

Sunday Gathering

Broken and Built,
Exodus 2:1-22 -
Bradley Bell

May 28, 2023

Exodus: Wooed in
the Wilderness

Call to Worship - Ecclesiastes 3:11, 7:13-14

Good morning and happy Pentecost Sunday! This is the fiftieth day following Easter in which the church has historically celebrated the coming of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2. Thanks be to God for sending his Spirit to dwell in all who believe!

And yet even though we know the Spirit of God is with us, we all have probably experienced some situation in our lives and wondered where God is in it. In the brokenness of our world, He can seem so far away. It's like the Wizard of Oz: what is happening behind the curtain?

But unlike that story, the Lord is not just an ordinary human pretending to be in control. He has all power and wisdom, and he is using everything for his good purposes. Therefore we are gathered here this morning to point each other to him and the work he is doing even behind the scenes.

Hear this from Ecclesiastes and read the underlined portion with me:

Consider what God has done:

Who can straighten

what he has made crooked?

When times are good, be happy;

but when times are bad, consider this:

God has made the one

as well as the other.

Therefore, no one can discover

anything about their future.

Ecclesiastes 7:13-14

****He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.****

Ecclesiastes 3:11

This morning, church, God's presence is here with us. Join with us to worship the Lord who is in control.

Glorious Day

Confession - Psalm 32

We are all the time grasping for answers to make sense of our suffering and failures. There could be entire libraries filled with all of the reflection people have done about “the problem of evil.” We want so badly to understand. Yet in our anxious limitations, we often put our faith in temporary comforts and spend our moments worshiping them instead of the Lord, who is the only true source of wisdom. Let’s take a moment and reflect together:

What has taken the place of Christ in giving you a sense of comfort, peace, or control?

In our grasping and wandering, Christ is still faithful. Read the underlined portions of this psalm of repentance with me.

When I kept silent,
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

****For day and night
your hand was heavy on me;
my strength was sapped
as in the heat of summer.**

****Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover up my iniquity.**

I said, “I will confess
my transgressions to the Lord.”
And you forgave
the guilt of my sin. ******

Therefore let all the faithful pray to you
while you may be found;
surely the rising of the mighty waters
will not reach them.

****You are my hiding place;
you will protect me from trouble
and surround me with songs of deliverance. ********

Psalm 32

May Your Power Rest On Me

O Lord My Rock And My Redeemer

Sermon - Exodus 2:1-22

Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

Promises

Psalm 46 (Lord Of Hosts)

Benediction - Hebrews 12:2

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) Grenada Team Giving - This summer we are sending a team to support the ministry of Jason and Kari Crigler in Grenada. Rather than having a fundraiser for this team, we are asking the church to donate to the team fund. You can do that through GivApp or by check.

2) MCT - At Antioch around 20% of our congregation are "distributed members" who have been sent to proclaim the gospel in other cultures. Each missionary has an "advocate" assigned to them, and Missionary Care Team is the gathering of these advocates. MCT meets this Thursday at the Groces and all Antioch members are invited.

3) Trinity Sunday - Next Sunday is Trinity Sunday according to the historic church calendar, a day in which we specifically celebrate the doctrine of the Trinity. In celebration of this, Antioch Academy is providing a two-part doctrinal class "On the Trinity" next Sunday and the following Sunday. They will be at 9 AM in the training room.

We begin each gathering with a call to worship and end with a benediction, which is simply a blessing for the road. I invite you to open your hands in a posture of reception:

Church, Jesus Christ has not only taken on our sin and failure, but has risen and sent his Spirit to give us power over them. Therefore, may you go today built up, that you may run your race as humble servants of God. Based on Hebrews 12:2

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.
