

Reconciliation means the ending of enmity and the making of peace and friendship between persons previously opposed. God and men were at enmity with each other by reason of men's sins; but God has acted in Christ to reconcile sinners to Himself through the cross. The achieving of reconciliation was a task which Christ completed at Calvary. In virtue of Christ' finished work of atonement, God now invites sinners everywhere to receive the reconciliation and thus be reconciled to Himself. Believers enjoy through Christ an actual reconciling with God which is perfect and final. Nothing can be added to it, because nothing is lacking in it. And as it is perfect, so it is everlasting. The new life that it brings, in which you know God as your Father, Jesus Christ the Reconciler as your friend, and yourself as fully and freely forgiven, is both joyous and endless. Reconciliation is the very heart of the gospel, and must for ever be the crowning theme of Christian praise.

J.I. Packer, *God's Words*

Order of Worship

November 4, 2012

Prelude

SMC Music Team

Welcome and Announcements

Celebrating His Presence

Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship

Immortal, Invisible

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

Invocation

A Gospel Moment

The Prayer of Confession and Repentance

O Lord, no day of my life has passed that has not proved me guilty in Your sight. Prayers have been uttered from a prayerless heart, praise uttered by my lips has often been from a heart void of worship, my best services are filthy rags. Blessed Jesus, let me find a cover in Your appeasing wounds—for though my sins rise to heaven, Your merits soar above them. Though my unrighteousness weighs me down to hell, Your righteousness exalts me to Your throne. All things in me call for my rejection, yet all things in You plead my acceptance.

I appeal from the throne of perfect justice to Your throne of boundless grace. Grant that I might hear Your voice assuring me: that by Your stripes I am healed, that You have been made sin for me that I might be righteous in You, that my sins, though many and grievous, are all forgiven, buried in the ocean of Your concealing blood. I am guilty—but pardoned; lost—but saved; wandering—but found; sinning—but cleansed. Give me broken-heartedness for my sins, keep me always clinging to Your cross, flood me every moment with descending grace. Open to me the springs of divine knowledge, sparkling like crystal, flowing clear and unsullied through my wilderness of life.

Assurance of Pardon

People: Thanks be to God!

Great is the Lord, His Mercy Endures

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
So great is His mercy to me.
And as far as the east is from the west,
So far are my sins from me.

Great is the Lord,
His mercy endures forever, forever.
Great is the Lord,
His mercy endures forever, forever.

The Blessing

Minister: The grace of God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Greeting One Another in the Name of the Lord

Experiencing Renewal

Blessing, Honor and Glory

Blessing, honor, glory to the Lamb.
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb.
Death could not hold Him down, for He is risen!
Seated upon the Throne, He is the Lamb of God!

(repeat)

Blessing, honor, glory to the Lamb.
Holy, righteous, worthy is the Lamb of God.

You, O Lord, Are a Great God

I come to You, O Lord, with a thankful heart.
I sing my song of love and praise for who You are. *(chorus)*

I bring to You, O Lord, a sacrifice of praise.
And of Your wondrous works, I'll sing for all my days. *(chorus)*

Chorus: For You, O Lord, are a great God, glorious and strong.
You, O Lord, are a great God, I worship You alone.

(last time: repeat chorus)

Deepening Our Commitment

Pastoral Prayer

Song of Preparation to Hear God's Word

(Children ages 4-6 may be dismissed for Children's Church during song)

The Apostles' Creed

(Sung to the tune of "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing")

I believe in God the Father, Maker of the heav'n and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, our Savior, God's own Son of matchless worth.
By the Holy Ghost conceiv-ed, virgin Mary bore God's Son,
He in whom I have believ-ed, God Almighty, Three in One.

Suffered under Pontius Pilate, crucified for me, He died,
Lies within the grave so silent, gates of hell He opened wide,
And the stone sealed tomb was empty, on the third day He arose.
Into heaven made His entry, Mighty Victor o'er His foes.

At God's right hand He is seated, till His coming, as He said;
Final judgment will be meted to the living and the dead;
I confess the Holy Spirit has been sent through Christ, the Son,
He applies salvation's merit. God the Spirit— Three in One.

I believe the church of Jesus, holy catholic remains,
We are one through all the ages, with communion of the saints.
I believe sins are forgiven, that our bodies will be raised,
Everlasting life in heaven; Amen, let His name be praised.

Preaching of the Word

Tim Posey

Series: Colossians: The Supremacy of Christ
"Christ, the Supreme Lord and the Sufficient Savior: Part 2"
Theme: Who Jesus Christ Is

Colossians 1:15-20

Introduction:

- I. The Connection between the Supremacy and the Sufficiency of Christ
 - A. Example one
 - B. Example two
 - C. The point
- II. The Connection between Christ as Creator and as Redeemer
 - A. Dualism (sacred/secular)
 - B. Uniting what religion often divides
- III. Christ Before Time, on Earth, and Over All
 - A. Christ and creation (vv. 15-19)
 1. In creation Christ is supreme
 2. In creation Christ is sufficient
 - B. Christ the image of the invisible God
 - C. Christ the firstborn of all creation
- IV. Christ and the Church (v. 18)
 - A. Firstborn from the dead
 - B. Head of the body
- V. God with Us in Christ (v. 19)
- VI. God for Us in Christ (v. 20)
 - A. Reconciliation is a work of God
 - B. Reconciliation is a work that has been accomplished
 - C. Reconciliation was achieved at the cross
 - D. Reconciliation through Christ encompasses all things

Conclusion:

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

Song of Response

Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness my beauty are, my glorious dress;
'Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed, with joy shall I lift up my head.

Bold shall I stand in Thy great day; for who aught to my charge shall lay?
Fully absolved through these I am from sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

When from the dust of death I rise to claim my mansion in the skies,
Ev'n then this shall be all my plea, Jesus hath lived, hath died, for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, whose boundless mercy hath for me—
For me a full atonement made, an everlasting ransom paid.

O let the dead now hear Thy voice; now bid Thy banished ones rejoice;
Their beauty this, their glorious dress, Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness.

Benediction