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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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*Not what these hands have done
Can save this guilty soul;
Not what this toiling flesh has borne
Can make my spirit whole.
They work alone, O Christ,
To me can pardon speak;
They power alone, O Son of God,
Can this sore bondage break.*

Horatius Bonar

Order of Worship

September 20, 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

All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

All praise to God, who reigns above, the God of all creation,
The God of wonders, pow'r, and love, the God of our salvation!
With healing balm my soul He fills, the God who every sorrow stills,
To God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty pow'r hath made His gracious mercy keepeth;
By morning dawn or evening shade His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
Within the kingdom of His might, lo, all is just and all is right,
To God all praise and glory!

I cried to Him in time of need, Lord God, O hear my calling!
For death He gave me life indeed and kept my feet from falling.
For this my thanks shall endless be; O thank Him, thank our God with me,
To God all praise and glory!

The Lord forsaketh not His flock, His chosen generation;
He is their Refuge and their Rock, their Peace and their Salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand He leads His own, His chosen band,
To God all praise and glory!

Invocation

A Gospel Moment

The Prayer of Confession and Repentance

Merciful God, You pardon all who truly repent and turn to You. We humbly confess our sins and ask Your mercy. We have not loved You with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with You, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in Your loving-kindness. In Your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from Your presence, or take Your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation and sustain us with Your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. —based on Psalm 51:10-12



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!

There Is a Fountain

There is a fountain filled with blood,
Drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day:
And there may I, as vile as he,
Wash all my sins away, wash all my sins away.

E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream
Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die.

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

Psalm 121

I lift my eyes up to the mountains,
Where does my help come from?
My help comes from You, Maker of Heaven,
Creator of the earth. *(repeat)*

Chorus: O how I need You Lord, You are my only hope;
You're my only prayer.
So I will wait for You to come and rescue me,
Come and give me life.

(repeat verse/repeat chorus twice)

Psalm 62

My soul finds rest in God alone, my rock and my salvation,
A fortress strong against my foes, and I will not be shaken.
Though lips may bless and hearts may curse, and lies, like arrows, pierce me,
I'll fix my heart on righteousness, I'll look to Him who hears me.

Find rest, my soul, in God alone, amid the world's temptations.
When evil seeks to take a hold, I'll cling to my salvation;
Though riches come and riches go, don't set your heart upon them.
The fields of hope in which I sow are harvested in heaven.

Chorus: Oh, praise Him, hallelujah! My delight and my reward.
Everlasting, never failing, my Redeemer, my God.

I'll set my gaze on God alone, and trust in Him completely;
With ev'ry day pour out my soul, and He will prove His mercy.
Though life is but a fleeting breath, a sigh too brief to measure,
My King has crushed the curse of death, and I am His forever.

(repeat chorus twice)



*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.*



You Are My Hiding Place

(Psalm 31:19-20)

You are my hiding place,
You always fill my heart with songs of deliverance,
Whenever I am afraid I will trust in You, I will trust in You,
Let the weak say, "I am strong in the strength of the Lord."

(repeat)

I will trust in You, let the weak say,
"I am strong in the strength of the Lord." I will trust in You.

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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

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



Like a River Glorious

Like a river glorious is God's perfect peace,
Over all victorious in its bright increase;
Perfect, yet it floweth fuller ev'ry day,
Perfect, yet it groweth deeper all the way. *(refrain)*

Hidden in the hollow of His blessed hand,
Never foe can follow, never traitor stand;
Not a surge of worry, not a shade of care,
Not a blast of hurry, touch the spirit there. *(refrain)*

Ev'ry joy or trial falleth from above,
Traced upon our dial by the Sun of Love.
We may trust Him fully all for us to do;
They who trust Him wholly find Him wholly true. *(refrain)*

Refrain: Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest,
Finding, as He promised, perfect peace and rest.



*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

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? (*refrain*)

He left His Father's throne above (so free, so infinite His grace!),
Humbled Himself (so great His love!) and bled for all His chosen race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me. (*refrain*)

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee. (*refrain*)

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own. (*refrain*)

Refrain: Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?



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



Benediction

