

Sunday Gathering Liturgy

Walk in the Light, Ephesians
4:8-14 - Patrick Roosa

June 7, 2020

Ephesians: Into the Fullness
of Christ

Call to Worship - Psalm 30:1-5

Good morning and thanks for joining us! With the hundreds of distractions all around, and even on the very format you're watching this on, I'm thankful for you who have stuck it out during this pandemic. I know it's hard to stay engaged watching church online, but I pray that you're able to sing, and listens and worship God this morning. Hear this Word from Psalm 30 and let it call you to worship;

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. O Lord, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit. Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning. Psalm 30:1-5

I Stand Amazed (How Marvelous)

Confession - Galatians 5:14-17; 22-26

Hear the Word of the Lord from Galatians 5:

For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

Church, how many times over the past few weeks have you logged onto social media and posted or commented from a spirit of anger, dissension, or division? Church, this is not the fruit of the Spirit.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. Galatians 5:14-17; 22-26

Let's take a moment now and confess our sin before the Lord, asking him to change our hearts to place where we move toward each other in love.

Christ Our Hope In Life And Death

King Of Kings

Sermon - Walk in the Light, Ephesians 4:8-14

Prayer of Lament

Lord,
We cry out to you. Hear our desperate plea.
We are in a time of mourning. We are in a time of pandemic.
We are in a time of crisis.

Sovereign God, holy and true,
How long will it be before you make things right?
How long until you exercise judgement on the tragedies of this earth?
How long will we lie here, beaten and battered by pain and suffering?

Good Father, where are you?
Risen Jesus, where are you?
Holy Spirit, where are you?
We sit and we wait for you to deliver us in your grace.

[pause]

Lord, we humbly bring our dire situation to your feet.
Our suffering is revealing systemic, natural, relational, and internal brokenness.
By your Spirit,
We ask that you comfort the hurting.
Humble the proud.
Give wisdom to the one who speaks harshly and judgmentally.
Silence the divisive.
Bring love to the broken
Give hope to the hopeless.

Help us to see the needs in our community. We seek to be close to your beloved people.
Give us the courage and empathy to move towards the rich, towards the poor, towards the progressive, towards the conservative,
towards the young, towards the old, and be a light of your love and grace.

Have mercy on us, Lord God.
Who can stand before you? Who can understand your ways?
Where can we hide from this present darkness?
You did not cause our aching; we trust that you have the power to end it.

Make your face known, that we might have the courage to sing these ancient words once again,
"Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever!"

We long for the day we can agree in a great "amen."
We ask you to act towards us in your goodness, God.
Help us, kind Father!
How long, oh Lord, until the day when we will hunger no more and thirst no more?
We yearn for that day when the Lamb at the center of the throne will be our Shepherd,
And he will guide us to the springs of the water of life, and you will wipe away every tear from our eyes.

Until that day...

(Based on: A Liturgy for Lamenting in the Time of an Apocalypse, by Brandon Billings)

As The Deer

Announcements & Benediction - Numbers 6:24-26

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 in one of them, simply message us and we'll get you connected.

Just a few announcements as we go, which serve as important next steps in response to the good news we've heard today:

1) Reopening the Sunday Gathering - I'm very excited to announce that on Sunday, June 21st, we will be able to meet here at the building, in person! We will have a detailed plan with logistics for you before that time. The live stream will still be made available for anyone who needs to continue to watch the services from home.

2) 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.

3) Membership Class - If you are interested in membership and would like to attend a membership class there are a couple of ways you can do that. Look for the sign-up on the fb group and via email. Contact Tammy Stayton for scheduling and details.

4) Women's Formation Training - Women's formation training is restarting this week. If you would like to participate but haven't yet been placed in a group, contact Katie Bell. Also, the video for the first week has been posted on the Antioch Women's Facebook page. If you aren't yet in that group, let Katie know so you can be added.

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:

Hear this benediction from Numbers 6:

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Numbers 6:24-26

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.
