

## OUR GATHERED WORSHIP



*to make maturing followers of Jesus by the power of the gospel*

The church is the people of God who are brought together by the gospel, and are increasingly shaped by the gospel. The gospel refers to the "good news" that all who trust in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus are reconciled to God.

### INVITING INTO THE GOSPEL

We are God's people, not because of our initiative, but because God in His grace has called us into His gospel. Our services begin with a scriptural call to worship, signifying this reality. We orient our hearts, submitting ourselves under His Word and the worship He is due.

### CONFESSING THE GOSPEL

Having received God's call, we respond by confessing the truths of this gospel together. In our services, we corporately recite the Apostles' Creed, say the Lord's Prayer, or confess our sin. These acts remind us that we are a believing, repentant, and forgiven people on account of the gospel.

### SINGING THE GOSPEL

The gospel saves us in order to restore us as worshipers of God. Therefore, we take time to sing songs that reflect the truths of scripture, through which we praise, thank, and place our trust in the God who saves. Music situates our hearts and allows us to express our affections to God.

## — PRAYING ESTABLISHED IN THE GOSPEL —

We are completely dependent on God for our life and mission as a church. Through the gospel, Christ has won us access to the Father, and instructs us to make our requests known to God. Therefore, we dedicate time in our service to pray, asking God for his aid.

## READING OF THE GOSPEL

The church is founded on God's Word, and we must heed His voice. So we devote ourselves to reading scripture, all of which directs us to the gospel of Christ. As we read God's Word, we hear from God Himself, and submit with faith, joy, and obedience.

## — PREACHING THE GOSPEL —

As those who desire to be shaped by the gospel, we regularly need instruction, encouragement, and challenge from God's Word. Each week we sit under the proclamation of the gospel as someone delivers a sermon explaining a portion of scripture.

## — PARTAKING IN THE GOSPEL —

After the gospel is proclaimed in preaching, it is then "made visible" in the Lord's Supper. The preaching of God's Word reminds us of our constant need for the gospel. In the Lord's Supper, God pronounces our participation in Christ's death, and we declare our faith in all that the gospel promises.

## — SENDING FOR THE GOSPEL —

The church not only gathers as those saved by the gospel, it also scatters to spread it. We declare the gospel with our lips, and display it with our lives. As such, we close our services with a scriptural sending, reminding us that we are a "missionary people" sent with God's blessing.