

## *Sing Praise to the Name of the Lord*

### **Call to Worship**

**Psalm 30:2-5**

**O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. O Lord, you have brought up my soul from hell; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.**

Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. **Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning!**

### **Agnus Dei**

Alleluia, alleluia, for the Lord God Almighty reigns!  
Alleluia, alleluia, for the Lord God Almighty reigns! Alleluia!

Holy, holy are you Lord God Almighty!  
Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb!  
You are holy, holy are you Lord God Almighty  
Worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb! Amen. *(Repeat)*

### **Come Christians, Join to Sing**

Come, Christians, join to sing, Alleluia! Amen!  
Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;  
Praise is his gracious choice, Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!  
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!  
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend;  
His love shall never end, Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!  
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!  
On heaven's blissful shore, his goodness we'll adore,  
Singing forevermore, "Alleluia! Amen!"

### **Prayer of Invocation**

*We ask God's presence to enable us to worship him as we ought.*

## *Recount the Wonders of His Mercy*

### **Call to Confession**

**Psalm 32:8-10**

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you. Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord.

### **Prayer of Confession**

O Lord, our God,

Help us and heal us. We are stubborn, blind people who repeatedly and willfully stray away from you. Like children who don't want their parents to hold their hands while walking through a dangerous city, we will not stay near you. In our blindness, even our ability to confess has been distorted. Some of us are frequently left emotionally unaffected by the fact that we are helpless sinners without your mercy, indifferent to the cost of our rebellions. We speak words of confession out of principle, out of duty, out of habit, but rarely out of awareness of our need and helpless state. Others of us are so undone by our habitual falls into sin that we can barely look up to you for help. Lost in the anxiety of our unbelief, we speak words of confession out of fear, out of desperation, out of hopelessness, but seldom out of confidence that you love us and have invited us into the blessedness of repentance and forgiveness.

Yet, Christ has acknowledged our helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for our souls. This blood, that speaks righteousness for us, has given us confidence to confess our failures to you today. Where we have failed to approach you with honest, sincere, and confident words, Christ stands in our place, laying before you his heart in truth and passion, with no sin or mixed motives. And as he hung on the cross, shredded for our iniquities, the sorrows that were rightfully ours were given to him in fullest measure. Your steadfast love surrounds us because your steadfast love was taken away from him. What a precious, atoning, ransoming love.

Loving Father, create in us clean hearts that are truly broken for our remaining struggles with sin yet utterly confident that your love is more than enough to reach the foulest sinner who trusts in you. Give us this trust in great abundance, Lord, as we continue to wrestle through this earthly journey. Help us to sing now with confidence that Jesus truly is our only boast, and when he returns to take his ransomed children home, let us sing anew, "Hallelujah, what a Savior!"

### **Create in Me a Clean Heart (Psalm 51)**

Create in me a clean heart oh God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Create in me a clean heart oh God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence oh Lord,  
take not thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation,  
and renew a right spirit within me. (*Repeat twice*)

### **Assurance of Pardon**

**Psalm 30:11-12**

**You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever!**

### **Beneath the Cross of Jesus**

Beneath the cross of Jesus I find a place to stand,  
And wonder at such mercy that calls me as I am;  
For hands that should discard me hold wounds which tell me, "Come."  
Beneath the cross of Jesus my unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus his family is my own;  
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams, now one through grace alone.  
How could I now dishonor the ones that you have loved?  
Beneath the cross of Jesus see the children called by God.

Beneath the cross of Jesus, the path before the crown,  
We follow in his footsteps where promised hope is found.  
How great the joy before us to be his perfect bride;  
Beneath the cross of Jesus we will gladly live our lives.

### **Pastoral Prayer**

*Children may be excused to Nursery.*

### ***Give Attention to His Powerful Word***

#### **Scripture Reading**

**Psalm 32**

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.  
<sup>2</sup>Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.  
<sup>3</sup>For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.  
<sup>4</sup>For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.  
<sup>5</sup>I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not cover my iniquity;  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"  
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.  
<sup>6</sup>Therefore let everyone who is godly  
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;  
surely in the rush of great waters,  
they shall not reach him.  
<sup>7</sup>You are a hiding place for me;  
you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.  
<sup>8</sup>I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;  
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.  
<sup>9</sup>Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,  
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,  
or it will not stay near you.  
<sup>10</sup>Many are the sorrows of the wicked,  
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord.  
<sup>11</sup>Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous,  
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

#### **Sermon**

**"The Happy Transgressor"  
Rev. Dr. Iain Duguid**

*We will receive our gifts and offerings for the Lord's work during this song.*

### **Man of Sorrows**

Man of Sorrows! What a name for the Son of God, who came  
Ruined sinners to reclaim. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude, in my place condemned he stood;  
Sealed my pardon with His blood. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless we; spotless Lamb of God was he;  
“Full atonement!” can it be? Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Lifted up was he to die; “It is finished!” was his cry;  
Now in Heav’n exalted high. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

When he comes, our glorious King, all his ransomed home to bring,  
Then anew this song we’ll sing: Hallelujah! What a Savior!

