

## OUR MERCIFUL GOD

Isaiah 63:7-64:12 // July 16, 2023 AM

I. When in exile, *proclaim* God's tender pity *in the past* (63:7-14).

II. When in exile, *plead* God's tender pity *in the present* (63:15-64:12).

### QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What is God's mercy? How is it distinct from God's love and grace?
2. Why is God's mercy particularly encouraging to us when we find ourselves tempted to despair in our sin and suffering?
3. Read Isaiah 62:6-7. How does this relate to the prayer recorded in our text? What is Israel facing as Isaiah leads them in this prayer?
4. What does it mean for God to be afflicted in His people's affliction? Does God suffer? Why is it good news that He doesn't and how do we understand texts like this?
5. How is Isaiah's prayer Trinitarian in nature?
6. What does his remembrance of God's past mercies cause Isaiah to seek from God in the present?
7. In what ways do we need God to show mercy to us today as we await the fulfillment of all that God has promised in Christ?

### QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. Have I ever fallen prey to despair due to my sin or suffering? How is God's mercy the great antidote to despair?
2. Does the restless earnestness of the pray-ers in Isaiah 62:6-7 describe my life? Why, or why not?
3. How has God demonstrated His tender pity toward me in the past? How do His past dealings with me and with His people encourage me to seek His tender pity in the present?

