

Worship Service

January 22nd, 2017

Songs of Invitation

We encourage you to begin the worship service with this simple prayer: *"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer (Psalm 19:14ESV)."*

Welcome

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers..."

Hebrews 13:2 ESV

The practice of hospitality reminds us that we have all been strangers once, and because of this we welcome others in the name of Jesus.

Call to Worship

"Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good;" Psalm 135:3 ESV

Our call to worship is a reminder that we gather not for our own sake, but that we have been called by God himself to worship him.

Songs of the Family

"Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!"

Psalm 47:6 ESV

Offering and Church Life

"On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper..."

1 Corinthians 16:2 ESV

Each week we collect financial gifts which our church family uses to help those in need and further the work of the good news of Jesus. We also stay updated on what is going on in our church life.

Scripture Reading

John 18:33-38 ESV

Sermon

Pastor Sam Paschall

"Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not of this world.'"
John 18:36 ESV

THE MAIN POINT:

*The way of the cross is opposed to the world
for the sake of the world*

Scripture References: *John 3:16-17; 8:39-47; 16:33; 17:6-19*

Sending Blessing

"Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ" Ephesians 4:15 ESV

Parting Reflection: In what ways have you avoided speaking the truth?

Prayer

Read

Getting Familiar with God's Word

- Slowly read John 18:33-38 two times

Reflect

Taking God's Word into our Hearts

- Which part of this passage stands out to you as you read it and why?

Pray

Responding to God's Word in Prayer

- Take several minutes and speak to the Lord about what in this passage stood out most to you and why.

Rest

Finding Wholeness in God's Word

- Take the last few minutes of your time in prayer to let your heart and mind rest on this truth, that "Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."

Small Groups

Checking In

Welcoming and Warming Up (For Small Groups)

1. Practicing Hospitality: How has someone speaking a painful truth in your life changed you for the good?
2. Group Rules: A Training in Love (1 Timothy 1:5)
 - a. Do's and Don'ts of Listening
 - b. Confidentiality

Prayerfulness

Continuously Remaining in God's Love

1. Read John 18:33-38
2. In what ways did God speak to you through his Word and Spirit in this week's worship service?

Wisdom

Cherishing and Discerning the Truth in Love

1. Read Acts 7:51-60; 1 Corinthians 4:9-13; Revelation 11:1-10. In these passages we see the cost of opposing the world by speaking the truth of the gospel, first with Stephen, then with Paul, and then the two witnesses who are symbols of the church. How have you perhaps either experienced or avoided the cost of speaking the truth of the gospel?
2. Read Daniel 10:10-14; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:2; 6:12; Colossians 2:8. These passages tell us that the "world" is an organized system with a "prince" who governs through "elementary principles" that enslave, and that often this worldly kingdom stands with and behind human institutions (e.g. governments, organizations, etc.). How can we as Christians recognize these powers and what does it look like for us to oppose them, especially in light of John 18:37?

Compassion

Moving Toward the Poor, Marginalized, and Broken in Love

1. What does compassion look like when we are called as Christians to speak the truth?

Reconciliation

Repentance and Forgiveness for the Sake of Love

1. How have you been tempted to pursue a form of reconciliation that denies the truth, i.e. how have you sought peace with others by avoiding painful truths?

Checking Out

Blessing and Sending Out

1. What stood out to you about our group time tonight (1-2 sentences each)?
2. Close in prayer and read 1 Timothy 3:14-16