### ***Come to the Father’s Banquet as His Child***

#### **The Lord’s Supper**

*All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, who are communicant members of a Bible-believing church, and who seek strength and grace to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. The cups with lighter liquid contain grape juice, the darker liquid is wine. The darker bread in the paper cup in the center of the plate is gluten-free. While communion is being served, please feel free to join in song or meditate quietly on Christ’s sacrifice.*

#### **The Power of the Cross**

Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day: Christ on the road to Calvary.  
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then nailed to a cross of wood.

*This, the pow’r of the cross: Christ became sin for us;*

*Took the blame, bore the wrath—we stand forgiven at the cross.*

Oh, to see the pain written on your face, bearing the awesome weight of sin.  
Ev’ry bitter thought, ev’ry evil deed crowning your bloodstained brow.

Now the daylight flees; now the ground beneath  
Quakes as its Maker bows his head.

Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life; “Finished!” the vict’ry cry.

Oh, to see my name written in the wounds,

For through your suffering I am free.

Death is crushed to death; life is mine to live, won through your selfless love.

*This, the pow’r of the cross: Son of God—slain for us.*

*What a love! What a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross.*

#### **There is a Fountain**

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel’s veins;  
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.

Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;

And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day;

And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away.

Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away;

And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, thy precious blood shall never lose its power

Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more.

Be saved, to sin no more, be saved, to sin no more;

Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more.

E’er since, by faith, I saw the stream thy flowing wounds supply,

Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;

Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

When this poor lispings, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave.

Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I’ll sing thy power to save,

I’ll sing thy power to save, I’ll sing thy power to save;

Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I’ll sing thy power to save!

Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away!

Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die!

## Nothing But the Blood

Your blood speaks a better word, than all the empty claims  
I've heard upon this earth, speaks righteousness for me,  
And stands in my defense, Jesus it's your blood.

Your cross testifies in grace, tells of the Father's heart  
To make a way for us, now boldly we approach  
Not by earthly confidence, it's only your blood.

What can wash away our sins? What can make us whole again?  
Nothing but the blood, nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
What can wash us pure as snow? Welcomed as the friends of God,  
Nothing but your blood, nothing but your blood King Jesus.

*Oh! precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus!*

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. *Refrain*

For my pardon, this I see, nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
For my cleansing this my plea, nothing but the blood of Jesus. *Refrain*

Nothing can for sin atone, nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
Naught of good that I have done, nothing but the blood of Jesus. *Refrain*

This is all my hope and peace, nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
This is all my righteousness, nothing but the blood of Jesus. *Refrain*

Glory! Glory! This I sing—nothing but the blood of Jesus,  
All my praise for this I bring—nothing but the blood of Jesus. *Refrain*

## Benediction

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## Morning Worship

**Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

God's love and forgiveness can pardon and restore any and every kind of sin or wrongdoing. It doesn't matter who you are or what you've done. It doesn't matter if you've deliberately oppressed or even murdered people, or how much you've abused yourself. The younger brother knew that in his father's house there was "abundant food to spare," but he also discovered that there was grace to spare.

There is no evil that the father's love cannot pardon and cover, there is no sin that is a match for his grace. Act 1, then (of the story of the two lost sons), demonstrates the lavish prodigality of God's grace. Jesus shows the father pouncing on his son in love not only before he has a chance to clean up his life and evidence a change of heart, but even before he can recite his repentance speech. Nothing, not even abject contrition, merits the favor of God. The father's love and acceptance are absolutely free. What do we need to escape the shackles of our lostness? How can the inner dynamic of the heart be changed from one of fear and anger to one of joy, love, and gratitude?...we need God's initiating love.

Notice how the father comes out to his son and expresses love to him in order to bring him in. He does not wait for his younger son on the porch of his home, impatiently tapping his foot, murmuring, "Here comes that son of mine. After all he's done, there had better be some real groveling." There's not a hint of such an attitude. No, he runs and kisses him before his son can confess. It's not the repentance that causes the father's love, but rather the reverse, the father's lavish affection makes the son's expression of remorse far easier.

-Tim Keller, *The Prodigal God*