**SUNDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER p.m**

**THE BRIDEGROOM IS COMING**

Readings: **Matthew 25:1-13**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

1. **WHY IS THE BRIDEGROOM COMING?**
2. **To claim His Bride, His Church**

* *we are the Bride of Christ*

**Isaiah 62:5**

* *we are invited to the wedding*

**Revelation 19:7 and 9**

1. **To take us home**

**John 14:1-3**

**1 Thessalonians 4:17**

1. **To make us like Himself**

**Philippians 3:20-21**

**1 Corinthians 15:49**

1. **To put an end to sin and evil**

* *the devil will be finally defeated*

**Revelation 20:10**

* *unbelievers will be judged*

**Revelation 20:5**

* *Christians will be judged*

**2 Corinthians 15:10**

**Acts 17:31**

1. **To destroy the old and bring in the new**

**Revelation 21:1-5**

**2 Peter 3:13**

1. **To bring in the supreme rule of God**

**Revelation 11:15**

1. **WHEN IS THE BRIDEGROOM COMING?**

*We don’t know – Jesus tells us that in our first reading in Matthew 25.*

*“You do not know the day or the hour.”*

1. **HOW IS THE BRIDEGROOM COMING?**

*It’s not going to be a quiet coming.*

**1 Corinthians 15:52**

**1 Thessalonians 4:16**

* *the trumpet will sound*
* *the Lord will come from heaven ‘with a loud command’*
* *the Lord will come from heaven ‘with the voice of the archangel’*
* *the Lord will come from heaven with trumpet call of God’*

1. **WHAT WILL BE DIFFERENT WHEN THE BRIDEGROOM COMES?**

*There will be no more…*

* *tears*
* *death*
* *mourning*
* *crying*
* *pain*
* *curse*
* *hunger*
* *thirst*
* *night*
* *temple* **Revelation 21:22**

*There will be…*

* *glory*
* *holiness*
* *righteousness*
* *light*
* *music*
* *service*
* *adoration*
* *worship* **Revelation 5:12-13**

1. **WILL YOU BE THERE?**

*Or will you be knocking on the door, crying out, “Open the door?”*

*And the voice comes back, “I don’t know you.”*

1. **WHAT ARE DOING WHILE WE WAIT FOR THE BRIDEGROOM?**

* *let’s work for the Bridegroom from dawn to setting sun so that others will hear about Jesus and join the bridal party*
* *let’s encourage each other in our certain hope of Jesus coming again and of our being with him for ever*