

# Sunday Gathering Liturgy

The Father's Purpose,  
Ephesians 1:1-6 - Bradley Bell

February 16, 2020

Ephesians: Into the Fullness of  
Christ

## **Rejoice**

### **Call to Worship - Patrick Roosa**

Good morning and welcome to Antioch Church. My name is Patrick and I'm one of the pastors here. Hear the word of the Lord from Deuteronomy:

"For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt." Deuteronomy 7:6-8

Like the people of Israel, God has chosen us as his family not because of anything special about us, but because of his great love. He has redeemed us from our slavery to sin so that we could belong to him alone. As the hymn says, "How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure, that he should give his only Son, to make a wretch his treasure". From the very beginning of this gathering may you know that you are loved, and may that reality call you to worship.

### **How Deep The Father's Love For Us**

#### **Confession - Crigler**

We just sang, "I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom, but I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection". Now hear this word from 1 Corinthians:

"For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

When we focus on what we bring to the table to gain or keep God's love, we miss the whole point of it. But when we see it as a free gift of grace to those who bring nothing to the table, it leads us to boast in what God alone has done. As the New City Catechism says:

Church, what is our only hope in life and death?

Let's confess this together:

That we are not our own but belong to God.

## **Grace Alone**

### **Giving - Crigler**

1 Peter 1:3-5 says, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you."

Church, God enables us to be generous with our finances because we recognize our inheritance is not the riches of this world. As the giving baskets go around, if you are a member with Antioch, we ask that you would give out of a response for what Christ has done. If you are a guest here, we aren't asking for your money. Instead, we hope this service is a blessing to you. We would invite you to take a visitor card out of the basket and fill it out so we can get to know you. You can leave it in your chair at the end of the service and we will collect it. Let's continue to worship God with our giving and singing.

## **All I Have Is Christ**

### **Posturing Prayer - Crigler**

#### **Evidence of Grace - Jeremy Shelton**

Interview with Distributed Members, Todd and Kim Robertson

### **Sermon - The Father's Purpose, Ephesians 1:1-6 - Bradley Bell**

### **Communion - Bradley Bell**

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## ***Only A Holy God***

### **Assurance - Worship Team**

Church, hear this word of assurance from Romans 8:15: "For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!'"

## ***Rejoice***

### **Announcements & Benediction - Trey Moss**

Hello Church, My name is Trey and I'm one of the pastors here. Thank you for gathering with us today! Know that this was only a glimpse of the life of the church. Join us this week at one of our Family Groups where we truly seek to live out the Christian life together. You can find FG info cards on the wall to the left outside of the auditorium, or you can see Brad for help finding a group.

If you are a visitor today I hope you feel welcome! We are glad you're here. If you filled out a visitor card please give it to anyone with a lanyard or simply leave it in your chair if that's more comfortable for you. Just a few announcements before we go:

- 1) Men's Formation Training - Men's Formation Training will continue this Tuesday, at 7 pm and will last for 3 more weeks. Men, this is an opportunity for you to be trained in how counsel others with the gospel. Even if you missed the first training you can still come. Antioch women, your training will then begin on March 10th. For more info, see Jason Crigler.
- 2) Mentoring Interest Meeting - There will be a brief meeting for 10 minutes after Gathered next week for anyone who is interested in mentoring. See Tammy Stayton for more details.
- 3) Trey's Transition - I come before you this morning to communicate my intention to resign from the role of pastor at Antioch Church effective March, 2nd, 2020. I have made this decision with the full counsel of many people, including our pastoral team, and prayer. I want to assure you this decision is not the result of disciplinary measures because of sin or disqualification from ministry...I will be preaching one final time as a pastor on March 1st and will be continuing as a faithful church member and family group leader at Antioch. Hayley will continue to serve as she is able in the multiple ways she does here at Antioch. [Full letter to be posted this week]

We begin each gathering with a call to worship and end with a benediction, which is simply a reminder that we are blessed to be a blessing.

Ephesians 2:10 says, "For we are [God's] workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Before the foundation of the world God not only planned your salvation but your good works. This week may you delight to fulfill the Father's purpose.

[Trey] 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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