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The life of the church mirrors the gospel pattern in the life of a disciple. This is demonstrated in our order of worship (the bulletin you are holding): Opening moments offer recognition of the greatness and goodness of God that naturally folds into confession, assurance of pardon, songs of thanksgiving, instruction, and a charge to serve God in response to His grace in Christ.

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The Reformation was a time when men went blind, staggering drunk because they had discovered, in the dusty basement of late medievalism, a whole cellar full of fifteen-hundred-year-old, two-hundred proof Grace—bottle after bottle of pure distillate of Scripture, one sip of which would convince anyone that God saves us single-handedly. The word of the Gospel—after all those centuries of trying to lift yourself into heaven by worrying about the perfection of your bootstraps—suddenly turned out to be a flat announcement that the saved were home before they started.

Tullian Tchividjian, *One Way Love: Inexhaustible Grace for an Exhausted World*

Order of Worship

March 8, 2015

Prelude

SMPC Music Team

Welcome and Announcements

Celebrating His Presence

Preparation for Worship

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We believe everyone worships something and that we will inevitably imitate and serve what we worship.

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Call to Worship

Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days.
Put no confidence in princes, nor for help on man depend;
He shall die, to dust returning, and his purposes shall end.

Happy is the man that chooses Israel's God to be his aid;
He is blessed whose hope of blessing on the Lord his God is stayed.
Heav'n and earth the Lord created, seas and all that they contain;
He delivers from oppression, righteousness He will maintain.

Food He daily gives the hungry, sets the mourning pris'ner free,
Raises those bowed down with anguish, makes the sightless eyes to see.
Well Jehovah loves the righteous, and the stranger He befriends,
Helps the fatherless and widow, judgment on the wicked sends.

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days.
*Over all God reigns forever, through all ages He is King;
Unto Him, thy God O Zion, joyful hallelujahs sing.

(repeat at asterisk)

Invocation

A Gospel Moment

The Prayer of Confession and Repentance

Lord, we have sinned, without considering how much You love us. You see our sins more clearly than we can ourselves. Lord, You know when we are indifferent to Your Word, the Bible; how often we forget to pray; the times we come unwillingly to worship; and yet we turn to You when we are in trouble. Lord, You know when we are untruthful and when we think evil of others. You see our anger and unfairness to our friends. You know how hard it is for us to forgive. Forgive us and make us clean, so that we can obey Your call to take up your cross and follow You. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



The gospel moment is a time we use to remind people of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. By His obedience we are justified, and by His death we are reconciled to God. As we apprehend this we are ready to confess our sin.



Since we understand that we are redeemed sinners, we agree with God about our sin to the end that we might be confirmed in the forgiveness and absolution we have in Christ. This pattern of confession makes way for affirmation and confirmation of God's covenant promise that He assures every believer of pardon for the sake of Christ's obedience and substitution.





*For assurance of
pardon, the man who
has faith is the man
who is no longer
looking at himself
and no longer looking
to himself. He looks
entirely to the Lord
Jesus Christ and His
finished work, and
rests on that alone".
-Martyn Lloyd-Jones*



Assurance of Pardon

People: Thanks be to God!

Tender Mercy (Psalm 28)

Hear my cry for mercy as I call to You,
As I lift my hands in Spirit and in Truth.

Chorus: -Men (Women reply):

We cry mercy (in the name of the Father most Holy),
We cry mercy (in the name of the Son who was slain).
Lord, have mercy (in the name of the Spirit indwelling),
Tender mercy, Lord.

You are mercy (in the name of the Father most Holy),
You are mercy (in the name of the Son who was slain).
Lord, have mercy (in the name of the Spirit indwelling),
Tender mercy, Lord.

In Your tender mercy brought by grace through faith,
I will lift my heart toward Your most Holy Place. (*chorus*)

We cry mercy, we cry mercy; Lord, have mercy;
Tender mercy, Lord; tender mercy, Lord.

The Blessing

Minister: The grace of God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Reception of New Member

Greeting One Another in the Name of the Lord

Experiencing Renewal

Here I Am to Worship

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore You, hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus: Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted, glorious in heaven above.
Humbly You came to the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.

(repeat chorus twice)

And I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross.
I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross.

(repeat chorus twice)

Only Jesus

Father of grace, You've sacrificed
Your only Son for us, the crucified Jesus.
Enlarge our hearts, to love Your Son,
O grant to us the grace to walk with Him always.
To make Him our great delight, bringing worship with our lives.

Chorus: Only Jesus! Only Jesus! Give us Jesus, we cry.
Only Jesus! Only Jesus! The Pearl of greatest price.

Spirit of grace, You've shed Your light,
Upon our darkened eyes, unveiling Jesus Christ.
Come change our hearts, conform our ways,
To honor Jesus' Name, His glory our refrain.
Let His love compel our own, as we worship at His throne. *(chorus)* ↗

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*Now that we have reenacted the story of the gospel as a church community. We now **experience the renewal** merited for us by Jesus Christ. We express this renewal in our singing praises to Jesus for His great mercy towards us.*

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Bridge: Jesus, our great Savior, Lord of heaven, Son of God.
Jesus, our great Savior, Lord of heaven, Son of God. (*chorus*)

(last time repeat chorus)



*Jesus, our shepherd,
prays with us and for
us. We pray the
pastoral prayer
expecting the Holy
Spirit to minister
Jesus' benefits to us
as He prays for us.*

Pastoral Prayer



Song of Preparation to Hear God's Word



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

Jesus, I Come

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my sickness into Thy health,

Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,

Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,

Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,

Out of distress into jubilant song, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,

Out of despair into raptures above,

Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the depths of ruin untold,

Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,

Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.



Deepening Our Commitment

Preaching of the Word

Tim Posey

Series: The Savior of Sinners
“Ready or Not?” Luke 12:35-48
Theme: Readiness and Loyalty

Introduction:

- I. Servants and Watchfulness (vv. 35-38)

- II. Servants and Faithfulness (vv. 39-44)

- III. Unfaithful Servants (vv. 45-47a)

- IV. Much Given/Much Required (v. 47b)

Conclusion:



*Since Jesus Christ has committed Himself to us in the laying down of His precious life, we are reminded of this in the preaching of the Word and likewise called to a daily, **deepening commitment** to follow after Him.*





Receiving of tithes and offerings is not an “add on” to the service. It is part of worship. We demonstrate our trust in God’s present provision and hope in our future with Him by supporting the spread of the Gospel.



Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

Song of Response

‘Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus

‘Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take Him at His word;
Just to rest upon His promise; just to know, “Thus saith the Lord”. *(refrain)*

O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust His cleansing blood;
Just in simple faith to plunge me ‘neath the healing, cleansing flood! *(refrain)*

Yes, ‘tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace. *(refrain)*

Refrain: Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I’ve proved Him o’er and o’er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!

The Guidelines to receiving the Lord’s Supper can be found on page 12.



*The **Benediction** is a pronouncement of God’s favor upon His assembled people.*



Celebrating the Lord’s Supper

(Please note that the outer ring is juice and the inner rings are wine)

Benediction

