

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.

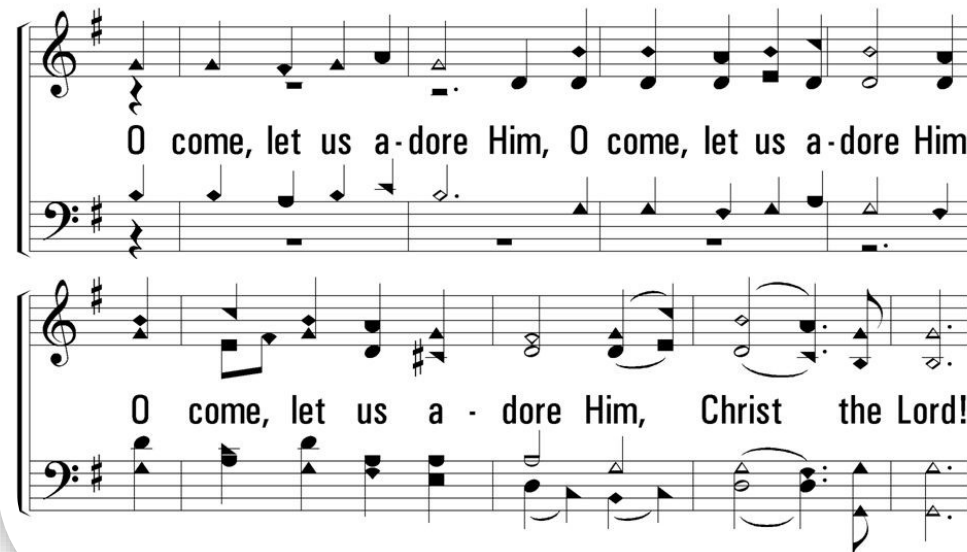
#### We Go

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:

"I put my trust in Your unfailing Love."

### O Come, Let Us Adore Him



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CHURCH OF  
 THE NAZARENE

TABLELIFE  
CHURCH



Order of Worship

3 January 2021

The Second Sunday of Christmas

## We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Music

Welcome

Call to Worship

## We Listen to the Scriptures

Prayers of the People

Scripture Reading: Psalm 119.97-104

Sermon: "The Year In Review: 7 Questions to Ask Yourself in Preparing for 2021"

## We Come to the Table

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



## THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 7 Questions to Ask Yourself in Preparing for 2021 Mathew 23

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples:

<sup>2</sup> "The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. <sup>3</sup> So you must obey them and do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. <sup>4</sup> They tie up heavy loads and put them

on men's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.

<sup>5</sup> "Everything they do is done for men to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; <sup>6</sup> they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; <sup>7</sup> they love to be greeted in the marketplaces and to have men call them 'Rabbi.'

<sup>8</sup> "But you are not to be called 'Rabbi,' for you have only one Master and you are all brothers. <sup>9</sup> And do not call anyone on earth 'father,' for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. <sup>10</sup> Nor are you to be called 'teacher,' for you have one Teacher, the Christ. <sup>11</sup> The greatest among you will be your servant. <sup>12</sup> For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Matthew 23:1-12 (NIV)

### Observations About the Teachers of the Law and the Pharisees:

- They have God-given \_\_\_\_\_ – so obedience to their teaching is expected. (v. 2-3)
- They are not \_\_\_\_\_ what they are preaching – so don't do what they do. (v. 3)
- They are promoting a legalism \_\_\_\_\_ what God intended in the Law. (v. 4)
- They are not showing people how to \_\_\_\_\_ God. (v.4)
- They are trying to look good in front of other people to gain \_\_\_\_\_ and prestige. (v. 5-7)
- We are not to seek status and \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 8-10)
- We are to \_\_\_\_\_ others with humility. (v. 11-12)

### 7 Questions to Ask Yourself in Preparing for 2021

1. Will the way you choose to live your life point people \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus or drive them \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus?

2. What kind of \_\_\_\_\_ will you produce by the way you live your life?

3. Will you be more focused on the \_\_\_\_\_ of your religion or on your relationship with Jesus?

4. Will you focus on ritualistic observance of God's Laws \_\_\_\_\_ following the heart of the gospel?

5. Will you allow God to so change your heart, that people will \_\_\_\_\_ by the way you live your life?

6. Will you stop \_\_\_\_\_ the sin in your life and repent of it?

7. Will you continue making the same \_\_\_\_\_ that you have made in the past?

<sup>37b</sup> How often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing. <sup>38</sup> Look, your house is left to you desolate.

Matthew 23:37b-38.

There are two options for us as we face 2021:

1. Continue as we have in the past with \_\_\_\_\_ change in heart, attitude, actions, or behavior; or

2. Allow God to truly lead us into a new and better year as we allow Him to so thoroughly \_\_\_\_\_ us that our lives truly resemble Christ.

Which year will it be for you?