



*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.*



If the world hates you, know that it has hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you: “A servant is not greater than his master.” If they persecuted Me they will also persecute you. If they kept Mine, they will also keep yours.

The martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote from prison in 1937: “Suffering...is the badge if the true Christian.” The disciple is not above his master...Luther reckoned suffering among the marks of the true church, and one of the memoranda drawn up in preparation for the Augsburg Confession similarly defines the church as the community of those “who are persecuted and martyred for the Gospel’s sake”...Discipleship means allegiance to the suffering Christ, and it is therefore not at all surprising that Christians should be called upon to suffer.

Order of Worship

May 31, 2020

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

SMPC Music Team

Celebrating His Presence

Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship



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



By Faith

By faith we see the hand of God in the light of creation's grand design,
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,
Who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith the prophets saw a day when the longed-for Messiah would appear
With the power to break the chains of sin and death
And rise triumphant from the grave.

Chorus: We will stand as children of the promise;
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith the church was called to go in the power of the Spirit to the lost,
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In every corner of the earth.

By faith this mountain shall be moved
And the power of the Gospel shall prevail,
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name. (*chorus*)

We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

Invocation

A Gospel Moment

The Prayer of Confession and Repentance

O Lord, You who are all merciful, take away my sins from me and kindle within me the fire of Your Holy Spirit. Take away this heart of stone from me and give me a heart of flesh, a heart to adore You, a heart which will delight in You, love You, and please You, for Christ's sake.



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.



Assurance of Pardon

People: Thanks be to God!



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



God, Be Merciful to Me

God, be merciful to me, on Thy grace I rest my plea;
Plenteous in compassion Thou, blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess, grief and guilt my soul oppress;
I have sinned against Thy grace and provoked Thee to Thy face;
I confess Thy judgment just, speechless, I Thy mercy trust.

I am evil, born in sin; Thou desirest truth within.
Thou alone my Savior art, teach Thy wisdom to my heart;
Make me pure, Thy grace bestow, wash me whiter than the 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

Ancient of Days

Blessing and honor, glory and power,
Be unto the Ancient of Days.
From every nation, all of creation,
Bow before the Ancient of Days.

Every tongue in heaven and earth,
Shall declare Your glory;
Every knee shall bow at Your throne in worship;
You will be exalted O God;
And Your kingdom shall not pass away,
O Ancient of Days.

Your kingdom shall reign over all the earth;
Sing unto the Ancient of Days.
For none can compare to Your matchless worth,
Sing unto the Ancient of Days.

(repeat verses 1 & 2)

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.



*Now that
we have
reenacted
the story
of the
gospel as
a church
community
. We now
experienc
e 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.
✠

Pastoral Prayer

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)

Song of Preparation to Hear God's Word

✠
(children 4-6 years are dismissed to Children's Church at this time)
✠

Great Are You, Lord

Holy Lord, most holy Lord,
You alone are worthy of my praise;
O holy Lord, most holy Lord,
With all of my heart I sing.

Great are You, Lord, worthy of praise,
Holy and true, great are You, Lord,
Most holy Lord.

(repeat all)

Deepening Our Commitment

Preaching of the Word

Pastor Tim Posey

Series: Acts of the Apostles
“A Power Struggle” Acts 4:1-22
Theme: *Peter Defends the Gospel of Christ*

Introduction:

✠
*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.*



I. The council’s unbelief (vv. 1-7)

II. Peter’s defense (vv. 8-12)

III. The council’s decision (vv. 13-22)

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.



Song of Response

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

Jesus! What a Friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,
He, my Savior, makes me whole. (*chorus*)

Jesus! What a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him;
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,
He, my strength, my vict'ry wins. (*chorus*)

Jesus! What a guide and keeper! While the tempest still is high,
Storms about me, night o'ertakes me,
He, my pilot, hears my cry. (*chorus*)

Jesus! I do now receive Him, more than all in Him I find,
He hath granted me forgiveness,
I am His, and He is mine. (*chorus*)

Chorus: Hallelujah! What a Savior! Hallelujah! What a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.



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



Benediction

