



Gen 1:27-28

27 So God created mankind in his own image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

Psalms 27:4

One thing I ask from the Lord,  
this only do I seek:  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life,  
to gaze on the beauty of the Lord  
and to seek him in his temple.

---

How does a community come to be the way that it is? What sets a community in motion?

1. The church community begins with this truth: God desires to be known
2. To know God is to know He is beautiful (perfection, proportion, pleasure)
3. When we seek to know the beautiful one, we begin to become a beautiful community

## **\*Call to Worship**

from *Isaiah 60*

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come;  
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

People: **Arise, shine, for your light has come;  
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.**

Leader: God's salvation has been openly shown to all people.

People: **The glory of the Lord is rising upon you.**

Leader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People: **Arise, shine, for your light has come;  
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.**

## **Call to Confession**

from *John 3:19*

Leader: The light has come into the world,  
and people loved darkness rather than light  
because their deeds were evil.  
Let us confess our sin to God.

## **Prayer of Confession**

People: **God of glory,  
You sent Jesus among us as the light of the world,  
to reveal your love for all people.  
We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light.  
We turn away from the poor;  
we ignore cries for justice;  
we do not strive for peace.  
In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
that we may show forth your glory  
shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **Silent Confession**