

The Rev. Kara Wagner Sherer
July 30, 2017
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The kingdom of heaven...the dominion of God...when God is in charge...

We got a glimpse of it. This week, when I was feeling like our federal government was at best dysfunctional and at worst, completely broken, there was a vote on health care. And all 100 senators showed up, and though they had voted hundreds, thousands of times, they all voted their conscience, and history was made.

Because in the kingdom of heaven, every little vote counts.

The kingdom of heaven...the dominion of God...when God is in charge...

A white, L-7, Gibson guitar, a prized possession of Raul Malo, country guitarist, was ruined in a flood, the 2010 Nashville, Tennessee flood. The Grand Ole Opry was flooded and so was a storage space nearby where hundreds of instruments were stored. They were submerged underwater for three days. And not just water -- sewage, and oil, and muck. But Raul loved his guitar, so he had it restored, and when it was finished it sounded richer and more beautiful than it ever had before.

Because in the kingdom of heaven old things become new again.

The kingdom of heaven...the dominion of God...when God is in charge...

A couple who have wanted and waited for three years for a baby suddenly get a call from the adoption agency. And they drop everything, change their priorities, and a week and a half later they bring home a beautiful baby girl.

Because when God is in charge our lives are turned upside down.

The kingdom of heaven...the dominion of God...when God is in charge...

A farmer plants a cottonwood tree as part of his property line. A community cares and tends the tree and 160 years later birds and squirrels and our souls make nests in its branches.

Because the dominion of God is everlasting.

The kingdom of heaven...the dominion of God...when God is in charge...

Two little girls, Brynn and Annika, might not remember this beautiful day of their baptism and the pool in the garden. But the seed of God's love planted in their hearts today can never be destroyed.

Because when God is in charge the small, overlooked, seemingly insignificant things change our hearts and our world.