

So today I celebrate knowing Jesus is my king and that I get to live under his rule. Jesus rule liberates, empowers, allows me to grow in Father's favour

So daily invite Jesus to ride into your life, your day, as king. That you might live from his power and authority. That you might live by his wisdom and love.

Thank God Jesus is our king, the one who has ridden in, not to tax us, not to use us for his own comfort, but that we might be liberated from sin, death and the devil.

In Jesus power and authority give those enemies their marching orders, and let every circumstance you face this week be an opportunity to grow in favour. You are Father's favoured child.

Let us pray. Jesus, I invite you to come and rule; my desire is to live as a citizen of heaven. Come daily and redeem my heart that I live from your favour and not live as if I'm defeated. I know you

have won the victory. I know you sit at Father's right hand and rule. Rule in my life so that I might be a living image of you, living to your glory, honour and praise because I live in it through Jesus. Jesus daily grow me to be living the favoured citizen of heaven I am. Jesus, rule as my king.

Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am
Pastor: Tim 0427326553



Jesus' disciples multiplying disciples

14 April 2019 FAVoured 6 Palm Sunday



This week in 'Favoured' Peter, in chapters 36-42, looks at growing in favour. So we are looking at the environment, for that will shape how something grows.

If I put a plant in a desert environment; and it isn't a desert plant, how well will it grow? Does that mean it is a bad plant if it doesn't grow to it's potential?

Where is the best environment for you to grow to be all that God, our heavenly Father, has dreamed possible?

Today we celebrate Jesus coming into Jerusalem, announcing that he is the Messiah, the King of God's kingdom. The Kingdom of God is what Jesus has come to establish; the place where he

rules, where his power is in control, where he is sovereign.

A few years ago I was told that the word we translate as 'Gospel'; 'Good News' was used by the Caesars when they declared their victory over an enemy. They were declaring their rule in that region; that's why it was 'Good News'. They had won the victory and that region now belonged to them. They could exert their power and influence in that region. They could set about ruling their way. 'Good News' this was now a Roman province, a place Roman Citizens were invited to live in, safe under Roman rule.

Is this how you have always understood

the term 'Gospel'; 'Good News'?

Jesus our King, has declared victory over sin, death and the devil. He has the right to rule; his crucifixion won the battle and opened the door into his kingdom.

The grave burst open into life in Jesus' kingdom; the place where he rules as king.

If you were to ask me where is the best environment to grow to be all that God has dreamed possible, I'd say; the Kingdom of God, where Jesus reigns as king.

There, I'm sure, you'd be daily washed in your heavenly Father's favour. There you can discover your true identity, having

the solid foundation of Jesus and his rule. Jesus determines who you are, what counts, how we live life to the full. It's his kingdom; he rules as king and there isn't any room for challengers.

That means sin, death and the devil don't have a say. That's the place I want to be living in, growing in, enjoying Father's favour in.

There we get to hear Father's words of life as they are spoken through 'The Word' Jesus. And as we hear the word of life, we get to speak life giving words. Jesus, our king, sends the Spirit that we speak life giving words.

Isn't it great to know; in Jesus, you speak words of life. I'm surrounded by a world of death, into which my king empowers me to speak his words of life. What a wonderful

privilege. Our king invites us to ask him; to ask him to give us his words of wisdom that we might be living as his agents of life.

In my own power and authority, you mightn't be surprised to know, that is something I can't do. But I don't live by my

Jesus our King, has declared victory...

own power and authority; I live in Jesus' kingdom. He rules; his power and authority are at work, forgiving, speaking words of truth, grace, love, joy, peace, patience, hope. I live in Jesus' kingdom, talk about good news, his rule is not just possible, I get to speak it into existence when I use his words.

Our joyful responsibility is to speak words of life into one another. In a

broad sense that is what it means to prophesy. As a citizen of Jesus' kingdom, through the Spirit he sends, I get to hang out with Jesus. I get to see how he does things. I get to hear what he says. This means I now have the potential to imitate him.

I can't imitate someone I don't know.

I know Jesus, because he has chosen to claim me as one of Father's children. He knows me, so now I can imitate Jesus, living as he does; listening to Father, saying what he says. Watching Father, doing what he's doing.

What amazing favour we have in Jesus. Knowing Jesus means I can imitate him in my life, as he imitates Father. I'm not lost, simply trying to do the best I know how; I'm a ransomed

heart, that beats in rhythm with Jesus that beats out Jesus' rhythm of grace.

In Jesus I get to learn to live favoured. Winning your approval is not my prison, and I don't want my approval to be your prison. We find our freedom and identity in Jesus claiming us as citizens of his kingdom. We now live under his favour.

In Jesus you are now part of the royal family; talk about favoured.

So now we don't only know we are favoured, but as citizens of heaven we get to live in it, and to live it out.

In Jesus we get to live as 'Giant Killers' just like David. David faced his giant knowing he was favoured; chosen by God because he had been anointed by God. That's true of you, in Jesus. In

Jesus you have been anointed by God, through baptism, where your heavenly Father has declared publically his love for you, his favour toward you.

I might at times let the giants of life strike fear into me, or intimidate me, but the reality is my king

Favour releases you to become a spiritual warrior.

rules. I live in the kingdom of Jesus; my king rules. So like David we too can slay the giants that want to rule, that want to intimidate us, that want to shape who we are and what we do.

Like David we too can slay the giants; for no matter the circumstance I am a favoured child of Father, and in the power and authority of my king, Jesus, I get to live true to who I am no matter what.

Favour releases you to become a spiritual warrior; just like your king, Jesus.

That doesn't mean I won't face challenges, what it means is those threats won't make me or shape me or determine my action. Good News, you're failures and mistakes aren't you.

Each circumstance is an opportunity to grow, to become more and more the person I am in Jesus. Jesus shapes my response. Jesus empowers my response. I live by his power and authority; he's my king, and I'm a legal citizen of heaven.

When you feel intimidated by life's situations you can take it as an opportunity to upgrade your intimacy with God and experience what he is really like.