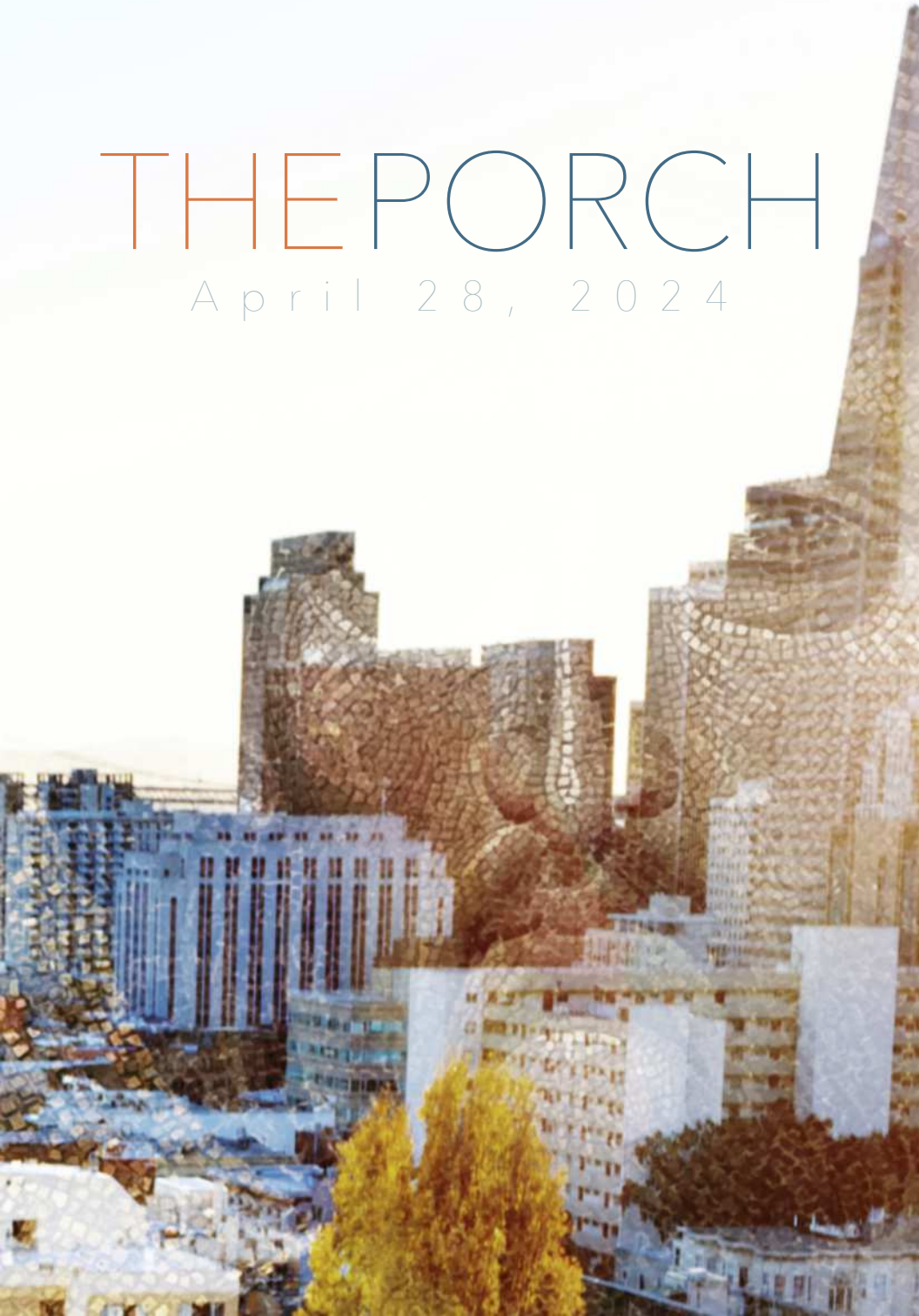


THE PORCH

April 28, 2024



About Our Liturgy

We are all creatures of habit. Habits and rhythms shape who we are. Our Sunday gatherings are designed to help us press the story of Jesus into our souls and change who we are by repeating that same story over and over again.

