Sunday Gathering Liturgy

Refuse to Run, Luke 13:31-35 - Bradley Bell

September 25, 2022

Luke: Upside Down

Length	
in mins	

0:00

Audio/

Visual BandPersonVocals

Call to Worship - Psalm 118:21-24, 26 Since the beginning of the world, God has been faithful to his creation. When we read at the beginning of the Bible that "the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters," it's like the picture of a hen gathering her chicks to herself. Think about this:

When the first man and woman disobeyed the one rule they'd been given, God gathered them back into his divine plan for humanity.

When a man named Abraham failed to trust God to protect his family in the land of Egypt, God gathered him back into making his descendants as numerous as the sand.

When a man named Jacob became a deceiver who trusted in his own strength time and time again, God gathered him back and humbled him, and gave him a new identity.

And when a man named Jesus came to save the people who rejected him, he still gathered them back to himself, and that's why many of you are here today.

Surely God's faithfulness is deserving of our praise! Psalm 118 helps us put this into words:

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

As God's Spirit hovers over us, gathering us to God once again, let's respond:

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord. Psalm 118:21-24, 26

0:00 Doxology [Default Arrangement in E]

0:00 Confession - Psalm 57:1-3

There are times in our lives, even from one moment to another in the course of a day, when our faith that once blazed with confidence, hardens into doubt about God's faithfulness. Our praise becomes replaced with fear, forgetting all that God has promised and fleeing from the safety of his wings. The author Kristen Lavalley confesses it this way:

"I leave, I walk, I wander, I run, but I keep coming back. I wander, I question, I doubt, but I keep coming back,

Where else would I go?

I don't have the answers. I don't know if you're good. I don't know if you're kind. I don't know if you are who I believed you to be,

but where else would I go?"

If this resonates with you today, then you are in good company, and in response to your hardened heart, God holds out his tender one. Hear the cry of David in Psalm 57, and read the underlined portions with me:

Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul takes refuge;

- in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, till the storms of destruction pass by.
- **I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me.**

He will send from heaven and save me; he will put to shame him who tramples on me. God will send out his steadfast love and his faithfulness! Psalm 57:1-3

- 0:00 Be Thou My Vision [Norton Hall Be Thou My Vision in D]
- 0:00 All I Have Is Christ [Default Arrangement in D]
- 0:00 Evidence of Grace Fall Soccer Festival
- 0:00 Sermon Luke 13:31-35
- 0:00 Communion 1 Corinthians 11:23-28
- 0:00 Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me [Default Arrangement in C]

Winona in B

0:00 O Church Arise [Default Arrangement in C]

0:00 Benediction - Hebrews 4:15-16

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

Family Groups - We invite you to visit one of our Family Groups, which meet in homes throughout the week in order for us to grow in the context of deep relationships. If you would like to join one of them, there is info in the hallway, or talk with one of us and we'll make a direct connection for you.

Giving & Visitors - Also now is our time for giving—ushers please come forward. If you are a visitor with us this morning please grab a visitor card from the basket so we can get to know you more. You can give it to someone with a lanyard or leave it in your seat; the pen is yours to keep.

Antioch members, remember that giving is part of how we participate in God's mission. If you prefer to give digitally, visit our website or find us on GivApp.

Announcements

For everyone, here are a few ways to take the following steps:

1) Fall Soccer Festival - As you heard earlier this Saturday is our Fall Soccer Festival. This is an all-hands-on-deck opportunity to bless our neighbors, so (1) please plan to come serve with your FG (if you're not in a FG and still want to serve, see Shannon or Sarah), and (2) take some flyers to invite people (even if you can't come on Saturday.

2) Parent-Child Dedication - Next week is Child Dedication Sunday. We have three children to be dedicated, but if anyone else is interested please let one of the pastors know as soon as possible.

3) Fall Women's Weekend - This will take place on October 7-8 (Friday evening and Saturday morning). In order to prepare, please RSVP on the signup sheet. If you're interested in serving, see Crystal Keifer.

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.

Church, no matter what resistance comes your way from within or without, find victory in your King, Jesus, who was tempted in every way that you are, and yet defied it all. In him, may you leave here today gathered again to the throne of grace, that the mercy and grace you receive there can be held out to a hardhearted world. Based on Hebrews 4:15-16

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

WE ARE SENT