

# Sunday Gathering Liturgy

Displaying Christ's Glory,  
Luke 9:18-36 - Bradley Bell

October 31, 2021

Luke: Upside Down 2

## Call to Worship - Psalm 104:1-2, 31-34

Throughout today's gathering we're going to be giving attention to something that we usually don't give much attention to: the Transfiguration. You see, other Christian traditions throughout church history have actually celebrated the Transfiguration along the same lines as Christmas and Easter. Why would they do that? Because it, too, is an amazing display of God's heavenly glory down here on earth—through the Person of Jesus Christ. The Old Testament helps us to prepare for it, such as here in Psalm 104:

Psalm 104:1-2 - Bless the Lord, O my soul!  
O Lord my God, you are very great!  
    You are clothed with splendor and majesty,  
    2    covering yourself with light as with a garment,  
stretching out the heavens like a tent.

Take a moment and let your soul bless the Lord. I know you may not feel like it on a Sunday morning, but I invite you to take the same posture that your pastors do when they bless you at the end of our gatherings: lift your hand up toward your heavenly Father and bless him. Tell him how great he is, put it in your own words.

Now let's bless him together (say this with me):

31 May the glory of the Lord endure forever;  
may the Lord rejoice in his works,  
32 who looks on the earth and it trembles,  
who touches the mountains and they smoke!  
33 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.  
34 May my meditation be pleasing to him,  
for I rejoice in the Lord.

## *Rejoice*

### Confession - 2 Corinthians 3:18

As we enter into a time of confession, ironically, here on the anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, it's true that our tradition of Christianity is really good at confessing what we're not. But what we're not so good at, is confessing who we are. Because Jesus came and transfigured his glory for us, on the mountain, and from the cross, and in the tomb, for all who find him to be their only hope of glory, we can say from 2 Corinthians 3:18,

"And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed (that's the same word for transfigured—we are being transfigured) into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit."

Usually during confession many of our faces naturally drop to the floor. But today I want to invite you to close your eyes and lift your faces up, so that the light of the room shines on them. I want you to picture in your mind's eye, Jesus being transfigured: his normal face shining like the sun, his normal clothes as bright as lightning. Glory that had been there the whole time, but now revealed.

Now, if you are in Christ, according to 2 Corinthians 3:18, the same is true of you. Normal face, normal clothes, normal life. And yet God is revealing his glory through Christ in you. Can you receive that today? Can you agree with your Father that it's true of you?

Now let's open our eyes and take our crowns of glory, and offer them back to him...

## *We Fall Down*

## *We Are Listening*

## Sermon - Luke 9:18-36

## Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

## *Behold the Christ (Sojourn)*

## *Psalm 46 (Lord Of Hosts)*

## *There Is None Like You (Spontaneous)*

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## **Announcements & Benediction - 2 Peter 1:16-19**

Thank you for joining us in today's gathering! We hope that you have experienced the welcome of Jesus. You may be seated as we give a few next steps from today's gathering.

- 1) Giving & Visitors - [antiochpeople.org/give](http://antiochpeople.org/give)
- 2) Family Groups - [antiochpeople.org/familygroup](http://antiochpeople.org/familygroup)
- 3) Serving - [antiochpeople.org/serve](http://antiochpeople.org/serve)
- 4) Classes - [antiochpeople.org/classes](http://antiochpeople.org/classes)

Our next two months' classes are now posted online and outside the training room. However, we are intentionally gearing down in light of the busyness of the holidays, so there are technically only three classes remaining this year. Next Sunday's class is:

**Missionary Care Team: Get to Know Your Distributed Members** - A chance to hear updates directly from our distributed members and learn how to better pray for them. For those who are relatively new at Antioch, it will be a great chance to get to know who our distributed are. They will join us in-person or via Zoom.

5) **Youth Fall Night** - We are hosting a youth fall night. With games, bonfire, and a movie. We do have a few needs. We are asking anyone in the church who feels lead to provide us with food - we are needing a pot or 2 of a soup or chili. We are also in need of small pumpkins. If you have a hookup or want to donate some small pumpkins please let us know. You are welcome to coordinate drop off or you are more than welcome to hang out all night! Please see Kathleen Williams for more info.

6) **Work Day** - Also, there will be a facilities workday on Saturday, November 14th starting at 8:30 AM. Come ready to work and get things done around the building. See Timothy Wallis for more information.

We begin each gathering with a call to worship and we end with a benediction, which is a reminder that we have been blessed to be a blessing.

Receive this benediction from 2 Peter 1—from the very man who witnessed the Transfiguration: Church, we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain.

Therefore may you go continuing to see and display his glory, like a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and that same morning star rises in your hearts

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

Let's say this together: We are sent.

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