Every week we gather to remember and celebrate these same old gospel truths: that we are sinners but we have a great savior. That the death and resurrection of Jesus brought his kingdom here. That we have been adopted into the family of God. That he has called us to love each other and our city. That we were created for a perfect world, and that this world is not all there is.

So we invite you to participate with us as a group of imperfect people who tell the same story over and over again, the story of King Jesus.





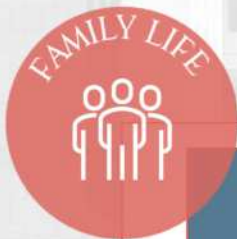
Call To Worship

Singing

* The American author David Foster Wallace wrote, "In the day-to-day trenches of adult life, there is actually no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship." This is a powerful statement from a man who was not a follower of Jesus. He was 100% correct. We all have something at the center of our lives. Something that we believe will make us happy. Something that will fulfill us. Even those who follow Jesus often find that we are serving idols, something that ultimately won't fulfill us.

The gospel story tells us what will: Jesus Christ. Only he can fulfill us. Only he can redeem us. Only he can heal our deep spiritual wounds. Only he can give hope. Serving him as king is why we were created. This is why we open our gatherings with worship. Music touches our souls in a way that nothing else can. And so we use music as the people of God have done for thousands of years to remind ourselves that we serve an amazing King and that only he should be at the center of our lives.





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* One of the beautiful facets of the gospel is how it brings all kinds of people together (Galatians 3:28). We are God's people. We are called to live our lives together and to love one another. In this part of our gathering, we celebrate this truth. We pray for each other. We chat while getting coffee and tea. We talk about what's going on in the life of the family.

FAMILY LIFE



North Beach Festival

June 15 & 16
11am - 7pm

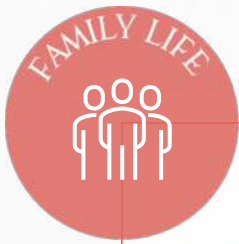
Save the Date

4 STAGES WITH MUSIC, POETRY, COMEDY & MORE
ARTS & CRAFTS, WINE & BEER GARDEN

PORCH SWAG

Hoodie \$30
Pullover \$25
T-Shirt \$20

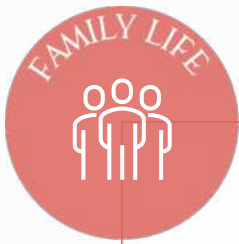
SUNDAY DINNER MAY 19



Missional Family Dinner Schedule

Wednesday Nights | 6:00-8:15 PM

- ① **May 1** | Brackett Home | Friends Night
- ② **May 8** | *No Wednesday Dinner*
- ③ **May 15** | Brackett Home | Chef Joseph
Homework: HTSTGB C3
- ④ **May 22** | Brackett Home | Chef Melissa
Homework: SD Reflection
- Ⓛ **May 29** | Downstairs SFEFC | BYOE Dinner
Homework: HTSTGB C4
- ① **June 5** | Brackett Home | Friends Night
- ② **June 12** | Brackett Home | Guest Chef
Homework: HTSTGB C5
- ③ **June 19** | Brackett Home | Chef Melissa
Homework: HTSTGB C6
- Ⓛ **June 26** | Downstairs SFEFC | BYOE Dinner
Homework: HTSTGB D1
- ① **July 3** | Brackett Home | Friends Night



Prayer

Monthly Schedule

- Week 1:** We read a prayer from church history.
- Week 2:** We take requests and pray for each other.
- Week 3:** Congregational Prayer.
- Week 4:** Praying the Psalms.
- Week 5:** We take requests and pray for each other.

Stretch

This quick time of greeting isn't a break in the worship but rather a continuation of our worship. Take five minutes to grab a cup of water and a snack and say hello to someone you haven't met yet.





New City Catechism

Question 16: What is sin?

Answer: Sin is rejecting or ignoring God in the world he created, rebelling against him by living without reference to him, not being or doing what he requires in his law—resulting in our death and the disintegration of all creation.

