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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 Oxford professor and evolutionary scientist Richard Dawkins knows roughly as much about theology as I know about biology. Unfortunately, his relative ignorance did not prevent him from writing *The God Delusion*, a best-selling diatribe against anyone who has faith in God. To believe in any deity, Dawkins writes, is to commit “intellectual high treason.” But to believe in the God of the Bible is even worse, for He is “a petty, unjust, unforgiving control freak; a vindictive bloodthirsty ethnic cleanser; a misogynistic, homophobic, racist, infanticidal, genocidal, filicidal, pestilential, megalomaniacal, sadomasochistic, capriciously malevolent bully.”

Philip Graham Ryken, *Luke*

Order of Worship *April 10, 2016*

Prelude

SMPC Music Team

Welcome and Announcements

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

This Is My Father's World

This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world, O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong oft seems so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world: the battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heav'n be one.

Invocation

A Gospel Moment

The Prayer of Confession and Repentance

God of the sinner, be merciful to me for I am a sinner by nature and practice; this Your Word proclaims me to be, and this I feel myself to be. Yet You have not left me to despair, for there is no "perhaps" in Your grace. I have all the assurance I need that in Christ is abundant redemption. In spite of the number and heinousness of my sins You have given me the promise of life if I will but turn to You in repentance and faith. May I encourage myself by a sense of Your all-sufficiency, by faith in Your promises, by the views and experiences of others. May I flee to that dear Refuge in which so many have found shelter from every storm. May I be cleansed from every defilement in that fountain always freely open for sin.



*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!

White as Snow

White as snow, white as snow,
Though my sins were as scarlet;
Lord, I know, Lord, I know,
That I'm clean and forgiven.

Through the power of Your blood,
Through the wonder of Your love,
Through faith in You I know
That I can be white as snow.

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)

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.



Pastoral Prayer



*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.*



*(Children ages 4-5
may be dismissed for
Children's Church
during song)*



Song of Preparation to Hear God's Word

Isaiah 40

Lord, I will put my trust in You and I will not faint.

Lord, I will put my trust In You.

Lord, I will put my trust in You and You'll renew my strength.
Lord, I will put my trust in You and You'll renew my strength.

You will not grow tired, You will not grow weary,
So I put my trust in You.

You will not grow tired, You will not grow weary,
So I put my trust in You.

Lord, I bow my face to You for You are my God.

Lord, I bow my face to You for You are my God.

You have been my strength, You have been my shield,
You have been my mighty tower.

You have been my strength, You have been my shield,
You have been my mighty tower.

You have been my mighty tower.



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

There is a Redeemer

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God’s own Son
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One. *(chorus)*

Jesus, my Redeemer, Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain. *(chorus)*

When I stand in glory I will see His face,
And there I’ll serve my King forever, in that Holy place. *(chorus)*

Chorus: Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son;
And leaving Your Spirit ‘til the work on earth is done.

(last time repeat chorus)

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

