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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 law says, “Thou shalt love!” It is right; it is “holy, true, good.” Yet it can’t bring about what the law demands. It might impel toward the works of the law, the motions of love, but in the end they will become irksome and will all too often lead to hate. If we go up to someone on the street, grab them by the lapels and say, “Look here, you’re supposed to love me!” the person may drudgingly admit that we are right, but it won’t work. The results will likely be just the opposite from what our ‘law’ demands. Law is indeed right, but it simply cannot realize what it points to. So it works wrath. It can curse, but it cannot bless. In commanding love law can only point helplessly to that which it cannot produce.

Gerhard Forde, *On Being a Theologian of the Cross*

Order of Worship

July 26, 2015

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

SMPC Music Team

Celebrating His Presence

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

Almighty God, who are rich in mercy to all who call upon You, hear us as we come to You humbly confessing our sins and transgressions, and imploring Your mercy and forgiveness. We have broken Your holy laws by our deeds and by our words, and by the sinful affections of our hearts. We confess before You our disobedience and ingratitude, our pride and willfulness, and all our failures and shortcomings toward You and toward our fellow man. Have mercy on us, most merciful Father, and of Your great goodness grant that we may hereafter serve and please You in newness of life through the merit of 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.

Baptism of Covenant Child

Madison Renee Robinson

Greeting One Another in the Name of the Lord

Experiencing Renewal

10,000 Reasons

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. (*chorus*)

Chorus: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. (*chorus*)

And on that day, when my strength is failing,
The end draws near, and my time has come;
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore! (*chorus*)

The Power of the Cross

Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day; Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then nailed to a cross of wood.

Oh, to see the pain written on Your face, bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev'ry bitter thought, every evil deed crowning Your bloodstained brow.

Chorus: This the pow'r of the cross; Christ became sin for us—
Took the blame, bore the wrath, we stand forgiven at the cross.

Now the daylight flees, now the ground beneath quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life; "Finished!" the vict'ry cry! (*chorus*) ↗



*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.*



Oh, to see my name written in the wounds, for through Your suffering I am free!
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live, won through Your selfless love!

This the pow'r of the cross, Son of God—slain for us.
What a love! What a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross.

This the pow'r of the cross, Son of God—slain for us.
What a love! What a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross.



*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



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



Song of Preparation to Hear God's Word

I Have a Shelter

I have a shelter in the storm when troubles pour upon me;
Though fears are rising like a flood my soul can rest securely.
O Jesus, I will hide in You, my place of peace and solace,
No trial is deeper than Your love that comforts all my sorrows.

I have a shelter in the storm when all my sins accuse me;
Though justice charges me with guilt, Your grace will not refuse me.
O Jesus, I will hide in You who bore my condemnation;
I find my refuge in Your wounds for there I find salvation.

I have a shelter in the storm when constant winds would break me,
For in my weakness I have learned Your strength will not forsake me.
*O Jesus, I will hide in You, the One who bears my burdens,
With faithful hands that cannot fail You'll bring me home to heaven.

*(*repeat at asterisk)*

Deepening Our Commitment

Preaching of the Word

Tim Posey

Series: The Savior of Sinners

“When the Gospel Becomes Really Good News” Luke 16:14-18

Theme: *God’s Laws Don’t Have Loopholes—That’s Why We Sing “Amazing Grace”*

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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.
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Introduction:

- I. The Ridicule of the Self Righteous (v. 14)

- II. The Rebuke of Jesus (v. 15)

- III. The Only Way to Get Right with God (vv. 16-18)

Conclusion:

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings



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.



The Guidelines to receiving the Lord's Supper can be found on the last page of the bulletin.



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



Song of Response

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my strength, my light, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross, as Glory died, the wrath of God was satisfied,
For every sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Celebrating the Lord's Supper

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

Benevolence Offering

Benediction

