

PRAYER SERVICE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19TH, 7PM

Join us outside in the pavilion or on <u>Facebook</u> and use this Guide to pray with us.

• INTRO

Welcome back to Prayer Service, it is good to be together again! Last time, we began a new, exciting journey of praying through the Psalms—*all* the Psalms (150 to be exact). Why are we continuing to pray together every week, and why pray the Psalms? Like we said last time, the way to live a life that is "thriving in Christ," (our church vision) is immersing ourselves in the Word of God, in the Presence of God, and in the People of God. One of the keys to this is learning to live *a life of prayer*. If we want to learn how to live a life of prayer, the best thing we could do is go to the Psalms, the "Prayer Book" of the Bible—the Prayer Book of Jesus himself. The Psalms are full of prophesies of the Messiah and so many treasures of what life with God looks like. They teach us how to be honest and bold in prayer. They help us discover the heart of God. They are full of challenges that will stretch us, too. If we commit to praying the Psalms together, we will literally be immersing ourselves in God's Word, in God's Presence, and in God's People! What could be better for such a time as this? I hope you're excited for this journey, let's get started with Psalm 2.

• PAUSE

"As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still; to breathe slowly; to re-center my scattered senses upon the presence of God." (Lectio365)

Pause and pray

Tonight we begin our journey through the Psalms by reflecting, meditating, and praying through **Psalm 2**. As we read together, be open with the parts that confuse or challenge you; meditate on the parts that jump out to you:

^{"1} Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? ² The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the LORD and against his anointed, saying, ³ 'Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles.' ⁴ The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. ⁵ He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, ⁶ 'I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain.' ⁷ I will proclaim the LORD's decree: He said to me, 'You are my son; today I have become your father. ⁸ Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. ⁹ You will break them with a rod of iron; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.' ¹⁰ Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. ¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling. ¹² Kiss his son, or he will be angry and your way will lead to your destruction, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him."

Let's worship the Lord together as we sing:

<u>SONGS</u>

"Holy, Holy, Holy" Click Here - https://youtu.be/sl6ZkTbUgW4

VERSE 1

Holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty Early in the morning Our song shall rise to Thee Holy, holy, holy Merciful and mighty God in three persons Blessed Trinity

VERSE 2

Holy, holy, holy All the saints adore Thee Casting down their golden crowns Around the glassy sea Cherubim and seraphim Falling down before Thee Which wert and art And evermore shalt be

VERSE 3

Holy, holy, holy Though the darkness hide Thee Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see Only Thou art holy There is none beside Thee Perfect in power In love and purity

CHORUS

I bow before Thee King of glory Holy are You Lord None beside Thee Perfect in power My God forever You were and are and You will be

VERSE 4

Holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty All Thy works shall praise Thy name In earth and sky and sea Holy, holy, holy Merciful and mighty God in three persons Blessed Trinity

CCLI Song # 7118356 John Bacchus Dykes | Reginald Heber | Shane Barnard © 2018 Tent Peg Music

• Psalm 2:1-6

^{"1} Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain?² The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the LORD and against his anointed, saying, ³ 'Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles.' ⁴ The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. ⁵ He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, ⁶ 'I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain."

Psalms 1 and 2 form a two-part introduction to the book; where Psalm 1 begins by declaring the blessedness of all who delight in the Law of the Lord, Psalm 2 ends by stating the blessedness of all who acknowledge the lordship of God and his anointed King. Scholars believe this royal Psalm was originally composed as a coronation hymn for the Davidic kings; it was not uncommon at such times for surrounding peoples and competing authorities to rebel. At the same time, this Psalm forecasts a greater King, the Lord's Anointed, the Messiah: the New Testament frequently quotes this Psalm in reference to Christ.

"Why do the nations rage?" God is the ultimate King over all creation, and his plan has always been to reveal his reign through the coming of His Son. When the Kingdom of God is our reality, life, blessings, joy, and goodness abound; when we rebel against God's rule, darkness and destruction rule. *Think about the world. Where do you see chaos abounding? Pray for God's Kingdom to be revealed on earth. Pause and pray.*

Your heart is also a kingdom. Are you surrendered to the Lordship of Christ? Where is there a sense of "rebellion" that needs repentance? Invite God's Kingdom to invade the kingdom of your life. Pause and pray.

• Psalm 2:7-12

⁴⁷ I will proclaim the LORD's decree: He said to me, 'You are my son; today I have become your father. ⁸ Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. ⁹ You will break them with a rod of iron; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.' ¹⁰ Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. ¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling. ¹² Kiss his son, or he will be angry and your way will lead to your destruction, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him."

This royal Psalm presents a picture of the coming Messiah with harsher, ancient Near Eastern regal language: the main point is to display the sovereignty and power of God's reign. Think of this passage from through the lens of Christ. The resurrected Jesus stood before his disciples and told them all authority in heaven and earth had been given to him (Psalm 2 had been fulfilled). He commanded them to go into all the earth, to every tribe and tongue, to make disciples of the King. "I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession."

The same Sovereign King foreshadowed in Psalm 2 is the one who came to us, died for us, and lives for us. The powers of darkness and evil do not stand a chance against this righteous King of Love. How are we called to spread His kingdom in the earth? How are we allowing him to sit on the throne of our lives? Where do you feel called to invite His reign in your life and in your world? Pause and pray.

"You Deserve it All" Click Here - https://youtu.be/vT-BEvz1Fm0

VERSE 1

Found in Your name the power to save With only a whisper mountains shake Jesus our hope and strength You made a way unlocked these chains Here in Your presence strongholds break Freed by the love You gave

CHORUS

We give You the highest praise

You deserve it all You deserve it all

VERSE 2

There on a tree merciful King Broken and shamed for all to see The Father laid down His Son From darkness to light Death lost to life Heaven and earth will join and sing Jesus has overcome

BRIDGE

With every breath that's in my lungs My heart cries out to You belongs The glory (the glory) Through every loss or victory My soul will rise to only bring You glory (You glory)

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• Closing

"Father, help me to live this day to the full, being true to you in every way. Jesus, help me to give myself away to others, being kind to everyone I meet. Spirit, help me to love the lost, proclaiming Christ in all I do and say. Amen." (Lectio365)