

# Sunday Gathering Liturgy

For This Reason We Bow,  
Ephesians 3:14-21 - Bradley  
Bell

April 26, 2020

Ephesians: Into the Fullness  
of Christ

## Call to Worship - Jason Crigler

Good morning and thanks for joining our online service! My name is Jason and I'm one of the pastors here. I realize these days may seem to be withering us, but let this Psalm uplift you and remind you of our great God who is worthy of worship, the One who can grow us even in difficult times:

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! Psalm 95:3-6

Church, let's bow our hearts before our God this morning in honor and worship.

## *How Great Thou Art*

## Confession - Jason Crigler

Hear this word from the prophet Isaiah:

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:28-31

Church, we are totally dependent on God to fill us with his strength and fullness, and he is eager to do it. But here's how we know if we really believe that: how desperately do we ask for it in prayer? Let's confess this together from James 4:

Lord, we do not have  
Congregation: because we do not ask.

We ask and do not receive  
Congregation: because we ask wrongly.

We bow ourselves before you  
Congregation: because we need your strength!

Thank you for graciously giving it to us. Amen.

## *Behold Our God*

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

## Posturing Prayer - Jason Crigler

## Sermon - For This Reason We Bow, Ephesians 3:14-21 - Bradley Bell

## *The Love Of God*

## Prayer - Jason Crigler

Let's pray. This prayer was written by one of our distributed members, Merilee:

Heavenly Father, thank you for giving us the Spirit of power, love, and a sound mind to guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Please help us to obey Christ with our thoughts. Teach us to take every thought captive to obey Christ. Guide us into truth, your Word is truth. Holy Spirit, assist us in recalling what Christ has taught us. Help us to remember it. Please apply this truth to our lives during this season of quarantine and lockdown. Give us the obedience necessary during this trial to have our eyes fixed on you, Lord. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Based on 2 Corinthians 10:5, 2 Timothy 1:7, and John 17:17

## **Announcements & Benediction**

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. Even though our Family Groups aren't gathering in homes at this time, we will still have online meetings through video-conferencing tools. If you would like to join in one of them, simply message us and we'll get you connected.

Church, a few important announcements before we go:

1) Giving - Since we're not able to pass our giving baskets in a gathering, this is the time in our meeting when we remind one another to continue giving as we are able. The various ways you can do that are listed on the screen, but the most important way is with a glad and generous heart in response to what God has done for us.

2) Antioch Mercy - As we announced earlier this week, we have rolled out a new initiative of Antioch Mercy to serve our community. We are mobilizing Antioch members who are willing to do any of these three things for those in need: pray and/or counsel, donate and/or deliver groceries, and call seniors and/or shut-ins. If you are willing, please notify our Deaconess of Mercy, Kari Crigler.

3) Ramadan - Finally, in light of today's passage about prayer, we would like to call you as a church to pray for Muslims around the world during the 30 days of Ramadan, which started just this week. This is a month in which Muslims fast and pray to Allah, and yet many of them receive visions of Jesus. We have posted two prayer guide options on our Facebook page. Grab one and consider using it in your prayer time or perhaps when your family gives thanks for dinner.

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, hear this:

Church, according to the riches of our Father's glory, may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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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