

## THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

*If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child, and having God as his Father. ... Our understanding of Christianity cannot be better than our grasp of adoption. (J.I. Packer)*

### *God Calls Us to Worship Him*

**Call to Worship:** ***Psalm 103.1-2, 10-13, 22b***

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
And all that is within me, bless his holy name!

**People: Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
And forget not all his benefits....**

Leader: He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
Nor repay us according to our iniquities.

**People: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
So great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

Leader: As far as the east is from the west,  
So far does he remove our transgressions from us.

**People: As a father shows compassion to his children,  
So the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.**

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul!  
**People: Let's worship the LORD!**

**Greeting:** ***Romans 1.7***

Leader: Grace to you and peace from God our Father  
And the Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: And also to you!**

### *Prayer of Invocation*

**Hymn of Praise:** ***O Come, My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord  
Trinity Hymnal #6***

### *God Cleanses Us by His Grace*

**Conviction of the Gospel:** ***Romans 8.14-17***

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

### *Confession of Sin*

**Comfort of the Gospel:**

In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace....

### *God Consecrates Us by Praise and Prayer*

**Hymn of Thanksgiving:**

How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure,  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss -  
The Father turns His face away,  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders;  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished;  
His dying breath has brought me life -  
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
His death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer;  
But this I know with all my heart -  
His wounds have paid my ransom.

**Prayer of Intercession:**

**Our Father who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come,  
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

***Ephesians 1.4-7***

***How Deep the Father's Love for Us***

***The Lord's Prayer***

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings:**

You were broken that I might be healed  
You were cast off that I might draw near  
You were thirsty that I might come drink  
Cried out in anguish that I might sing

**CHORUS**

*How deep is Your love  
How high and how wide is Your mercy  
How deep is Your grace  
Our hearts overflow with praise  
To You*

You knew darkness that I might know light  
Wept great tears that mine might be dried  
Stripped of glory that I might be clothed  
Crushed by Your Father to call me Your own

*\*Children dismissed to Little Church*

### *God Counsels Us through His Word*

**Scripture Reading:**

***Luke 15.11-32***

**Sermon:**

***The Prodigal Father***

### *God Commissions Us to Serve Him*

**Creed:**

***The Westminster Shorter Catechism***

Q. 33. What is justification?

**Justification is the act of God's free grace by which He pardons all our sins and accepts us as righteous in His sight. He does so only because He counts the righteousness of Christ as ours. Justification is received by faith alone.**

Q. 34. What is adoption?

**Adoption is the act of God's free grace by which we become His sons with all the rights and privileges of being His.**

**Hymn of Response:** ***Searcher of Hearts, from Mine Erase  
Trinity Hymnal #536***

**Benediction:**

***Numbers 6.24-26***

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