



Subjects of the Kingdom of Heaven I - Inheritance

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matt 5:3)

Call to Worship

God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

**Sing praises to God, sing praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
For God is the King of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm!**

(Ps 47.5-7)

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,
to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.**

**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the
King of creation;
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy
health and salvation:
Come ye who hear, brothers and sisters
draw near,
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, Who o'er all things so
wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so
gently sustaineth:
Hast thou not seen all that is needful
hath been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, Who doth prosper thy
work, and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here
daily attend thee;
Ponder anew all the Almighty can do,
He who with love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me
adore Him!
All that hath life and breath come now
with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people
again:
Gladly for ay we adore Him.

(Joachim Neander, trans. C. Winkworth)

Confession and Assurance

Hear the summary of the whole law, from our Lord Jesus Christ:

"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 1:8-9)

Let us therefore 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 Father,

We have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.

We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things that we ought to have done; and we have done those things that we ought not to have done;

and there is no health in us.

But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners. Spare those who confess their faults.

Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life, to the glory of your holy name. 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 103 (2nd part)

As far as east is from the west,
So far his love has borne away
Our many sins and trespasses
And all the guilt that on us lay.
Just as a father loves his child,
So God loves those who fear his name.
For he remembers we are dust,
And well he knows our feeble frame.

Each human life is like the grass,
And like a meadow flower it grows.
Its place will never be recalled
Once over it the tempest blows.
But everlasting is God's love

For those who fear him, and their seed—
For those who keep his covenant,
And carefully his precepts heed.

God's kingly rule is over all;
In heaven he has set his throne.
O you his angels, praise the LORD,
Strong ones by whom his will is done.
O praise the LORD, you heavenly hosts,
His servants who perform his word.
Praise God, his works throughout his realm,
And you, my soul, O praise the LORD!

God's Word

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 10:16-19

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

Psalm 37:1-11

Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers!

For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.

Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him;

fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who

carries out evil devices!

Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!

Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.

For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land.

In just a little while, the wicked will be no more; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there.

But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.

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!

Second Reading: Matt 5:1-16

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

Sermon: Subjects of the Kingdom of Heaven I - Inheritance (Rev Alan Steele)

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

For Him shall endless prayer be made,
And praises throng to crown His head;
His name, like sweet perfume, shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.

People, and realms, of every tongue,
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;

And infant voices shall proclaim Their
early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns;
The prisoner leaps to loose his chains;
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the sons of want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
Peculiar honours to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen!

(Isaac Watts)

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.**

Please be seated.

Psalm 113

Praise the Lord, His servants praise Him!
Praise the name of God, the Lord!
Blessed be the name of Yahweh,
This time forth and evermore!
From the morning to the evening
Shall His holy name be praised.
He is high above the nations,
O'er the heav'ns, His glory raised.

Who is like the Lord of heaven,
He who is enthroned on high?
He who humbly looks from heaven
To observe the earth and sky?
Lifting up the poor and needy,
From the heap unto a throne;
Bringing joy unto the barren;
Praise be to the Lord alone!

Benediction

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

Notices

Coming Up...		
Mon 27th Nov	Fellowship Group	
Thu 30th Nov	Men's Ministry: <i>Defending the Faith</i>	See Alan Steele
Sun 3rd Dec	<i>Morning worship followed by Church Lunch and Leaflet distribution</i>	10am
Further ahead...		
Thu 7th Dec	Church Meeting re Building	7.15pm

Subjects of the Kingdom of Heaven (Rev Alan Steele)

26 Nov	I	Matt 5:1-5	Inheritance
3 Dec	II	Matt 5:6-12	Righteousness
10 Dec	III	Matt 5:12-16	Tribulation