

Sunday Gathering

November 26, 2023 - God's Design for a
Pastor and his People, Hebrews 13:17 -
Brian Croft

Call to Worship - Romans 11:33-36

Welcome, beloved community, to this sacred time of worship. We hope that your Thanksgiving day was filled with gratitude as you sat at table with friends and family. We can even take a moment now as a family and shout what we are thankful for! What are you thankful for today? This month? This year?

Wonderful!

Let's pray this together as our call to worship:

In gratitude for God's grace, we give thanks now with joy!

Hear these words from the Apostle Paul as we begin our worship and say together the underlined portion.

Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!
For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?
Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid? -
For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen!

Out of our gratitude, let's sing together!

I stand amazed

Confession - Based on Psalm 51:10-12

We all acknowledge the gratitude for how God has met us this year, and we praise the Lord for it! However, we also see and know deeply the hurt that this world brings and the many ways that we aren't grateful for the good that is all around us.

For our time of confession, ask the Lord to bring to mind where perhaps you haven't shown gratitude for the good gifts he has given you.

Begin with this prayer:

Loving God, we gather today, rich in blessing,
Somehow believing that we merit the wealth and comfort we enjoy.
Forgive us, our God, for comfortably closing our eyes to the face of the poor that stare blankly in our direction.
Lord have mercy on us.

*Give a moment of silence for contemplation and confession. *

As you lift your eyes again, our prayers continue.

With bellies full of grain and meat, we offer token gestures to the hungry in our world and we feel we've done enough.

Christ, have mercy on us.

With hands tightly clasping our treasures on earth, we cannot reach out to the oppressed brothers and sisters around this world.
Forgive us for clinging to our own possessions rather than to you.

Unite us with hearts of thanksgiving, that we may continue in your Kingdom work.
Lord have mercy on us.

With the spirit of gratitude and forgiveness, let's continue singing.

Behold our God

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

Sermon - Hebrews 13:17

Nailed To The Cross

New again

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) Send off lunch with the Bells Sunday, Dec 3rd right after church.
- 2) Antioch Kids and Young Disciples will be leading a Christmas song with the worship team on December 17th! There will be a few short practices on Sunday mornings beforehand Please see Kathleen Williams, Sabrina Robertson or Sarah O'Malley for more info.
- 3) Our Annual Women's Christmas Brunch will take place here at the church on December 9th at 10:00 AM. Please check the Antioch Women's Facebook page for more details. If you are not on that Facebook group, please check with Katie Harrod.
- 4) Security meeting Dec 10th right after church, if you are interested in serving to help keep our church safe please see Andy Oliveras

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.

Hear this benediction Church, Now, I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

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.
