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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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Do you know how disillusioning it has been for me to realize that many of these self-proclaimed biblical preachers now sound more like liberal mainliners than liberal mainliners? ...these “biblical preachers” were becoming more “user friendly” and “inclusive,” taking their homiletical cues from the “felt needs” of us “boomers” and “busters” rather than the excruciating demands of the Bible.

I know why they do this. After all, we mainline-liberal-experiential-expressionists played this game before the conservative-evangelical-reformed-orthodox got there...reducing salvation to self-esteem, sin to maladjustment, church to group therapy, and Jesus to Dear Abby—is our chief means of perverting the biblical text.

William Willimon

Order of Worship

January 17, 2016

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

Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy pow'ful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through;
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, be Thou still my Strength and Shield,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee,
I will ever give to Thee.

Invocation

A Gospel Moment

The Prayer of Confession and Repentance

Be gracious to me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness, according to the greatness of Your compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, I have sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified when You speak, and blameless when You judge. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me... Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean, wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and sustain me with a willing spirit... The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise (Ps 51:1-5, 7, 9-12, 17).



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!

Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ

Thy works, not mine, O Christ, speak gladness to this heart;
They tell me all is done; they bid my fear depart. (*refrain*)

Thy pains, not mine, O Christ, upon the shameful tree,
Have paid the law's full price and purchased peace for me. (*refrain*)

Thy righteousness, O Christ, alone can cover me:
No righteousness avails save that which is of Thee. (*refrain*)

Refrain: To whom, save Thee, who canst alone
For sin atone, Lord, shall I flee?

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

Be Unto Your Name

We are a moment, You are forever,
Lord of the ages, God before time.
We are a vapor, You are eternal,
Love everlasting, reigning on high. (*chorus*)

Chorus: Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty.
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.
Highest praises, honor and glory
Be unto Your name, be unto Your name.

We are the broken, You are the healer,
Jesus, Redeemer, mighty to save.
You are the love song we'll sing forever,
Bowling before You, blessing Your name. (*chorus*)

(last time repeat chorus)

Jesus, Lord of Heaven

Jesus, Lord of Heaven, I do not deserve
The grace that You have given, or the promise of Your Word.
Lord, I stand in wonder at the sacrifice You made;
With mercy beyond measure, my debt You freely paid.

Your love is deeper than any ocean, higher than the heavens,
Reaches beyond the stars in sky.
Jesus, Your love has no bounds. Jesus, Your love has no bounds.

(repeat verse 1)

Your love is deeper than any ocean, higher than the heavens,
Reaches beyond the stars in sky.
Your love is deeper than any ocean, Higher than the heavens,
Reaches beyond the stars in sky.
Jesus, Your love has no bounds. Jesus, Your love has no bounds.



*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.

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Closer

Search me O God and know my thoughts, nothing is hidden from You.
Lead me along Your path of life that I may walk in truth. (*chorus*)

Create in me a clean heart, renew a right spirit in me.
Make of me, Lord, a servant who walks in humility. (*chorus*)

Chorus: Bring me closer, closer, closer to You, my Lord.
Bring me closer, closer to Your ways, to Your will, to Your heart.

(*last time repeat chorus*)

To Your ways, to Your will, to Your heart.
To Your ways, to Your will, to Your heart.

Pastoral Prayer

Song of Preparation to Hear God’s Word

(*children 4-5 years are dismissed to Children’s Church at this time*)

The Love of God

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell,
It goes beyond the highest star and reaches to the lowest hell;
The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win:
His erring child He reconciled and pardoned from his sin.

When years of time shall pass away and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,
When men, who here refuse to pray, on rocks and hills and mountains call,
God’s love so sure shall still endure, all measureless and strong:
Redeeming grace to Adam’s race—the saints’ and angels’ song.

Could we with ink the ocean fill and were the skies of parchment made,
Were ev’ry stalk on earth a quill and ev’ry man a scribe by trade,
To write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry,
Nor could the scroll contain the whole tho’ stretched from sky to sky.

(*musical interlude*)

O love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure—the saints’ and angels’ song.

Deepening Our Commitment

Preaching of the Word

Tim Posey

Series: The Savior of Sinners
“The God of the Living” Luke 20:27-44
Theme: The Resurrection

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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.

Introduction:

- I. Biblically ignorant skeptics (vv. 27-33)
- II. The implications of the resurrection (vv. 34-40)
- III. The world’s greatest riddle (vv. 41-44)

Conclusion:



*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

You Alone Can Rescue

Who, O Lord, could save themselves, their own soul could heal?
Our shame was deeper than the sea; Your grace is deeper still! (*repeat*)

Chorus: You alone can rescue. You alone can save.
You alone can lift us from the grave.
You came down to find us, led us out of death.
To You alone belongs the highest praise!

You, O Lord, have made a way; the great divide You healed.
For when our hearts were far away, Your love went further still!
Yes, Your love goes further still! (*chorus*)

Bridge: We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes, You're the Giver of Life!
We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes, You're the Giver of Life!
We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes, You're the Giver of Life!
We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes, You're the Giver of Life!

(*Chorus*)



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



Benediction

