

Sunday Gathering

Uncomfortable Mercy, Luke
22:47-62 - Tanner Williams

March 10, 2024

Luke: Upside Down (2024)

Call to Worship

Good morning church.

Let's start by recognizing what a grace it is that we are here this morning. Some of us may have been excited to walk into the doors this morning. Others may be sitting here feeling overstretched by the weight of your daily responsibilities. Either way, you are here. And the most amazing thing of all, is that your Creator is overjoyed to be in your presence.

Since God spoke the world into existence, his outpouring of mercy on his creation has always been at work. God gave dominion over the garden to Adam when he did nothing to earn it, he created Eve for Adam completely out of his deep love for his people, and even when they sinned against him, God promised that his Son would one day take the punishment that humanity deserved.

Time and time again, God has shown no matter how far we fall, we are never too far for his mercy to reach us.

So let us sing together, lifting our voices in worship to our merciful Savior.

Rejoice

Confession

You've probably heard some version of the saying, "We're our own worst critics." While it may be a bit of a cliché at this point, that doesn't make it any less true. When was the last time when you questioned whether you were good enough or deserving enough of something good in your life? For many of us it, could have been as recent as this morning.

Have you ever considered though, that when you overvalue how "deserving" you are of a gift, you are also devaluing the mercy God chose to show in giving it to you.

R.C. Sproul once said, "God's grace is so powerful that it has the capacity to overcome our natural resistance to it."

Take a moment to consider this question: where in your life are you resisting God's mercy?

When we accept God's mercy for what it is, an undeserving gift given solely out of his great love for us, we can truly begin to live as one who has been set free from the chains of sin.

Let's confess together what Paul writes in his first letter to Timothy:

"The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. 16 But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life."

-1Timothy 1:15-16

Come Thou Fount

Goodness Of God

Sermon - Luke 22:47-62

Turn Your Eyes

Only A Holy God

Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

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) The Soccer Clinic will be on the four Saturdays in April from 2-5 pm there is a signup link on the social media. We would love it if you could serve. We would also love for a family group to adopt each week. See Marcus if you have any questions.

2) Good Friday service will be on March 29th.

3) Food pantry is this Saturday. Our goal is to open the doors at 9:30, which means we need at least 3-4 adults on-site by 9:30.

Box prep will be Friday morning at 9:30. See Shannon or Sarah for details.

We continue to need help with weekday Dare to Care food pickups. If you're free between 7:30am and noon any day of the week, please consider helping once per month. Pickup takes about an hour and a half and is so simple, even a Baptist can do it! If you have questions about serving on Saturday or doing food pickups, see Steve Leach.

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.

Church, may we leave here today recognizing that there is nothing we can do to earn God's mercy. Yet, the message we share with the world is that God gives it freely, despite the fact that we are undeserving. Let us go from hear singing these words:

"Depth of mercy! Can there be

Mercy still reserved for me?

Can my God His wrath forbear,

Me, the chief of sinners, spare?"

Praise God that the answer is yes, yes He can.

-Lyrics from the hymn Depth of Mercy by Charles Wesley

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.
