“growing a family
to reach a community”

Loving God, loving one another, and embracing our community and world with Jesus
Lord’s Day Worship  
May 10, 2020  
10:30 AM  

Call to Worship  

1 Chronicles 16:28-29  
Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him. Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

To God Be the Glory  
Hymn #55

1 Chronicles 16:34-36  
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Cry out, “Save us, God our Savior; gather us and deliver us from the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name, and glory in your praise.” Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

His Love Endures Forever  
Song

Opening Prayer

Confessing Our Sins Together

1 John 1:5-10  
Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone.

Lord, you are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy; there is always forgiveness with you! Restore to us the joy of your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us, and let your word abide with us until it has wrought in us your holy will. Amen.
Rejoicing in Our Forgiveness

Hebrews 4:14-16

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

The Wonderful Cross

Lord, I Need You

Praying for the Work of the Gospel Among the Nations

Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Giving of Tithes & Offerings

Speak, O Lord

Hearing God’s Word Together

The Gospel According to Acts
Acts 1. 1-5
Wait for it ...

I Will Glory in My Redeemer

Benediction

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ² until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

³ And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”
Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

Luke 1. 1-4

I. Luke’s Preface (vs. 1-2)

A. The author

B. His audience

C. His 1st volume

II. Jesus’ Instruction (v. 3)

Jesus instructed the disciples in 2 things:

A. The reality of His resurrection

B. The nature of the God’s kingdom

III. Jesus’ Commands (vs. 4-5)

Jesus gave the apostles 2 orders:

A. 

B. 

The Gospel According to Acts
Acts 1. 1-5
Wait for it ...
Sermon Quotes and References

Ingrown churches face . . . a crisis of power failure . . . Some of them have crashed spiritually and never noticed their own fatal ending. The evidence is easily found in lack of zeal for outreach . . . Other congregations give lip service to missions and evangelism, but inwardly they have given up—quit—having lost confidence in being used by the Lord of the harvest to bring people to Him.

Like persons, local churches are sometimes introverted. Following that pattern in human personality, these churches turn their interests and their energies inwardly upon themselves. They are concerned primarily with their own affairs. Sometimes they devote most of their attention to spiritual introspection which results in a neglect of spiritual risk and gospel engagement in their communities. Tragically, the introverted church is not merely partly out of line with the divine will, but radically disobedient to it.

The local church was intended by Jesus to be a gathering of people full of faith – strong in their confidence in Him and seeking to reach others for Him – not a gathering of religious folk who desperately need reassurance. Perhaps seeking personal comfort is not wrong in itself. But it is desperately wrong when it becomes the primary reason for the existence of the local church. When that happens, the local church is no living fellowship at all, but a retreat center where anxious and fearful people draw resources that enable them merely to cope with life. The church then becomes a religious cushion, and not an outpost for the kingdom of God.

C John Miller, Outgrowing the Ingrown Church