

# Sunday Gathering Liturgy

The Spirit's Assurance,  
Ephesians 1:11-14 - Bradley  
Bell

March 8, 2020

Ephesians: Into the Fullness  
of Christ

## *Doxology*

### **Call to Worship - Jason Crigler**

On a week where tornadoes tore through a neighboring state, and a global virus arrived close to home, not to mention our everyday troubles, we all come into a gathering like this with a long invisible bag of cares dragging behind us. This is why we begin with a Call to Worship. It's like an alarm waking us up from a fitful sleep, calling us to the courage of letting Jesus open up that bag. While our world finds its purpose in escaping such trials, listen to what God said to his Old Testament people, and through Christ, to us:

For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth,

Congregation: everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made. Isaiah 43:3a, 5-7

Church, let's stand and sing as those who have the armor of Savior...

## *O Church Arise*

### **Confession - Worship Team**

In Genesis 3 we read this:

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?"...For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Genesis 3:1, 5

Church, there is something deep within us that struggles to trust. To trust ourselves, to trust others, and most of all, to trust God. We see in Genesis 3 that this mistrust begins with the sinful belief that God is holding back something good from us. With this past week in mind, maybe even just this morning in mind, let's confess this together:

God, no matter how many times you remind us  
We fall back into our old doubts and fears  
We have not thought the best of you, but the worst.

Congregation: Father, remind us of your plan to adopt us  
Son, remind us of your mission to redeem us  
Spirit, remind us of your presence to assure us.

Amen.

## *Be Thou My Vision*

### **Giving - Worship Team**

Church, over the past few weeks we have been able to send care teams to visit Antioch members who are serving internationally (myself and Weston to Timothy Wallis in Mexico; and Shannon, Cherise, and Maggie to Sandy Dicus in Greece). Neither of these would have been possible without your faithful and generous giving.

Church, now is our time for giving. If you're a visitor for the first time this morning please take a visitor's card. If you're either a visitor or not a Christian, we're not asking for anything this morning. We hope this service is a gift to you.

## *He Will Hold Me Fast*

### **Posturing Prayer - Worship Team**

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## **Evidence of Grace - Jason Hunsucker**

One of our great joys as a church is welcoming new members into the Antioch family. Today we would like to invite onto the stage:

Katie Harrod  
Steve and Cheryl Hammil  
Aeri and Kara Donathan  
Paige Surrell  
Rachel Smith  
Adeola Adelere

For any of you who would like to share, what is it that brought you to Antioch and made you want to become a covenant member?

In 1 Samuel 7 we read that after God gave victory to his people over their enemies the Philistines,

Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, "Till now the LORD has helped us." 1 Samuel 7:12

This was to be a stone of remembrance, reminding the people of the God who had helped them come into the promised land together. We want to commemorate this moment by giving each of you a stone of remembrance. Church, let's welcome these new members with a hearty round of applause.

## **Sermon - The Spirit's Assurance, Ephesians 1:11-14 - Bradley Bell**

### **Communion - Bradley Bell**

#### *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

#### **Assurance - Worship Team**

For our word of assurance today we are continuing to incorporate catechism questions into our liturgy. I will read the question and then let's answer together:

How many persons are there in God?

There are three persons in one God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. New City Catechism, #3

Just as we've been reminded this morning, church, in finding the courage to give all of yourself to him, remember that God first gives all of himself for you—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

#### *You Never Let Go*

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## **Announcements & Benediction - Jeremy Shelton**

[prayer]

My name is Jeremy and I'm a pastoral resident here at Antioch. Thank you for gathering with us today! Know that this was only a glimpse of the life of Antioch. Join us this week at one of our Family Groups where we truly seek to live out the Christian life together. You can find Family Group info cards on the wall to the left outside of the auditorium, or you can see one of the pastors 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. Here are a few strategic next steps from today's gathering:

- 1) Women's Formation Training - Women's Formation Training will start this Tuesday the 10th at 7pm in the training room. As you counsel yourself and others with the gospel, remember to glue a piece of wood on the mosaic in the back. For more info, see Jason Crigler or Katie Bell.
- 2) Baptism Class - We will be having a Baptism Class following the gathering on Sunday, March 15th. If you're interested in exploring this important step of obedience, please sign up in the back so we can make preparations.
- 3) Youth Fundraiser - Following the Sunday Gathering on March 22nd the youth are sponsoring their first church-wide lunch fundraiser. The menu will be smoked pulled pork BBQ with sides and dessert, and the youth will be our servers. The cost is a minimum donation of \$5 per person or \$20 total for a family of 4+. Funds will go the high school mission trip, middle school camp, summer outreaches, and overall youth needs. The goal is to raise \$2000, so please make plans to attend and to tip generously (if we only pay the minimum, it will barely cover the cost of lunch; but if every family gave \$50, it would meet the \$2000 goal).
- 4) Sunday Gathering time change - Finally, beginning on Sunday, April 5th we will be changing the start time of our Sunday Gatherings from 10:15 to 10:30. This will allow us to use the 9:30-10:30 hour not only for classes for students, but also for adults, which will eliminate the need for many Sunday afternoon and weekday evening events. If you have questions about this change, please see any of the pastors.

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.

Church, the Holy Spirit is delighted to deliver the Father's blessing to the front door of your life. May you be found welcoming him, and may you be delighted to pass on those blessings to those who have yet to receive them.

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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