

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

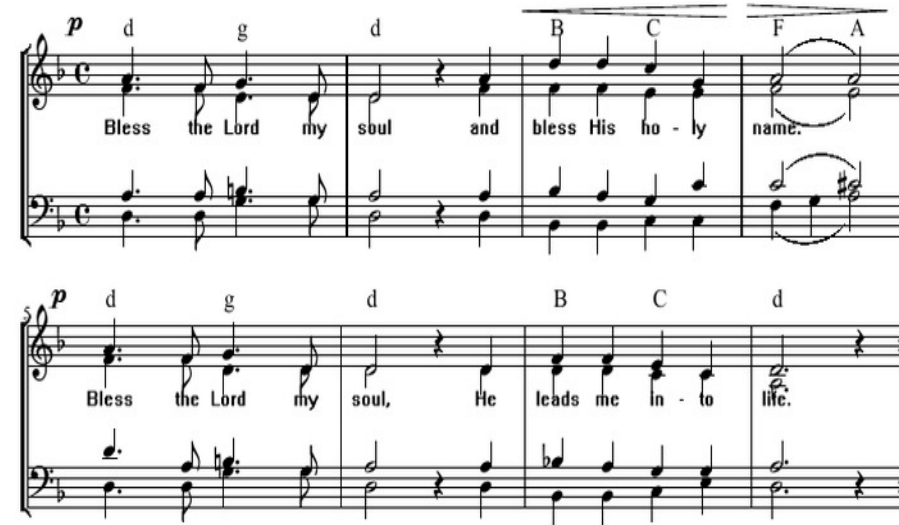
We are a generous people who give our time and resources to the mission of God and the world.
We tithe as the means through which our community enjoys fiscal health so as to minister generously.

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.

Bless the Lord my soul

m.: J.Berthier, Taizé



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A Breath Prayer for the coming week:

"I put my trust in Your unfailing Love."

CHURCH OF
 THE NAZARENE

TABLELIFE
CHURCH



Order of Worship
27 September 2020
The Season after Pentecost

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Music
Welcome
Call to Worship
Worship Reading from the Te Deum Laudamus

We Listen to the Scriptures

Pastoral Prayer
Sermon Series: Prophetic Imagination: They Teach Us To See
Sermon: "Sojourner Truth"
Scripture Reading: Isaiah 61.1-4

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 the Eucharist in Song
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

Isaiah 61.1-4

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,

and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

Question for Everyone

(1) I have no expectations for myself and am therefore never disappointed by my performance. (10) I have high expectations for myself and am therefore often disappointed by my performance. Where are you on this range?

A Rebuilding Project

One might imagine what it might have been like for the exilic Jews returning to their homeland only to find it utterly decimated, literally in ruins. In spite of their disillusionment they have a mission. Their mission is to restore the Temple and restore justice among the people of God. Righteousness and justice was their mission. What is the relationship between sacred space and the work of God in the world?

Courage Requires Intention

It is so easy to become discouraged when the mission seems impossible. It's easy these days to be discouraged even despairing when it comes to the mission of God while contending with a pandemic and an endless barrage of bad news. Despair requires merely acquiescing to our most lethargic tendencies. Courage requires intention. Do you find yourself more discouraged than usual these days? What do you do to overcome discouragement?

Spirit Anointed

If we place our trust in the God who liberated Israel from Egyptian bondages and raised Jesus from the dead, we have all the spiritual resources we need to be emancipators, light-bearers in dark times. We are already

Spirit-anointed to be healing agents in our broken world. What barriers keep you from living into your anointed status?

Set a Table for the Other

Perhaps the lesson here is that if you want to be where the Spirit of God is working, place yourself in solidarity with the oppressed, create a place at your table for those who don't have a place at any table. Consider the fact that the holidays are fast approaching. How might you expand the guest list at your family table to include the other?

Sojourner Truth: Spirit-Anointed

According to Dr. Nell Painter, "One cannot explain Sojourner Truth without her faith and the power she received from the Holy Spirit of Christ. Truth was clear that the force that brought her from the soul-murder of slavery into the authority of public advocacy was the power of the Holy Spirit. . . . More than anything else she did or said in her life, this ability to act with the support of a powerful, supernatural force and to mine its extraordinary resources made Sojourner Truth a representative African-American woman." How does this work of the Holy Spirit in Truth's life shape or expand the way you understand the work of the Holy Spirit in your life?

Sojourner Truth: An Amazing Life

Many things stand out to me about her amazing life. She was raised by parents who bore the pain of seeing nine of her siblings sold away. Therefore, as a young child she was raised in a context of unimaginable pain and sadness until Sojourner was, herself, sold at the age of 9. She was bought and sold four times. She was sexually abused. She was forced into a marriage. Hers was not a happy life. But in spite of incomprehensible heartache, she bore witness to the kind of Spirit-liberation that made her a powerful advocate for the oppressed, both enslaved persons and women. In spite of abuse and loss and heartache, emotional and physical trauma beyond comprehension, and illiteracy, the Spirit of the Lord anointed this formerly enslaved woman to bind up the broken hearted and set the captive free. The lesson for us? We are capable of much more than we think we are. Response? How does Sojourner Truth inspire you?