

## ORDER OF SERVICE

June 23, 2019

Worship in Fellowship  
Worship in Music  
Worship in The Lord's Supper  
Worship in Message  
Worship in Giving

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### Be Pure

*Revelation 2:12-17*

*Listen Series*

Life Change: We are pure in Christ.  
**Proclaimed a god...**

### Jesus speaks to Pergamum.

**12-13a**

Jesus is the one with the sharp, double-edged sword.

The Christians in Pergamum were thus reminded that though they lived under the rule of an almost unlimited *imperium*, they were citizens of another kingdom – that of him who needs no other sword than that of his mouth. – Alan Johnson, *Revelation*

Pergamum may be understood in relation to American cities.

### Worship at Pergamum brought danger.

**13**

Christians stick out like sore thumbs.

Jesus encourages the Christians for holding to His name.

### Jesus exhorts the church.

**14-16**

The sin of Balaam is participation at the expense of idolatry.

At the center and summit of [a Greco city like Pergamum] was the shrine of the city god; participation in the worship of the god was the sign, the privilege, and the requisite of citizenship...In the early spring, the Greek cities celebrated the Athesterion, or feast of flowers, a three-day festival to Dionysius [who had a big, beautiful temple at Pergamum] in which wine flowed freely and everyone was more or less drunk. At the end of March came the great Dyonysia, a widely-observed series of processions and plays accompanied by general revelry. At the beginning of April various cities in Greece celebrated [Aphrodite's] great festival, the Aphrodisia; and on that occasion, for those who cared to take part, sexual license was the order of the day. – Will Durant, *Life of Greece*

The teaching of the Nicolaitans is a form of Gnosticism.

Repent!

Jesus is telling the church at Pergamum, “Stop acting like who you *were*, and be who you *are*!” Peter gave the same advice to the dispersed Christian Jews (1 Peter 1:13-19); Paul gave the same advice to the Ephesians (Eph. 4:17-24) and to the Colossians (Col. 3:5-10). We all need this advice, because our surrounding cultural pressures are not so different today. We should all read this advice on a regular basis, repent as needed, and live according to who we are in Christ. – Randall Satchell

### Jesus reminds the church of blessings to come.

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