

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

The concept of substitution may be said, then, to lie at the heart of both sin and salvation. For the essence of sin is man substituting himself for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting himself for man. Man asserts himself against God and puts himself where only God deserves to be; God sacrifices himself for man and puts himself where only man deserves to be. Man claims prerogatives which belong to God alone; God accepts penalties which belong to man alone. (John Stott)

God Calls Us to Worship Him

Call to Worship: Psalm 98.1-3

Leader: Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
For he has done marvelous things!
People: His right hand and his holy arm
Have worked salvation for him.
Leader: The LORD has made known his salvation;
He has revealed his righteousness
In the sight of the nations.
People: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
To the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
The salvation of our God.

Greeting: Ruth 2.4

Leader: The LORD be with you!
People: The LORD bless you!

Acclamation: Psalm 103.1-4
(To the tune of “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”)

Bless the Lord, my soul; my whole heart
Ever bless His holy name,
Bless the Lord, my soul; forget not
All His mercies to proclaim.
Who forgives all thy transgressions,
Thy diseases all Who heals;
Who redeems thee from destruction,
Who with thee so kindly deals.

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Praise: I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art
Trinity Hymnal #168

God Cleanses Us by His Grace

Conviction of the Gospel: The Ten Commandments

I am the LORD your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt,
out of the house of slavery.
You shall have no other gods before me.
You shall not make for yourself a carved image.
You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain....
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
Honor your father and your mother....
You shall not murder.
You shall not commit adultery.
You shall not steal.
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
You shall not covet...anything that is your neighbors’.

Confession of Sin

Comfort of the Gospel: Isaiah 53.6

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.

God Consecrates Us by Praise and Prayer

Hymn of Thanksgiving: Lord, with Glowing Heart I’d Praise
Thee / Trinity Hymnal #168

Prayer of Intercession: The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*Children dismissed to Little Church

Hymn of Meditation: Not in Me

No list of sins I have not done, / No list of virtues I pursue,
No list of those I am not like / Can earn myself a place with You.
O God, be merciful to me – I am a sinner through and through!
My only hope of righteousness / Is not in me, but only You.

No humble dress, no fervent prayer, / No lifted hands, no tearful song,
No recitation of the truth / Can justify a single wrong.
My righteousness is Jesus’ life, / My debt was paid by Jesus’ death,
My weary load was borne by Him / And He alone can give me rest.

No separation from the world, / No work I do, no gift I give
Can cleanse my conscience, cleanse my hands;
I cannot cause my soul to live.
But Jesus died and rose again – The power of death is overthrown!
My God is merciful to me / And merciful in Christ alone.

My righteousness is Jesus’ life, / My debt was paid by Jesus’ death,
My weary load was borne by Him / And He alone can give me rest.

God Counsels Us through His Word

Scripture Reading: Galatians 1.1-5

Sermon: Gospel Foundations

God Commissions Us to Serve Him

Creed: The Heidelberg Catechism

Q. 12. According to God’s righteous judgment we deserve punishment both now and in eternity: how then can we escape this punishment and return to God’s favor?

God requires that his justice be satisfied. Therefore the claims of this justice must be paid in full, either by ourselves or by another.

Q.13. Can we make this payment ourselves?
Certainly not. Actually, we increase our debt every day.

Q.14. Can another creature—any at all— pay this debt for us?
No. To begin with, God will not punish any other creature for what a human is guilty of. Furthermore, no mere creature can bear the weight of God’s eternal wrath against sin and deliver others from it.

Q.15. What kind of mediator and deliverer should we look for then?
One who is a true and righteous human, yet more powerful than all creatures, that is, one who is also true God.

Song of Response: My Jesus, I Love Thee
Trinity Hymnal #168

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..