

Sunday Gathering

When God Unwraps His
Glory, Matthew 17:1-8 -
Tanner Williams

December 17, 2023

Behold Our God

Call to Worship - Isaiah 58:8

Good morning Antioch and welcome to the 4th Sunday of our Advent season. As a tradition here, we light candles that represent a different theme during Advent. The 4th candle represents the unimaginable love of God the Father to God the Son, as he sent him from perfection to our broken world.

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

“Then your light shall break forth like dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly;
Your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.” Isaiah 58:8.

Let's stand now and join together in song!

Hark The Herald Angels Sing

Kid's will be joining us to sing!

Confession

What do you think it means to slow down during Advent? This time of year arrives and passes so quickly, and then it's on to the New Year. It is a disservice to our souls to be utterly distracted and preoccupied with all of the busyness that comes. It could also be reflected in the story that we are telling ourselves and the pressures that we feel. Let's boil it down from the many "have tos" we have this season:

I Have To-

Pay bills. Serve in church. Go to work. Take care of the kids. Date my spouse. Catch up on my bible plan. Build my savings. Try harder. Fix the car. Get gifts for the kids.

What are your "have tos" this season?

Take a moment now and ask the Lord how your spiritual walk with Him has been affected through Advent.

Let's slow down now. Our only "have to" is to seek first his kingdom.

As Anthony Gurrola has so beautiful written:

“One day the bills will end. The Kingdom will not. One day the kids will be grown. The kingdom will remain. One day all trying will cease. And the Kingdom will simply BE. Seek first the Kingdom and trust God to add the rest”.

In this season of Advent, as we behold our God

We trust in the Lord's goodness.

We rely on his mercy.

We find shelter in his steadfast love.

In this season of Advent, as we behold our God.

We walk in the Lord's way.

We follow his example of love.

We keep our covenant promises.

In this season of Advent, as we behold our God.

Lord, forget our sins.

Remember your love.

Remember each one of us.

Remember your people everywhere.

In this season of Advent, as we behold our God.

Lord, we wait for your salvation.

We wait for your leading.

We wait for your coming

Reading and Singing of Psalm 80

O Come O Come Emmanuel

All Of Our Tomorrows

Sermon

Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

O Holy Night

Doxology

Benediction

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. We describe them as "intentional environments to be transformed by the gospel through 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.

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) We are starting to sell our 2024 MCT calendars today. \$10/each and we take cash, check, and card. Please check the table in the back to get yours today before they are all gone.
- 2) A brief reminder that Antioch's Family Meeting will be this Sunday evening at 6:30 and childcare will be provided. Our budget should arrive in your inbox this evening for you to review. Be sure to eat dinner beforehand and feel free to come a little early or stay a little later to say hi to Mona who is joining us remotely.
- 3) Last weekend was food pantry we were able to serve 63 families! Thank you to all the volunteers who allow us to bless and serve the community and form intentional gospel relationships with them.

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 today -

As we continue longing for him - may Jesus Christ, the Son of righteousness, who comes with healing in his wings, fill you with joy and peace that passes all understanding.

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

You are sent.
