

Order of Worship

October 27th, 2019

“Grace is free, but it ain’t cheap.”

Pierce Pettis

“No one has helped to provide salvation; God has done it all himself. The banquet of mercy is served up by one host.

Charles Spurgeon

“The Reformation was a time when men went blind, staggering drunk because they had discovered, in the dusty basement of late medievalism, a whole cellar full of fifteen-hundred-year-old, two-hundred proof grace–bottle after bottle of pure distillate of Scripture, one sip of which would convince anyone that God saves us single-handedly. The word of the Gospel–after all those centuries of trying to lift yourself into heaven by worrying about the perfection of your bootstraps–suddenly turned out to be a flat announcement that the saved were home free before they started... Grace has to be drunk straight: no water, no ice, and certainly no ginger ale.

Robert Farrar Capon, *Between Noon and Three*
(San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1982), 114-15

GATHERING IN GOD’S PRESENCE

Come Thou Fount

Call to Worship

Psalm 18:16-19

Thy Mercy My God

Psalm 130 (From the Depths of Woe)

Call to Confession

Confession of Sin

Lord Jesus,

Forgive our sins:

Forgive the sins that we remember and the sins we have forgotten.

Forgive our many failures in the face of temptation

and those times we have been stubborn in the face of correction.

Forgive the times we have been proud of our own achievements

and when we have failed to boast in Your works.

Forgive the harsh judgments we have made of others

and the leniency we have shown ourselves.

Forgive the lies we have told to others

and the truths we have avoided.
Forgive us the pain we have caused others
and the indulgence we have shown ourselves.
Lord Jesus, Wounded Healer, have mercy upon us,
and make us whole again. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned - every one - to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all . . .

Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.”

Isaiah 53: 6 and Isaiah 1: 18

How Firm a Foundation

Children ages 3-5 are dismissed to their worship class.

Welcome and Prayers of the People

John Lenham

Offering and Doxology

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Life Together

David Speakman

ATTENDING TO GOD’S WORD

“Free Grace Alone From the First to the Last”

David Speakman

¹ But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” ² And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and the elders about this question. ³ So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the brothers. ⁴ When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they declared all that God had done with them. ⁵ But some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up and said, “It is necessary to circumcise them and to order them to keep the law of Moses.”

⁶ The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter. ⁷ And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. ⁸ And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, ⁹ and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith. ¹⁰ Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? ¹¹ But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.”

¹² And all the assembly fell silent, and they listened to Barnabas and Paul as they related what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles. ¹³ After they finished speaking, James replied, “Brothers, listen to me. ¹⁴ Simeon has related how God first visited the Gentiles, to take from them a people for his name. ¹⁵ And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written,

¹⁶ “After this I will return,
and I will rebuild the tent of David that has fallen;
I will rebuild its ruins,
and I will restore it,
¹⁷ that the remnant of mankind may seek the Lord,
and all the Gentiles who are called by my name,
says the Lord, who makes these things ¹⁸ known from of old.’

¹⁹ Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, ²⁰ but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood. ²¹ For from ancient generations Moses has had in every city those who proclaim him, for he is read every Sabbath in the synagogues.”

Acts 15: 1-21

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Children return to join their families

FEASTING AT THE LORD’S TABLE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader: Therefore let us proclaim the mystery of the faith.

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Lord’s Supper Instructions

- The Lord's Supper is open to anyone who is trusting in Jesus' death and resurrection alone for his or her redemption.
- People come forward from the back rows first to receive the elements.
- White grape juice in cups and gluten free crackers are available at the left and right stations.
- At the middle station, you may receive from the common loaf and cup. We follow the practice of intinction where you dip the bread in the wine.
- If you need prayer, there is a group (including elders) available to pray for anyone in need of prayer in the kitchen. There is also a group of women in the room next to the Connections kiosk who can pray for women. The Lord's Supper is available in both prayer rooms.
- Young children who have made a profession of faith may partake in the Lord's Supper when they have met with and been approved by the Session.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

We're Redeemed

ENGAGING GOD'S WORLD

How Rich a Treasure We Possess

Benediction

“The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.”

