has passed away; the new has come. Christ died for all, that those who live in Christ may no longer live only for themselves. Let us respond as forgiven sinners, set free from our bondage to self, to live and act within the love of Christ. AMEN

**BELL CHOIR:** "Savior, Like a Shepherd," "Spirit of the Living God," and  
"Amazing Grace"

**HOLY SCRIPTURES:** Psalm 92:1-4. 12-15, Mark 4:26-34

### **PSALM 92:1-4**

**A psalm. A song. For the Sabbath day.**

- <sup>1</sup> It is good to praise the LORD  
and make music to your name, O Most High,  
<sup>2</sup> proclaiming your love in the morning  
and your faithfulness at night,  
<sup>3</sup> to the music of the ten-stringed lyre  
and the melody of the harp.  
<sup>4</sup> For you make me glad by your deeds, LORD;  
I sing for joy at what your hands have done.

### **PSALM 92:12-15**

- <sup>12</sup> The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,  
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;  
<sup>13</sup> planted in the house of the LORD,

they will flourish in the courts of our God.  
<sup>14</sup> They will still bear fruit in old age,  
they will stay fresh and green,  
<sup>15</sup> proclaiming, "The LORD is upright;  
he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him."

## **MARK 4:26-34**

### **The Parable of the Growing Seed**

<sup>26</sup> He also said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. <sup>27</sup> Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. <sup>28</sup> All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. <sup>29</sup> As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come."

### **The Parable of the Mustard Seed**

<sup>30</sup> Again he said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? <sup>31</sup> It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. <sup>32</sup> Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade."

<sup>33</sup> With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. <sup>34</sup> He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

## **CHILDREN'S STORYTIME**

**SERMON:** "Kingdom Seeds"

## **PASTORAL PRAYER 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

## **BENEDICTION**

God's grace has been poured out on us.

We are invited to share it with more and more people.

Go into the world to serve, to the glory of God.

May our thanksgiving increase day by day.

## **CLOSING HYMN:** "Bring Forth the Kingdom of God"

Text & Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 (© 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.)

Arr. & Sung by St. David's UCC, Hanover, PA, CCLI: 11277885

**1)** You are salt for the earth, O people:

Salt for the Kingdom of God!

Share the flavor of life, O people:

Life in the Kingdom of God!

### **Refrain:**

Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,

Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;

Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,

Bring forth the City of God!

**2)** You are a light on the hill, O people:

Light for the City of God!

Shine so holy and bright, O people:

Shine for the Kingdom of God! **[Refrain]**

**3)** You are a seed of the Word, O people:

Bring forth the Kingdom of God!

Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,

Grow in the Kingdom of God! **[Refrain]**

**4)** We are a blest and a pilgrim people:

Bound for the Kingdom of God!

Love our journey and love our homeland:

Love is the Kingdom of God! **[Refrain]**

**5)** We are a blest and anointed people:

Signed for the Kingdom of God!

Oil to strengthen us on our journey:

Shine for the Kingdom of God! **[Refrain]**