

# Metaphors for the Church - The Family of God

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*An invitation from God to all humanity to behold and join the story, work, and eternal worship of Jesus.*

Psalm 68:4-6

“Sing to God, sing praises to his name;  
lift up a song to him who  
rides through the deserts;  
his name is the Lord;  
exult before him!  
Father of the fatherless  
and protector of widows  
is God in his holy habitation.  
God sets the lonely in a family;  
he leads out the prisoners to prosperity.”



# CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

*A call to acknowledge and forsake sin against God and one another, and an invitation to receive the assurance of a new identity in the finished work of Christ.*

## CONFESSION

LEADER

Father, we have pulled away from you by preferring your gifts over your presence, and choosing our own way over your wisdom.

TOGETHER

We confess that we have broken relationship with the Father.

LEADER

You are building a household of unity, but we have isolated ourselves by choosing selfishness over sacrificial love, and have held onto offenses and withheld forgiveness.

TOGETHER

We confess that we have broken relationship with our brothers and sisters.

LEADER

You are building a place of refuge for all to come and find safety, but we have embraced gossip and bitterness in our hearts, and neglected to extend your heart of hospitality toward those around us.

TOGETHER

We confess that we have corrupted the house that you meant to be a refuge of grace.



## **ASSURANCE**

### LEADER

Children of God, based on the finished work of Jesus,  
receive this assurance:

All who come to the Father are restored and adopted as his own.  
By his shed blood, Jesus brings us into the family of God.  
His house is a safe place and home for all who run into it.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, every division among us will be torn  
down and we will be unified as brothers and sisters sharing a  
common faith, baptism, and Father.

The Father loves you.

The Son has come to you.

The Spirit makes his home with you.

### TOGETHER

We are the family of God.

Thanks be to God!



# **BENEDICTION**

*A blessing from the authority of scripture spoken over the people of God.*

...based on Galatians 6:9-10, 18

“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers.

Amen.”

