

Sunday Gathering Liturgy

The Lord of the Harvest,
10:1-24 - Robbie Gouge

November 28, 2021

Luke: Upside Down 2

Length in mins

0:00 Call to Worship - Psalm 100:1-5

Welcome and introduction (maybe something about their Thanksgiving week)

Hear the word of the Lord from Psalm 100 (and say the underlined portion with me):

A Psalm for giving thanks.

[1] Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

[2] Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!

[3] Know that the LORD, he is God!

Congregation:

It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

[4] Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!

Let's pause there for a minute. There are so many things that we can give thanks for. There are even many people we can give thanks to. But neither of those things are uniquely Christian. What's different for the Christian, is that we give thanks TO GOD, and above all we give him thanks for his love for us through Jesus Christ. Let's take a moment and give thanks to him. I invite to put your hand on your heart as tangible expression of a grateful heart (come on, you can do it). Now bless his name in your heart). [consider modeling it for them]

[5] For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations. Psalm 100:1-5

0:00 *All Creatures Of Our God And King* [Default Arrangement in C]

**Length
in mins**

0:00 Confession - 2 Corinthians 2:14-16

In the course of church history the gathering of believers often engaged all five senses in some way. But today our gatherings pretty much only lead people to see something and to hear something. However, if we are gathering rightly, then—as weird as it sounds—it should be leading people to also smell something. We read in 2 Corinthians 2,

[14] But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. [15] For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, [16] to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. 2 Corinthians 2:14-16

Over the past few days we have all probably smelled the aroma of many wonderful things, dishes that moved us off the couch and led us to craving and feasting. But as the aroma of Jesus Christ fills this room—the reality that he is Lord, that he calls you from death into life—how does the smell hit you? Does it lead you to craving and feasting, or are you content just to sit on the couch and let others have at it? There is no middle ground, and being honest about your answer could be the most important step you take this morning.

However you answer, I invite you to pray this together with the whole gathering:

Lord, as your aroma fills the room, give us

**eyes to see your beauty
ears to hear your word
mouths to taste your goodness
hands to receive your blessings
noses to smell your fragrance**

Move us off the couch and into the feast!

0:00 *His Mercy Is More* [Default Arrangement in E]

0:00 *Goodness Of God* [Default Arrangement in G-G]

0:00 Posturing Prayer - Worship Team

0:00 Sermon - Luke 10:1-24

**Length
in mins**

0:00 Baptisms

Robbie: Baptism is one of the most important steps of obedience a Christian can take. It is a declaration and display of the total salvation Jesus has already provided for us. A person is lowered into the water to symbolize the death of Jesus. Then the person is raised from the water to symbolize the resurrection of Jesus.

Before we baptize this morning, let's hear the testimonies of how God has changed lives. We'll start with Yoonji Jo's testimony, read by Shannon Hunsucker.

Shannon: Yoonji's testimony

Robbie: Amen! (clapping)

Now let's hear Emma Dickey's testimony, read by her mother, Merilee.

Merilee: Emma's testimony

Robbie: Amen! (clapping)

Now let's hear Declan Meredith's testimony, read by his mother, Rebekah.

Rebekah: Declan's testimony

Yoonji, Emma, and Declan, thanks be to God for what he has done in your lives! Baptism not only means you have committed to be a disciple of Jesus, but it also means the church commits to help disciple you. Church, we should feel the weight of this responsibility! And yet one thing we want to acknowledge that's unique about today's baptisms, each person is actually someone who is only temporarily present at Antioch—and that's ok. What this shows is that Antioch gets to be part of things that are much bigger than us, and that we should always be faithful with what time we have. Let's start by taking a moment and pray for these sisters and brother in Christ.

Prayer

Robbie: Yoonji, Emma, and Declan, one important question before you are baptized. What is your sacred confession?

Yoonji, Emma, and Declan: Jesus is Lord!

Jason: Yoonji, come forward and step into the water. Our sister in Christ, it is our honor to baptize you in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Buried in the likeness of Christ's death; raised to walk in newness of life.

Emma, come forward and step into the water. Our sister in Christ, it is our honor to baptize you in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Buried in the likeness of Christ's death; raised to walk in newness of life.

Declan, come forward and step into the water. Our sister in Christ, it is our honor to baptize you in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Buried in the likeness of Christ's death; raised to walk in newness of life.

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

0:00 *There Is A Peace* [Default Arrangement in A]

0:00 *Christ Our Hope In Life And Death* [Default Arrangement in F]

**Length
in mins**

0:00 Announcements & Benediction - Luke 10:2, 23

You may be seated. Thank you for joining us in today's gathering! We hope that you have experienced the welcome of Jesus. You may be seated as we give a few next steps from today's gathering.

1) Giving & Visitors - antiochpeople.org/give

2) Family Groups - antiochpeople.org/familygroup

3) Serving - antiochpeople.org/serve

4) MCT - Our Missionary Care Team meets this Thursday evening at 7Pm @ the Groce's home. Remember this is one of the most challenging times of the year for our distributed members to be far away from people they love, so even if you can't join MCT this week, be in prayer for them.

5) Ladies Christmas Brunch - Antioch Women: Please join us here at the church on Saturday, December 11 at 10 am for the annual Ladies Christmas Brunch. You'll enjoy time of fellowship, delicious food, and a gift exchange. For more details on the gift exchange, and to sign up to bring food, please see the announcement in the church Facebook group, or find Katie Bell after the gathering.

6) Family Meeting - Covenant members, you are invited to a Family Meeting on Sunday, December 12th here at the building (childcare will be provided). As a church that is both pastor-led and congregational, family meetings are some of your biggest opportunities and responsibilities to participate in the polity of Antioch. This particular Family Meeting will be particularly important, and we are planning on conducting it in some new and exciting ways. More details to come.

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, the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few—and yet you have been chosen to be one of those dependent laborers. Therefore may you go blessed and empowered in your dependence upon Jesus, and rejoicing that your names are written in heaven.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Let's say this together: We are sent.

0:00