Question 17: What is idolatry?

Answer: Idolatry is trusting in created things rather than the Creator for our hope and happiness, significance and security.

Scripture Reading *Psalm 22:25-31 (CSB)*

I will give praise in the great assembly
because of you;

I will fulfill my vows

before those who fear you.

The humble will eat and be satisfied;

those who seek the Lord will praise him.

May your hearts live forever!

**All the ends of the earth will remember
and turn to the Lord.**

All the families of the nations

will bow down before you,

for kingship belongs to the Lord;

he rules the nations.

All who prosper on earth

will eat and bow down;

all those who go down to the dust

will kneel before him —

even the one who cannot preserve his life.

Their descendants will serve him;

the next generation will be told about the Lord.

They will come and declare his righteousness;

to a people yet to be born

they will declare what he has done.

* 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says, "All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." God's word is precious. This time is less about the words of the preacher and more about the words of God. So here at The Porch we usually go through an entire book of the Bible verse by verse. We want to soak up the truth. We want to see Jesus on every page. We want to know the gospel better than we did yesterday. When that happens, we will be more loving, more humble, more hopeful, more joyful, and more blown away by what we learn about our King.



Let's All Be Monks Week 3: Tech Liturgies

Genesis 2:15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

Genesis 1:28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

John Mark Comer, "For those of us who desire to follow Jesus, here is the reality we must turn and face: If we're not being intentionally formed by Jesus himself, then it's highly likely we are being unintentionally formed by someone or something else."

Samuel D. James, "Rather than thinking of the web and social media as merely neutral tools that merely do whatever users ask of them, it is better to think of them as kinds of spaces that are continually shaping us to think, feel, communicate, and live in certain ways. In other words, the social internet is a liturgical environment. James K. A. Smith has written powerfully about the effect that certain habits and environments can have on our desires.



As we will see later on, even our most allegedly “nonreligious” spaces are deeply spiritual. They tell us a story about the good life: what it is, and how we can get it. These spiritual habitats train our hearts and make certain ideas and behaviors more desirable, and others less so, by immersing us in a particular narrative.”

Tony Reinke, “Technology is not inherently evil, but it tends to become the platform of choice to express the fantasy of human autonomy.”

Catherine Price, *How to Break Up with Your Phone*
“If you wanted to invent a device that could rewire our minds, if you wanted to create a society of people who were perpetually distracted, isolated, and overtired, if you wanted to weaken our memories and damage our capacity for focus and deep thought, if you wanted to reduce empathy, encourage self-absorption, and redraw the lines of social etiquette, you’d likely end up with a smartphone.”

Twelve Ways Your Phone Is Changing You

1. We are addicted to distraction
Tony Reinke, “The more distracted we are digitally, the more displaced we become spiritually.”
2. We ignore flesh and blood
3. We crave immediate approval
4. We lose our literacy
5. We feed on the produced
6. We become what we like
7. We get lonely
8. We get comfortable in secret vices
9. We lose meaning
10. We fear missing out
11. We become harsh to each other
12. We lose our place in time





Singing

* In the sermon we listened to the gospel preached. Here, we respond with worship. We sing the praises of the God who has saved us and given us hope.



Confession Assurance of Pardon Communion Singing

*The gospel is not the story of what we do to earn God's love. The gospel is the story of what God has done to bring us back to life. The problem is that we are forgetful and we all constantly slip into moralism where we think that we need to live a certain way to earn God's love. This is the time in our gathering where we intentionally confess our sin and take communion to remind us of the grace of God. We remember that we are not redeemed by doing anything. We are redeemed by the death of Jesus in our place.



Benediction

II Thes 2:16-17

¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

*We are not just followers of King Jesus for a few hours on Sunday morning. We are ambassadors of his kingdom everywhere we go. With our families. At work. With our friends and neighbors. So every week, we finish our gatherings by remembering that we represent him everywhere we go and that we are called to radically love people so that they see him in our lives.



THE PORCH
FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

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