

✠

*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.*

✠

There were times when Leo Tolstoy seemed to think of himself as God's brother, indeed His elder brother. Tolstoy once wrote, "Read a work on the literary characterization of genius today, and this awoke in me the conviction that I am a remarkable man both as regards capacity and eagerness to work. I have not yet met a single man who was morally as good as I...I do not remember an instance in my life when I was not attracted to what is good and was not ready to sacrifice anything to it." He felt in his own soul "immeasurable grandeur."

R. Kent Hughes, *Luke: That You May Know the Truth*

## *Order of Worship* *September 13, 2015*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Prelude**

SMPC Music Team

## *Celebrating His Presence*

✠

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

✠

### **Preparation for Worship**

### **Call to Worship**

## *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God:  
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love:  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

### **Invocation**

### **A Gospel Moment**

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

Holy Father, we come to You in the all-prevailing name of Jesus. We know that we have rebelled against You and often stray from Your commands. We have nothing of our own to plead, no works, no worthiness, no promises. Indeed, everything in us condemns us, yet everything in Him speaks forgiveness and acceptance. We plead His merit alone, and come to You asking forgiveness for our rebellion and shameful deeds. We know that His sacrifice on our behalf atoned for all our vile and shameful deeds, and we thank You that You love us so much that You gave Him, the Sinless One, to die in our place. When we consider the depth of our depravity and the height of Your love and condescending mercy, we are lost in amazement and wonder as we realize the difference between what we deserve and what You give us. And now, that we might show our gratitude to You, give us grace to resist our temptations; subdue in us the love of sin. Help us by Your Spirit, in humble gratitude for Your mercy and forgiveness, to daily serve You, giving joyful praise to Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith.



*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!

### *Pearly Gates*

Love divine so great and wondrous, deep and mighty, pure sublime;  
Coming from the heart of Jesus Just the same through tests of time. (*chorus*)

*Chorus:* He the pearly gates will open, so that I may enter in;  
For He purchased my redemption and forgave me all my sin.

Like a dove when hunted, frightened, as a wounded fawn was I;  
Broken hearted yet he healed me, He will heed the sinner's cry. (*chorus*)

Love divine so great and wondrous, all my sins He then forgave!  
I will sing His praise forever, For His blood, His pow'r to save. (*chorus*)

*(repeat chorus)*

## **The Blessing**

*Minister:* The grace of God be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

## **Reception of New Members**

## **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)*

## *Sing to Jesus*

Come and see, look on this mystery: The Lord of the universe nailed to a tree.  
Christ our God, spilling His holy blood, bowing in anguish His sacred head.  
Sing to Jesus, Lord of our shame,  
Lord of our sinful hearts, He is our great Redeemer.  
Sing to Jesus, honor His name, sing of His faithfulness,  
Pouring His life out unto death. ↗



*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.*



✻  
*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.*



Come you weary, and He will give you rest.  
Come, you who mourn, lay on His breast.  
Christ who died, risen in paradise, giver of mercy, giver of life.  
Sing to Jesus, His is the throne; Now and forever He is the King of heaven.  
Sing to Jesus, we are His own.  
Now and forever sing for the love our God has shown.

Sing to Jesus, Lord of our shame,  
Lord of our sinful hearts, He is our great Redeemer.  
Sing to Jesus, honor His name.  
Sing to Jesus, His is the throne; Now and forever He is the King of heaven.  
Sing to Jesus, we are His own.  
Now and forever sing for the love our God has shown.

## Pastoral Prayer

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



## Song of Preparation to Hear God's Word

### *My Hope*

My hope rests firm on Jesus Christ, He is my only plea.  
Though all the world should point and scorn,  
His ransom leaves me free, His ransom leaves me free.

My hope sustains me as I strive and strain towards the goal.  
Though still I stumble into sin,  
His death paid for it all, His death paid for it all.

My hope provides me with a spur to help me run this race.  
I know my tears will turn to joy  
The day I see His face, the day I see His face.

My hope is to be with my Lord, to know as I am known.  
To serve Him gladly all my days  
In praise before His throne, in praise before His throne.

# Deepening Our Commitment

## Preaching of the Word

Tim Posey

Series: The Savior of Sinners  
"The Mercy Seat" Luke 18:8b-14  
Theme: *Who Is Righteous*

### Introduction:

I. The Target Audience (vv. 8b-9)

II. The Ironic Parable (vv. 10-14a)

III. The Compelling Point (v. 14b)

### 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

#### *Beautiful Wonderful Cross*

There is a place where justice and mercy flow as an endless stream'  
Bringing salvation, life and redemption to sinners awaiting in need.

*Chorus:* At the beautiful wonderful cross, at the beautiful wonderful cross  
Where the King of all glory laid down His life for us,  
At the beautiful wonderful cross.

There is a place where things that are broken can come be restored again;  
The past is forgiven, washed and forgotten by love that has conquered sin.  
*(chorus)*

*Bridge:* There is a place where hope everlasting  
Was sealed by the blood of the King—  
To Him be all glory, honor and praises, Jesus the victory! *(chorus)*

At the beautiful wonderful cross where the king of all glory  
Laid down His life for us,  
At the beautiful wonderful, beautiful wonderful, beautiful wonderful cross.



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**

