

Our mission is to learn the way of Jesus together as we invite others to join us at His Table.

Our Common Practices

We Gather

We gather for worship more often than not.
We gather in smaller groups to connect, learn, and grow.

We create hospitable space for one another.

We Grow

We attend the means of grace daily. (i.e. We attend to the presence of God through Scripture reading and meditation, prayer on behalf of others and myself, breath prayer, spiritual reading and study...).

We nurture our faith.

We attend to relationships that promote growth.
We develop and learn as human beings made in the image of God.

We Give

We are a generous people who give our time and resources to the mission of God and the world.

We tithe as the means through which our community enjoys fiscal health so as to minister generously.

We Go

We follow Jesus into the world as His healing presence.

We help the vulnerable among us.

We go into the world offering Jesus' invitation to gather at His Table.

A Breath Prayer for Pentecost:

"Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, fill me with Your love."

Holy Spirit, Come to Us



Taizé: Berthier

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CHURCH OF
THE NAZARENE



TABLELIFE
CHURCH



Order of Worship
31 May 2020
Pentecost Sunday

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Music
Welcome
Call to Worship
Worship Reading from Psalm 104

We Listen to the Scriptures

Pastoral Prayer
Sermon: "Dry Bones "
Scripture Readings: Ezekiel 37.1-6,
Acts 2.1-4, John 14.15-17

We Come to the Table

Prayers of the People
Song of Preparation
Passing the Peace of Christ
Prayer of Confession and Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life
Gossiping the Good Stuff
Doxology
Blessing and Sending

Sermon Reflection Guide

Ezekiel 37.1-6

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley,

and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

Acts 2.1-4

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

John 14.15-17

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

Question for Everyone

God is at work all the time bringing about God's healing in God's world. (1) Honestly, I don't see it. There is no evidence to support this statement. (10) Absolutely! I see God's healing all the time. Where are you on this range?

Brokenness

Everywhere humans gather, there is a deep and willful wound. The Bible calls this brokenness sin. Our sin-stained narrative began in the garden with the consumption of the forbidden fruit. This was a simple yet profound metaphor for humanity's refusal to live within God's limits. This rebellion is sin and sin causes great suffering. Let's talk about sin, from "missing the mark" to

"willful disobedience or rebellion." Name the sin you see in our day.

Dry Bones

In the valley of dry bones lies a multitude of unrequited love, unrealized dreams, and unkept promises. God had promised flourishing and abundance but there is nothing to see but dry bones. And God asks the Prophet perhaps the most ridiculous question uttered in all of human history, "Will these bones live?" Do you have a "dry bones" story? How do you respond when circumstances are bleak?

Optimism

I'm the kind of guy that likes to call a spade a spade. I love the language of lament because it gives me permission to be pointed and honest with God about the state of affairs on planet earth. I'm not one to look through the rose-colored glasses of denial. But I must be very careful not to give myself over to despair or cynicism. There is an optimism rooted in the grace of God that must not be denied. Are you ever tempted to despair? Why? Why not?

Prophetic Good News

Israel's discouragement and defeat in no way limited God's creative ability to bring about restoration. Even when they had no faith, God was at work. Even when they were certain God had abandoned them, God was saving them. Exile wasn't the last word of their story. How is this truth helpful in our day? Is this a word you need to hear? Why?

Pentecost

On Pentecost God brought to life all the hopes and dreams of human yearning that had long been abandoned. On Pentecost God said, I can breathe life into the most dire of contexts. God pours the Spirit of Jesus down upon that weak-kneed group of fearful people and creates a church of radical optimism and unrelenting hope. Let's consider how Pentecost is God's response to the "dry bone" question. How is Pentecost a response to our current crises?