



Order of Worship

December 13, 2020

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hosea 2:16, 19-20 23

Leader: And in that day, declares the LORD,
you will call me 'My Husband,'
For... I will betroth you to me forever.
I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice,
in steadfast love and in mercy.
I will betroth you to me in faithfulness.
And you shall know the LORD.
And I will have mercy on No Mercy,
and I will say to Not My People, 'You are my people';
and you shall say,

All: *'You are my God.'*

SONG OF EXPECTATION

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

SONG OF SURRENDER

Belong to You

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

All: *Most holy and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us to change what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON & PRAYER

SONG OF PRAISE

Reckless Love

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 62:1-4, 11-12

MESSAGE

Longing for Identity

SONG OF SURRENDER

Who You Say I Am

SONG OF PRAISE

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLOSING BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

Leader: The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.



Message Notes: Longing for Identity

1. The Longing of Our Culture.

2. The Problem with Our Longing.

a. _____ dominated.

b. _____.

c. _____.

3. The Ancient Longing.

4. The Fulfillment in Jesus.

5. The Already and the Not Yet.

a. Your truest identity is _____, not _____.

b. Your identity is not yet fully renewed in _____ image.

6. The So What.

a. _____ your self-made, culturally-assigned identity.

b. Let the _____ thing about you be the most important.

c. _____ in the reality of who _____ says you are.



Questions for Gospel Reflection & Application

1. What are the first 10-12 layers of your identity that come to mind?
2. Of the things you listed for #1, which of these are you actually seeking your identity in? [i.e. Which of these provides the most powerful does of self-worth?]
3. What do you have to achieve in order to feel like you have worth? Whose affirmation or acceptance do you need in order to feel like you have worth?
4. Who/what would you say is your “decisive validator” [the voice amongst all voices whose affirmation you need most]?
5. In our culture, where do you observe dysphoria [the restless anxiety caused by feeling that your “real identity” is something other than who you currently are]? Where do you observe this dysphoria/disconnect in your own life?
6. How do you avoid having a fragile, fluid identity that’s easily manipulated and offended?
7. The Gospel says your truest identity is received as a free gift of God’s grace. What are some things the Bible says about who you are in Christ?
8. Practically, what would it look like for you to let God redeem and relativize the things you listed under #1 and #2?
9. If you remembered your received identity in Christ, what difference would that make during moments of proud achievement? During seasons of disappointing failure? When nobody seems to notice you or your accomplishments?
10. What one thing will you do with this message this week?