



The Kingdom Parables of Jesus: Nightmare Tenants!

“But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ “

(Matt 21:38)

Call to Worship

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**The Lord is God, and he has made
his light to shine upon us.**

(Ps 118:22-24, 27)

Let us pray.

**May the words of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts
be acceptable in your sight,
our Rock and our Redeemer.**

Ps 19:14

Amen.

Come, people of the risen King

Come, people of the risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise.
Come, all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice,
O Church of Christ, rejoice!*

Come, those whose joy is morning sun
And those weeping through the night.
Come, those who tell of battles won,

And those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace.

Come, young and old from every land,
Men and women of the faith.
Come, those with full or empty hands,
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing,
Shore to shore we hear them call
The Truth that cries through every age;
'Our God is all in all'.

© 2007 Thankyou Music

Confession and Assurance

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." (Matt 22:37-40)

Have mercy on us, O God

**According to your unfailing love;
According to your great compassion.**

God's word tells us:

*"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* 1 Jn 1:8-10

Therefore, let us confess our sins against God, and against our neighbour,
first in silence and then aloud together.

Please kneel or be seated.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and most merciful God,

**We confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean,
and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed;
not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires
that we are not able to understand, but which are all known to You.
For this reason, we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy,
seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

“But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.” (Rom 5:8-9)

Psalm 123

To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are
enthroned in the heavens!
**Behold, as the eyes of servants look to
the hand of their master,**
as the eyes of a maidservant to the hand
of her mistress,
**so our eyes look to the Lord our God,
till he has mercy upon us.**

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy
upon us, for we have had more than
enough of contempt.
**Our soul has had more than enough of
the scorn of those who are at ease, of
the contempt of the proud.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.
**As it was in the beginning, is now, and
shall be forever, age after age. Amen**

Lord, unto You I lift my eyes (Psalm 123)

Lord, unto You I lift my eyes;
You are enthroned in heav'n above.
Your servants' gaze to You shall rise,
Seeking our Master's gracious love.

Lord, how the proud have heaped their
scorn;
Our souls are filled with their great shame.
Our gracious Lord, our souls adorn
With Your great mercies, by Your name!

God's Word

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7, p. 569

This is the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Matt 21:33-46, p. 827

This is the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Nightmare Tenants! (David Thornhill-Smith)

Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor

Christ, the sure and steady anchor
In the fury of the storm
When the winds of doubt
blow through me
And my sails have all been torn.
In the suff'ring, in the sorrow,
When my sinking hopes are few,
I will hold fast to the anchor;
It shall never be removed.

Christ, the sure and steady anchor
While the tempest rages on,
When temptation claims the battle
And it seems the night has won;
Deeper still then goes the anchor
Though I justly stand accused;
I will hold fast to the anchor;
It shall never be removed.

Christ, the sure and steady anchor
Through the floods of unbelief;
Hopeless somehow,
O my soul, now
Lift your eyes to Calvary.
This, my ballast of assurance;
See His love forever proved;
I will hold fast to the anchor;
It shall never be removed.

Christ, the sure and steady anchor
As we face the wave of death,
When these trials give way to glory,
As we draw our final breath;
We will cross that great horizon,
Clouds behind and life secure,
And the calm will be the better
For the storms that we endure.

© 2014 Messenger Hymns

The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived
by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

**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.
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.**

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah (Psalm 146)

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the
glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.
Put no confidence in princes,
Nor for help on man depend;
They shall die,
to dust returning,
And their purposes shall end.

Happy is the man that chooses
Israel's God to be his aid;
He is blest whose hope of blessing
On the Lord his God is stayed.
Heaven and earth the Lord created,
Seas and all that they contain;
He delivers from oppression,
Righteousness He will maintain.

Food He daily gives the hungry,
Sets the mourning prisoner free,
Raises those bowed down
with anguish,
Makes the sightless eyes to see.
Well Jehovah loves the righteous,
And the stranger He befriends,
Helps the fatherless
and the widow,
Judgement on the wicked sends.

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.
Over all God reigns forever,
Through all ages He is King;
Unto Him, your God, O Zion,
Joyful hallelujahs sing.

Benediction

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the Name of Christ, Amen.

Kingdom Parables of Jesus

Kingdom Growth & Judgement (ch. 13)

- Sower. Word is spread; wheat and weeds spring up.
- Weeds. Harvest and separation will come; AD 70 and end of days.
- Mustard Seed. Huge growth; birds (peoples, nations) benefit significantly.
- Leaven. Invisible spread; spiritual kingdom found in all human kingdoms.

Kingdom Fruitfulness & Judgement (ch. 21, 22)

- Fig Tree.
- Two Sons.
- Tenants.
- Wedding Feast.

Kingdom Citizens & Final Judgement (ch. 25)

- Ten Virgins.
- Talents.

Notices

Please diarise and pray for the items below:

NEXT WEEK		
Sun 4 September	Morning Worship	Followed by church lunch - all welcome.

FURTHER AHEAD		
Thu 22nd Sep	Annual Church Mtg	Please diarise