

# Sunday Gathering

Our Great Shepherd, Acts  
9:1-18 - Tanner Williams

December 31, 2023

Behold Our God

## Call to Worship

Good morning and Happy New Year's Eve!

Yesterday, I was out with my family and my wife and I took a moment to reflect on the many evidences of grace we've seen throughout this tough year. What made us laugh the most, what we did well together, how we can improve together next year in our marriage, what our favorite memories were together as a family. How were they for you? Are you looking at this past year with shame and regret? Perhaps this was an incredible year for you where you had victory after victory? Perhaps it was somewhere in the middle. Wherever you are this morning - you are here, in this moment, together, for a reason. It's to acknowledge that no matter the year you've had, you are a beloved son or daughter before God. With this gathering, let's proclaim altogether that he has been the one to sustain us, even when we've failed him. He's been the one to sustain us, even in our victories. And he will be the one to sustain us until the end - even after next year ends!

Hear this call to worship and join together where appropriate:

This is the day that you have made, Lord.

All: Help us rejoice in it and be glad!

Remind us of the privileges we enjoy as your people:

All: to come to you in these moments, to confess our sins,  
To receive forgiveness and give it, to pray and sing and listen and to rest in all your promises.

Open our eyes to see you, Lord.

All: Open our ears to hear your Word

Visit us through your Holy Spirit

All: And help us to celebrate our faith. Amen!

Now, fill our worship with grace, Lord Jesus Christ. That every thought, word, and deed may be acceptable to you, our Rock and our Redeemer.

Let's sing together.

## *O Lord My Rock And My Redeemer*

### Confession

I wonder what came to the surface for you during our call to worship? I say now, take a moment of silence as you reflect further on what the year brought to your table. This moment can be used to bring those moments of inadequacy before our heavenly Father.

As you lift your eyes now, let's respond together:

All: God be merciful to we who are sinners!

Take joy, all you who are called by his name, for his mercies are already yours!

All: Thanks be to God!

May the grace of his forgiveness, which blooms evergreen for all his children, work powerfully in us, changing us into better image-bearers of Christ and more faithful servants of our King.

All: Let our inability to perfectly love you, O God, drive us daily to the arms of Christ.  
Heavenly Father hear our prayers.

Now, as we look to the New Year, help us not to live in shame, pride, selfishness, and sin.

All: But let our lives be lit by your mercy and grace as we look toward your coming Kingdom.

Let's continue in song.

## *All Of Our Tomorrows*

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## ***Oh The Deep Deep Love***

### **Sermon - Acts 9:1-18**

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.

You are sent.

### **Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-28**

### ***Christ Is Mine Forevermore***

### ***Christ Our Hope In Life And Death***

#### **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 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) Important announcement: Tomorrow is the last day for 2023 contributions. Any donations received through the end of the day tomorrow will count for 2023.
- 3) Young Disciples will resume next Sunday on January 7. Same time (9am) and same place! Youth Group will also be returning at 9:15 now with 100% more foosball!

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.

As our benediction - hear Psalm 100 as we celebrate Christ as our great shepherd.

#### Psalm 100

A Psalm for giving thanks.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

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.

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