

Calvin, in book three of the Institutes, distinguishes between what he calls 'legal repentance' and 'evangelical repentance' in his critique of the medieval sacrament of penance. Legal repentance is the view that says, 'Repent and IF you repent you will be forgiven!' as though God our Father has to be conditioned into being gracious. It makes the imperatives of obedience prior to the indicatives of grace, and regards God's love and acceptance and forgiveness as conditional upon what we do—upon our meritorious acts of repentance. Calvin argued that this inverted the evangelical order of grace, and made repentance prior to forgiveness, whereas in the New Testament forgiveness is logically prior to repentance. Evangelical repentance on the other hand takes the form that, 'Christ has borne your sins on the cross, therefore repent!' That is, repentance is our response to grace, not a condition of grace. The good news of the Gospel is that 'There is forgiveness with God that He might be feared' (Psalm 130:4) and that He has spoken that word of forgiveness in Christ on the cross—but that word summons from us a response of faith and penitence.

Thomas, James and David Torrance, *A Passion for Christ*

## *Order of Worship*

### *November 25, 2012*

**Prelude**

SMC Music Team

**Welcome and Announcements**

## *Celebrating His Presence*

**Preparation for Worship**

**Call to Worship**

### *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;  
As Thou has been Thou forever wilt be. (*refrain*)

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. (*refrain*)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (*refrain*)

*Refrain:* Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see:  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided –  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

**Invocation**

**A Gospel Moment**

### **The Prayer of Confession and Repentance**

Eternal and merciful God, You have loved us with a love beyond our understanding, and You have set us on paths of righteousness for Your name's sake. Yet we have strayed from Your way; we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, through what we have done and what we have left undone. As we remember the lavish gift of Your grace symbolized in baptism, O God, we praise You and give You thanks that You forgive us yet again. Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin, and to rise daily to new life in Christ, who lives and reigns with You, and in whose strong name we pray. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

*People:* Thanks be to God!

### *I'm Forever Grateful*

You did not wait for me to draw near to You,  
But You clothed Yourself with frail humanity.  
You did not wait for me to cry out to You,  
But You let me hear Your voice calling me.

*Chorus:* And I'm forever grateful to You,  
I'm forever grateful for the cross.  
I'm forever grateful to You  
That You came to seek and save the lost.

*(repeat all/repeat chorus)*

## 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*

### *Arise, My Soul, Arise*

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears;  
The bleeding sacrifice on my behalf appears.  
Before the throne my Surety stands,  
Before the throne my Surety stands,  
My name is written on His hands.

He ever lives above for me to intercede,  
His all-redeeming love, His precious blood to plead.  
His blood atoned for every race,  
His blood atoned for every race,  
And sprinkles now the throne of grace. *(chorus)*

Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary;  
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me.  
Forgive him, O forgive they cry,  
Forgive him, O forgive they cry,  
Don't let that ransomed sinner die!

My God is reconciled, His pardoning voice I hear;  
He owns me for His child, I can no longer fear;  
With confidence I now draw nigh,  
With confidence I now draw nigh,  
And "Father, Abba, Father!" cry. *(chorus)*

*Chorus:* Arise, arise, arise, arise, my soul, arise;  
Arise, arise, arise, arise, my soul, arise,  
Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

*(last time repeat chorus)*

## *Goodness and Mercy*

*Chorus:* I know goodness and mercy will follow me, for all my life.  
I know goodness and mercy will follow me because of Jesus Christ.

*(repeat chorus)*

*Verse:* Though I don't deserve Your love, You give it anyway.  
Though I haven't earned Your love, I know it's here to stay.  
Your love never goes away.

*(chorus - verse - chorus - chorus)*

## **Pastoral Prayer**

### **Song of Preparation to Hear God's Word**

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

## *Speak, O Lord*

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your Holy Word.  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness;  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility,  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes; in the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority.

Words of pow'r that can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds: help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, that will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built, and the earth is filled with Your glory.

## *Deepening Our Commitment*

### **Preaching of the Word**

Tim Posey

Series: Colossians: The Supremacy of Christ  
"What God-Given Ministry Looks Like" Colossians 1:24-29  
*Theme: A Standard for Authentic Ministry and Service*

Introduction:

- I. The Two-Fold Ministry
  - A. A servant of the Gospel is to make the Word fully known
  - B. A servant of the church is to make the people fully mature
  
- II. The Two-Fold Proclamation
  - A. Christ in you
  - B. The hope of glory
  
- III. The Two-Fold Qualification
  - A. Fellowship in Christ's sufferings (hardships)
  - B. Fellowship in Christ's resurrection (toil)

Conclusion:

## Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

## Song of Response

### *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ, my God:  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

## Communion

## Benediction