

Sunday Gathering Liturgy

The Great Physician, Luke
4:31-44 - Bradley Bell

March 21, 2021

Luke: Upside Down

King Of Kings

Call to Worship - Job 26:7-14

Good morning and welcome to Antioch! My name is Aaron and I'm one of the leaders here. This part of our gathering we refer to as the Call to Worship. This isn't just a call to stop talking and settle into our seats, but it's a call to give our full attention to God and the words he has spoken. Listen to this truth about him from the book of Job:

7 He stretches out the north over the void
and hangs the earth on nothing.
8 He binds up the waters in his thick clouds,
and the cloud is not split open under them.
9 He covers the face of the full moon
and spreads over it his cloud.
10 He has inscribed a circle on the face of the waters
at the boundary between light and darkness.
11 The pillars of heaven tremble
and are astounded at his rebuke.
12 By his power he stilled the sea;
by his understanding he shattered Rahab.
13 By his wind the heavens were made fair;
his hand pierced the fleeing serpent.
14 Behold, these are but the outskirts of his ways,
and how small a whisper do we hear of him!
But the thunder of his power who can understand?" Job 26:7-14

Today as we consider the power of God on display in the Person of Jesus Christ, we acknowledge that some of you may be struggling to see how this power has anything to do with your life. You may feel powerless in the face of darkness or sickness or questions. But we call you, we invite you, to behold the wondrous mystery of an all-powerful God who also cares for you...

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Confession - James 2:19

In the book of James we read this:

You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! James 2:19

In this passage we learn that it's not enough to just believe in Jesus as a Savior—even the demons believe that with total conviction. We also must believe in him as Lord, in such a way that his power rules over every part of our lives. Let's take a moment to confess this with our mouths, and believe this in our hearts (say the underlined portions with me)

Over our lives, Jesus is Lord!
Over our families, Jesus is Lord!
Over our jobs, Jesus is Lord!
Over our health, Jesus is Lord!
Over our church, Jesus is Lord!
Over our past, Jesus is Lord!
Over our present, Jesus is Lord!
Over our future, Jesus is Lord!

Amen.

Only A Holy God

Posturing Prayer - Worship Team

Evidence of Grace - Antioch Kids

You may be seated. Good morning, my name is Brad and I'm one of the pastors here. During this part of our gathering we sometimes share what we call an Evidence of Grace. This is something in our church that is either a tangible expression of God's grace or a desperate need for it. This morning's is certainly a desperate need.

At Antioch we believe the Scriptures teach that parents have the responsibility of being the primary disciplers of their children. However, we also believe that the church is called to (1) help equip parents and (2) to supplement their efforts. That means providing critical ministries like Antioch Kids, Young Disciples, and Youth.

As you know, during Covid the ministry that has taken the biggest hit from among these is Antioch Kids. For a little over a year now, this the largest ministry in our church has been closed (parents of little ones are like "Yeah we know!"). As you also know, we've been trying to reopen Antioch Kids, but it's been really difficult to do so. Why? Well, let me put some numbers in front of you:

Number of volunteers it takes to fully operate: 35

Number of volunteers no longer able to serve: 24

Number of volunteers currently able to serve: 19

The closer we get to 35 the closer we get to a 5-week rotation (giving volunteers one month off in between serving). We want you to know that our aim is for volunteers to enjoy getting to serve occasionally rather than end up burned out. We also want you to know there is more than one way to serve: lead teachers, support teachers, nursery, and check-in.

But above all that, what I want to communicate on behalf of the pastors is this: as a church we can be all about the neighborhood and all about the nations, but if we fail to make disciples of the lost people already in our midst—our children—then we have failed indeed. This isn't just childcare ministry, this is strategic mission. We don't want to guilt you—we want to call you, invite you into this significant ministry; especially as we come out of Covid, and especially if you are newer to Antioch and needing a place to serve.

Please see our deaconess of Kids, Shannon Hunsucker, to find out more and get involved. Now let's lift up to God our desperate need for his grace...

Sermon - Luke 4:31-44

Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Jesus There's No One Like You

Christ Our Hope In Life And Death

Announcements & Benediction - Matthew 28:18

Thank you for joining us in today's gathering! If you tuned in by livestream, we're so glad, but we would invite you if you are physically able to come and worship with us, as there is no substitute for the in-person fellowship of the believers. And as we also intentionally say, this gathering 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 a few next-step 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) Food Pantry update - We served 37 households, 116 people at food pantry on Saturday. (see photos) Thanks so much to all the amazing volunteers who came out and served, in was a great turn out!

3) Multiplication Training - The last step in our Multiplication Training will take place next Sunday at 9am before the gathering. Its focus will be on formation, that is, learning how to care for and counsel one another.

4) Arts Open Studio - Antioch Arts will host an Open Studio this Saturday from 9-12. If you are a creative, or if you are simply interested in how music, visual arts, film, poetry, literature or any other creative expressions plays a part in our walk with the Lord, we'd love for you to join us. This is a great opportunity for us to collaborate with each other artistically and grow as a congregation. If you have any questions, contact Josh Thomas.

5) Good Friday and Easter Sunday are less than two weeks away. Our Good Friday gathering will be at 5pm, and then Easter Sunday at our normal time. No other meetings will take place before or after the Sunday gathering so you can celebrate with family, friends, and neighbors. We do have a bunch of door hanger invitations left on the back table if anyone would like to take some to pass out.

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, all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Jesus. Therefore go in that authority, preaching the good news of the kingdom and bringing God's healing touch to the world. (based on Matthew 28:18)

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.
