

# Sunday Gathering Liturgy

Prepare the Way of the Lord,  
Luke 3:1-20 - Bradley Bell

February 14, 2021

Luke: Upside Down

## Call to Worship - Isaiah 40:3-5

Good morning and welcome to Antioch Church! As you arrive this morning, your soul may feel as ice cold as the weather outside. But let it be warmed and called to worship with these words from Isaiah:

A voice cries:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
and all flesh shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.” Isaiah 40:3-5

In these moments before we begin to sing and hear the words of God, let's prepare the way of the Lord in each of our hearts. Let's desire that the glory of the Lord be revealed to us and in us.

[prayer]

## *How Great Thou Art*

## Confession - Acts 2:36-38

In Luke's second volume, the book of Acts, we read,

Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.” Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:36-38

Repentance is a deep and mysterious work. We often think of it as a change of behavior, but that is the fruit that comes from repentance. In order for true repentance to happen, we need God to cut us to the heart. Let's be brave and ask God to do this in us:

Investigate my life, O God,  
Congregation: find out everything about me;  
Cross-examine and test me,  
Congregation: get a clear picture of what I'm about;  
See for yourself how I've done wrong—  
Congregation: then guide me on the road to eternal life. Psalm 139:23-24, MSG

## *Turn Away From Sin and Sorrow*

## *Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me*

## Sermon - Luke 3:1-20

## Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

## *His Mercy Is More*

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## **Announcements & Benediction - Luke 3:4**

Thank you for joining us today! As we always say, this is only a small part of the life of Antioch. We would love to have you in one of our Family Groups, where we seek to live out the Christian life together. If you would like to join one of them, simply message us and we'll get you connected.

Here are just a few quick announcements:

1) Giving - Since we're not able to pass our giving baskets in our gathering at this time, we have placed them on the back table; you may give there as you exit, or you can give on our website or through GivApp.

If you are a visitor with us this morning we are glad you're here! Please if you would like to find out more about Antioch or have a pastor contact you, feel free to fill out a visitor card also located in the basket on the back table. You may use the Antioch pens and keep one as our gift to you.

2) Baptism emphasis- This month we are having an emphasis on baptism. We will have a class available on the 21st for anyone who is interested in learning more about why we baptize or if you might be ready to take that step. Please let one of the pastors know if you are coming! It's important to RSVP so that we can make preparation for you.

3) Antioch Kids- Antioch Kids volunteers are needed! We need members who are willing to serve in our 2-3 year old class and 4-5 year old class. We hope to reopen the first of March. Please let Shannon Hunsucker know if you can serve our kids.

4) Food Pantry - This next Saturday at 10am is Food Pantry. This is a great way to meet our neighbors to build those intentional gospel relationships! Kari will need helpers to make up boxes on Friday and to give it out at the drive-thru pantry on Saturday. See her if you have questions!

We begin each gathering with a Call to Worship and we end with a Benediction, which is simply a reminder that we are blessed to be a blessing. If you would like to receive this benediction, I invite you to open your hands before you.

Church, King Jesus has come your way, therefore may you go preparing the way of the Lord in your heart, and helping others to do the same. (based on Luke 3:4)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation: We are sent.

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