

## What is the Gospel?

Dr. R.C. Sproul | taken from [ligonier.org/blog/what-is-the-gospel](http://ligonier.org/blog/what-is-the-gospel)

There is no greater message to be heard than that which we call the gospel. But as important as that is, it is often given to massive distortions or over simplifications. People think they're preaching the gospel to you when they tell you, 'you can have a purpose to your life', or that 'you can have meaning to your life', or that 'you can have a personal relationship with Jesus.' All of those things are true, and they're all important, but they don't get to the heart of the gospel.

The gospel is called the 'good news' because it addresses the most serious problem that you and I have as human beings, and that problem is simply this: God is holy and He is just, and I'm not. And at the end of my life, I'm going to stand before a just and holy God, and I'll be judged. And I'll be judged either on the basis of my own righteousness—or lack of it—or the righteousness of another. The good news of the gospel is that Jesus lived a life of perfect righteousness, of perfect obedience to God, not for His own well being but for His people. He has done for me what I couldn't possibly do for myself. But not only has He lived that life of perfect obedience, He offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice to satisfy the justice and the righteousness of God.

The great misconception in our day is this: that God isn't concerned to protect His own integrity. He's a kind of wishy-washy deity, who just waves a wand of forgiveness over everybody. No. For God to forgive you is a very costly matter. It cost the sacrifice of His own Son. So valuable was that sacrifice that God pronounced it valuable by raising Him from the dead—so that Christ died for us, He was raised for our justification. So the gospel is something objective. It is the message of who Jesus is and what He did. And it also has a subjective dimension. How are the benefits of Jesus subjectively appropriated to us? How do I get it? The Bible makes it clear that we are justified not by our works, not by our efforts, not by our deeds, but by faith—and by faith alone. The only way you can receive the benefit of Christ's life and death is by putting your trust in Him and in Him alone. You do that, you're declared just by God, you're adopted into His family, you're forgiven of all of your sins, and you have begun your pilgrimage for eternity.

## Announcements

- Prayer Meeting this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at the church.
- Lord's Supper & Fellowship Meal next Sunday evening.

### Vision

**Our vision** is to see the historic Antioch Presbyterian Church revitalized as a worshipping community to be a blessing to every man, woman, and child in the growing residential hub west of Woodruff and south of Reidville, to the glory of God.

### Mission

**Our mission** as a parish church at the crossroads of Greenville and Spartanburg Counties is the gathering and perfecting of God's people through biblical worship, evangelism, and pastoral care.

### Areas of Ministry Focus

*Expository Preaching*

*Biblical Worship*

*Parish Evangelism*

*Pastoral Care*

*Discipleship*

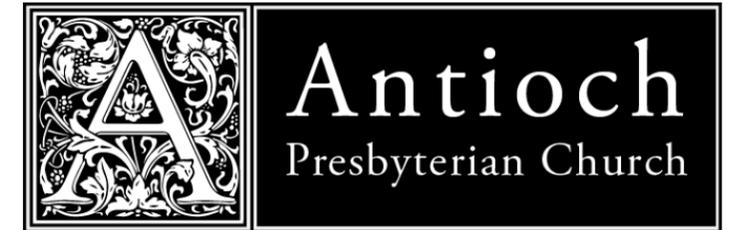
### Leadership & Accountability

As a *mission work*, Antioch Presbyterian Church (PCA) is governed and overseen by a *provisional session* of elders serving as a *commission* of Calvary Presbytery. The six men appointed to the *provisional session* are active elders within the bounds of Calvary Presbytery, and they have graciously agreed to serve "above-and-beyond" to encourage the revitalization of Antioch. They include:

Dr. Chipley Bennett, Ph.D. – Ruling Elder, Providence Presbyterian Church  
Dr. E. Todd Buchner, D.Min. – Pastor, Reidville Presbyterian Church  
Mr. W. Tosh Groce – Ruling Elder, Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church  
Mr. Richard Hollifield – Ruling Elder, Roebuck Presbyterian Church  
Mr. William Johnson – Ruling Elder, Woodruff Road Presbyterian Church  
Dr. Joseph A. Pipa, Jr., Ph.D., D.D. – Professor of Systematic & Applied Theology, President Emeritus, Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary;  
Organizing Pastor & Moderator of Session, Antioch Presbyterian Church  
Pastor Richard Thomas – Senior Pastor, Mount Calvary Presbyterian Church;  
Clerk of Session, Antioch Presbyterian Church

