

Sunday Gathering Liturgy

January 9, 2022 - Sending in a Manner
Worthy of God, 3 John 1-8 - Bradley
Bell

Length
in mins

0:00 Call to Worship - Isaiah 26:3-4, 8

Today is what we call a "Sending Sunday," a day in which we focus entirely on God's global mission to make disciples of all nations. When this church was planted it was intentionally named Antioch because of a small church in the book of Acts with a big heart for the world. And their desire for the world was specifically that the name of Jesus Christ would be proclaimed and worshiped. Let's make that our desire as well as we call one another to worship this morning. We read from the prophet Isaiah:

You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you. Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD, the LORD himself, is the Rock eternal.

Now let's respond to the Lord together:

Yes, LORD, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you; your name and renown are the desire of our hearts. Isaiah 26:3-4, 8, NIV

0:00 *Let Your Kingdom Come* [Default Arrangement in G]

0:00 Confession - James 1:22-24; Psalm 119:32

As people of the Way, it has become easy for us to know the right path and point to it, but then not walk in that path ourselves. In the book of James, however, we read this sobering words:

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like." James 1:22-24

When it comes to God's global mission, it's easy for us to think that's a path just for missionary-type people. But God's word calls all of us to participate in it, going and caring for those who are going. As we are challenged today to walk the path ourselves, to be doers and not hearers only, take a moment and ask God to prepare your heart to follow in his path.

Now make this your prayer from Psalm 119:32:

Lord, I will run in the way of your commandments,
for you have set my heart free.

0:00 *Lord I Need You* [Default Arrangement in B]

0:00 *All I Have Is Yours* [Default Arrangement in C]

0:00 Sermon - 3 John 1-8

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

0:00 *How Deep The Father's Love For Us* [Default Arrangement in D]

0:00 *Let The Nations Be Glad* [Default Arrangement in C]

**Length
in mins**

0:00 Benediction - John 20:19-21

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

1) Giving & Visitors - Update: we made our \$5000 goal of giving to our distributed members. Thank you to all who contributed!

2) MCT Anniversary Celebration - Join us for a few minutes immediately after today's gathering for a popup to commemorate 10 years of our Missionary Care Team. As you can see, there are many special displays set up throughout the room to represent our distributed members and where they serve. Some distributed and advocates will be at their tables as well, along with some snacks.

3) Food Pantry - This Saturday is the third Saturday of the month, so we'll be hosting our monthly food pantry, a mercy ministry in which we serve our neighbors. Volunteers need to arrive around 9:30 (no prior experience is needed). We are in special need of volunteers who can speak some measure of Spanish as many of the participants are Spanish-speakers. Even if you cannot be involved, please pray for this ministry because we are seeing great spiritual interest, especially among the Cuban community. If you'd like more info please see Bill Stayton.

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, this benediction comes from John 20:19-21 and the great Missionary himself, Jesus Christ: On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

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.

0:00