

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 the coming week:

"There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

### Holy Spirit, Come to Us

Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us, kin - dle in us the fire of your love.  
Ven, Es - pí - ri - tu de Dios, y de tu a - mor en - cien - de la lla - ma.  
Ve - ni San - cte Spí - ri - tus, tu - i a - mó - ris i - gnem ac - cén - de.

Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us, Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.  
Ven, Es - pí - ri - tu de a - mor, ven, Es - pí - ri - tu de a - mor.  
Ve - ni San - cte Spí - ri - tus, ve - ni San - cte Spí - ri - tus

Taizè: Berthier

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CHURCH OF  
 THE NAZARENE

TABLELIFE  
CHURCH



Order of Worship  
02 August 2020  
The Season after Pentecost

## We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Music  
Welcome  
Call to Worship  
Worship Reading from Psalm 145

## We Listen to the Scriptures

Pastoral Prayer  
Scripture Reading: Matthew 13.1-23  
Sermon: "Good Soil for God's Revolution"

## We Come to the Table

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

## We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life  
Gossiping the Good Stuff  
Doxology  
Blessing and Sending

### Matthew 13.1-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!" Then the disciples came and asked him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" He answered, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. The reason I speak to them in parables is that 'seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.' With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says:

'You will indeed listen, but never understand, and you will indeed look, but never perceive. For this people's heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes; so that they might not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and understand with their heart and turn—and I would heal them.'

But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it. "Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person

immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

### Our Guest Preacher



Dr. Drew G. I. Hart is a theology professor at Messiah University and has 10 years of past pastoral ministry experience. In addition to teaching, he regularly provides talks and workshops across North America and collaborates with local faith-rooted organizers and activists in Harrisburg. His book, *Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism* (Jan. 2016), utilizes everyday stories, Jesus-shaped lessons, and anti-racism frameworks to transform the church's understanding and social witness. His newest book is *Who Will Be a Witness?: Igniting Activism for God's Justice, Love, and Deliverance* (Sept. 2020), unveils the nonviolent revolutionary way of Christ, the church's mangled witness with white supremacy, religious nationalism, and economic exploitation, and the book provides concrete grassroots strategies for social change that are conducive for local churches seeking to do justice. Dr. Drew Hart was the recipient of bcmPEACE's 2017 Peacemaker Award and the 2019 W.E.B. Du Bois Award in recognition of his commitment and work for justice locally. He was also chosen as Elizabethtown College's 2019 Peace Fellow. Dr. Drew Hart and his family live in Harrisburg, PA.