### Church Staff

Mr. Zachary Groff – Ministerial Assistant  
Dr. Joseph A. Pipa, Jr. – Organizing Pastor & Moderator of Session  
Mr. Johann Xie – Ministerial Intern



The Lord's Day

May 30, 2021

“Gathering and Scattering”

*Acts 2:1-12*

Joseph Harrell

Worship – Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting – Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

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# The Lord's Day

May 30, 2021

## Silent Meditation

Isaiah 44:3-5

<sup>3</sup>For I will pour out water on the thirsty land and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out My Spirit on your offspring and My blessing on your descendants; <sup>4</sup>And they will spring up among the grass like poplars by streams of water. <sup>5</sup>This one will say, 'I am the LORD'S'; and that one will call on the name of Jacob; and another will write on his hand, 'Belonging to the LORD,' and will name Israel's name with honor.

## \*Call to Worship

## \*Congregational Commitment

**Minister: Congregation, in whom is your confidence?**

Congregation: Our help is in the Name of the Lord, Who made the heavens and the earth.

## \*Salutation

## \*Hymn of Adoration

**No. 145B**

*I Will Exalt You, God, My King*

(stanzas 1-4)

DUKE STREET

## \*Prayer of Adoration & Invocation

## \*Revelation of God's Will

Exodus 20:1-17

## \*Confession of Sin & Supplication for Grace

O Lord, we marvel that You became incarnate, underwent crucifixion, experienced death, and suffered the shame of burial in another man's grave. The tomb calls forth our adoring wonder, for it is empty and You are risen. The Gospels attest it, the living witnesses prove it, and our hearts' experience knows it. Give us grace to die with You that we may rise to new life, for we wish to be dead and buried to sin, to selfishness, and to the world. We desire no longer to hear the voice of the tempter, that we might be delivered from his lusts. O Lord, there is much wickedness around us and sin within us – crucify it, mortify it. Purge us from selfishness, the fear of man, the love of praise, the shame of being thought old fashioned, the desire to be modern and acceptable to the world. Grant us to stand with our dying Savior, to be content as rejects in this present evil age, and to be willing to take up unpopular truths, to hold fast to despised teachings until death. Grant us more and more of the resurrection life. May Christ rule over us, may we walk in His power, and may we be strengthened through His influence. For the glory of our living Savior, Amen.

## \*Assurance of Pardon

Luke 24:46, 47

<sup>46</sup>So it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

## Offering

**No. 107A**

*O Thank the LORD, for He is Good*

(stanzas 8-10)

GOSHEN

## \*Prayer of Thanksgiving & Supplication

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Hymn of Preparation

**No. 391**

*Come, O Come, Thou Quickening Spirit*

LUX PRIMA

## \*Prayer for Illumination

## \*Old Testament Reading

Genesis 11:1-9

## \*New Testament Reading

Acts 2:22-41

## \*Congregational Response

**Leader: The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord,**

Congregation: As the waters cover the sea!

## Sermon

“Gathering and Scattering”

Acts 2:1-12

## Prayer of Application

## \*Hymn of Response

**No. 394**

*Eternal Spirit, God of Truth*

FOREST GREEN

## \*Benediction

## \*Doxology

**No. 117B**

*Praise the LORD God, All You Nations*

REGENT SQUARE

*Praise the LORD God, all you nations; all you peoples, sing His praise.*

*For His truth endures forever, and His steadfast love is great.*

*He is faithful! He is faithful! Hallelujah! Praise the LORD!*

## \*Silent Prayer

## “Gathering and Scattering”

Acts 2:1-12

## Main Proposition

The promised coming of the Holy Spirit is the reversal of the curse of Babel.

## Outline

I. The Pouring Out of the Holy Spirit (vv. 1-4)

II. The Mixed Response of the Crowd (vv. 5-13)

\*Congregation standing, unless physically hindered.