

Sunday Gathering Liturgy

Why Are We Family? 1
Corinthians 1:26-31 - Bradley
Bell

January 16, 2022

Membership: Unimpressive
But Authentic

**Length
in mins**

0:00 Call to Worship - Psalm 115:1-3, 16-18

Here's a good question for us to consider at the beginning of a gathering like this: why do we sing together? Because it sounds nice? Because it makes us feel good? Well, depending on who's sitting next to you, it might not sound nice (haha). And depending on the day, you may not feel like singing at all. So why do we do it? We can answer simply, because we're giving glory. We are singing not to ourselves, but to the God who chose to create us out of nothing. Listen to these words from Psalm 115 (and if you're willing, speak the underlined parts out loud):

Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory,
for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!

2 Why should the nations say,
"Where is their God?"

Congregation:

3 Our God is in the heavens;
he does all that he pleases.

16 The heavens are the Lord's heavens,
but the earth he has given to the children of man.

17 The dead do not praise the Lord,
nor do any who go down into silence.

Congregation:

18 But we will bless the Lord
from this time forth and forevermore.

Praise the Lord! Psalm 115:1-3, 16-18

While there is still life in our bodies—because there is life in our bodies—let's sing together to the One who gave us that life.

0:00 *Grace Greater Than Our Sin (Reawaken Hymns Version)* [Default Arrangement in G]

**Length
in mins**

0:00 Confession - Jeremiah 9:23-24

When God created us, he crowned us with his image. This is a beautiful reality for every person on the planet. But it is also a crown that every person on the planet twists. And instead of admiring the God who chose to create us for his glory, we admire ourselves and our own glory. But—

23 Thus says the Lord: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, 24 but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord." Jeremiah 9:23-24

What are the things that you admire? What do you trust in to make yourself pleasing to God, to say in your heart, "Well at least I'm not as bad as that person"?

Now as part of God twisting our crowns back into place, and then laying them down at his feet, let's make this our declaration:

My worth is not in what I own
Not in the strength of flesh and bone
But in the costly wounds of love

Congregation: At the cross

My worth is not in skill or name
In win or lose, in pride or shame
But in the blood of Christ that flowed

Congregation: At the cross

I will not boast in wealth or might
Or human wisdom's fleeting light
But I will boast in knowing Christ

Congregation: At the cross

Two wonders here that I confess
My worth and my unworthiness
My value fixed, my ransom paid

Congregation: At the cross

0:00 *Create In My A Clean Heart* [Donnie McClurkin in F]

0:00 *My Worth Is Not In What I Own* [Default Arrangement in C]

0:00 **Sermon - 1 Corinthians 1:26-31**

0:00 **Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-28**

0:00 *The Wonderful Cross* [Alternate Arrangement (CA) in C]

3:43 *All Glory Be To Christ* [Kings Kaleidoscope in C]

**Length
in mins**

0:00 Benediction - Matthew 22:14; Deuteronomy 7:6; 1 Peter 2:9

1) MCT Anniversary Celebration - If you missed the popup to commemorate 10 years of our Missionary Care Team last week we have left out the tables with many special displays set up throughout the room to represent our distributed members and where they serve. If you haven't already, please visit the tables, pick up a prayer card, and learn more about our distributed and their families. There are some light refreshments in the back.

2) Food Pantry - Thanks to everyone who served yesterday! We served 107 people, shared the gospel with them, and hosted a prayer time for Cuba led by two of our Spanish speakers. Continue to pray for this important ministry, especially for what God is doing among Cubans.

3) Membership Emphasis - As Brad mentioned earlier, our annual membership emphasis includes asking current covenant members to re-sign a covenant. The 2022 membership covenant is currently being revised and will be available next Sunday. If you are not a current member, we ask that you walk through our membership process instead, which begins with a membership class on Sunday, January 30th at 9 AM. Please sign up if you plan to attend so we can prepare for food and childcare.

4) 9 AM Classes - Speaking of classes, we will not be restarting 9 AM classes—including Young Disciples and Youth—until February 20th.

We begin each gathering with a call to worship and we end with a benediction which simply is a reminder that we are blessed to be a blessing. I invite you to hold out your hands as a posture of receiving this blessing:

Church, many are called, but few are chosen. Yet through Jesus Christ the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. Therefore may you go proclaiming the excellencies of him who has called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Based on Matthew 22:14; Deuteronomy 7:6; 1 Peter 2:9

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.

Let's say this together: We are sent.

3:43