

Sunday Gathering Liturgy

The Face of God, Genesis
33:1-20 - Bradley Bell

July 18, 2021

Genesis 25-36: Learning to
Limp

Call to Worship - Psalm 24:1-6

Even though we don't have this in our culture today, for much of history people understood what it meant to stand before a king. To come before him would be to humbly present yourself to him, and for him to raise his face to look upon you. Kids in the room—wouldn't that be amazing? Well, this is basically what we do at the beginning of every Sunday gathering. It may not feel that way, but that's the reality. Right now, you are presenting yourself to the King of Kings, and his face is looking upon you. Whatever state you're in, think about that for a moment...

Now hear these ancient words:

1 The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein,
2 for he has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.
3 Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.
5 He will receive blessing from the Lord
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
6 Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Selah Psalm 24:1-6

Right now, in your holy imagination, would you picture yourself standing before him? In silence and simplicity, in your own words, seek his face...

I Love You Lord

Confession - Psalm 27:7-10

In the same spirit that we began today's gathering, let's continue now by praying this together from Psalm 27:

7 Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!
8 You have said, "Seek my face."
My heart says to you,
"Your face, Lord, do I seek." Psalm 27:7-8

As we come before the Lord humbly, and his face rises upon us, the light of his face shines on us, and our broken relationships are exposed. Maybe it's your relationship to him. Maybe it's with your spouse or a co-worker or a classmate. Someone you've hurt; someone who's hurt you. Kids in the room, this is for you too. Let's take a moment and talk to God about that broken relationship; let's take a moment to grieve the loss...

Now let's continue praying from Psalm 27:

9 Hide not your face from me.
Turn not your servant away in anger,
O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,
O God of my salvation!
10 For my father and my mother have forsaken me,
but the Lord will take me in. Psalm 27:9-10

To The Cross I Cling

Man Of Sorrows

Sermon - Genesis 33:1-20

Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Fellowship So Deep

Now Why This Fear

Announcements & Benediction

Thank you for joining us in today's gathering! We hope that you have experienced the welcome of Jesus.

Today we will conclude our gathering a little bit differently as pastor Robbie will be interviewing one of our distributed members after the livestream turns off.

But first a few important next-step announcements (you may be seated).

9 AM classes - Next Sunday is part two of a four-week class titled "Theology of Work and Money" led by pastor Jason.

Nerdyoch Interest Meeting - There has always been a nerdy thread at Antioch, so...calling all NERDS! If you consider yourself a nerd, or just like nerdy things like gaming, fantasy, comics, scifi, legos—yes that means you Trekkies, larpers, and people who "nerd out" over some particular thing (which is all of us), then after next Sunday's gathering we will have a brief interest meeting about something called Nerdyoch. You may say to yourself, "Why are we doing that? We shouldn't be doing that." My response is, you're already doing nerdy things (reading fantasy, watching films, playing games)—so why wouldn't we use that through the lens of the gospel to grow in our relationships and reach out to people who literally feel like they have been excommunicated from the church?! Let's do it! For more info see Josiah Wallis.

Crigler's Commissioning Sunday & Reception - After next Sunday will be a special Commissioning Sunday. In the morning our gathering will focus specifically on God's commissioning of the Crigler family—and generally on God's commissioning of us to send them well. In the evening will be a special reception for the whole church to celebrate the Criglers—this will include dinner at 5:30 (yes our first since Covid—and it will be Carribean food in the theme of Grenada) and a program to follow. For more info see pastor Robbie.

Ok livestreamers, thanks for joining us—peace be with you!

Alright church, as pastor Robbie makes his way on stage, we're going to pass our giving baskets. If you're a member of Antioch we ask you to give generously and cheerfully. If you're a visitor we ask you fill out a visitor card from the basket and give it to one of us at the end of the gathering. And if you're not a Christian, we're not asking for your money—this gathering is our gift to you!
