Learning the
Unforced Rhythms
of Grace
GOSPEL READING

Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus, was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.”

So they called to the blind man, “Cheer up! On your feet! He’s calling you.” Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus. “What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him.

The blind man said, “Rabbi, I want to see.” “Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

(Mark 10:46-52)

I want Jesus to walk with me
I want Jesus to walk with me
All along my journey
I want Jesus to walk with me

In my trials, Lord, walk with me
In my trials, Lord, walk with me
When strength is failing
I want Jesus to walk with me
In my sorrows, Lord walk with me
In my sorrows, Lord walk with me
When my heart is aching
I want Jesus to walk with me

In my troubles, Lord walk with me
In my troubles, Lord walk with me
When my life seems a burden
I want Jesus to walk with me

PSALM READING
When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dreamed.
Our mouths were filled with laughter,
our tongues with songs of joy.
Then it was said among the nations,
“The Lord has done great things for them.”
The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are filled with joy.
Restore our fortunes, Lord,
like streams in the desert.
Those who sow with tears
will reap with songs of joy.
Those who go out weeping,
carrying seed to sow,
will return with songs of joy,
carrying sheaves with them.

(Psalm 126)

The Kingdom of God is justice and peace
And joy in the Holy Spirit
Come, Lord, and open in us
The gates of Your Kingdom
(repeat)

THE CONFESSION
Our God, we confess with that we have come
short of your glory. We have not done what
we ought to have done. We have remained
deaf to the cries of those who hurt. We have
remained dumb in the face of evil. We have
allowed the shadow of death to hover over
the innocently condemned. We have failed
to proclaim with power and conviction your
liberation for the oppressed. We repent.

(A prayer from Panama)
The Kingdom of God is justice and peace  
And joy in the Holy Spirit  
Come, Lord, and open in us  
The gates of Your Kingdom  
(repeat)

ASSURANCE  
Hear now the words of Jesus, for all who come to him humbly...  
Your sins are forgiven. Go in peace; come and follow me.

Silence  
Lead us now, O God, to acknowledge your costly generosity by living as a forgiven people, until heaven and earth rejoice and the whole earth cries Glory! Through Christ our Lord. Amen.  
(Iona Community Worship Book)

May Your Kingdom come  
May Your will be done  
May Your Kingdom come  
In us  
May Your love be shown  
May Your nearness known  
May Your Kingdom come  
Through us

Prayer for Our World  

May Your Kingdom come  
May Your will be done  
May Your Kingdom come  
In us  
May Your love be shown  
May Your nearness known  
May Your Kingdom come  
Through us  

Hallelujah  
Hallelujah  
Amen
Hallelujah
Hallelujah
Hallelujah

Praise God on high
Praise God on high
Praise God on high

Your will be done
Earth as Heaven
Amen, Amen
Amen, Amen

Passing of the Peace
“The peace of Christ be with you.”
“And also with you.”
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts!
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being; sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Praise God on high
Praise God on high
Praise God on high

Hallelujah
Hallelujah
Hallelujah

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them and said. “Drink this all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”
Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

Now gathered at our table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.

Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us with all your Saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever

AMEN.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Holy Communion

(When you are ready, please come forward, share your name, and hold your hands open to receive communion.)
Hallelujah
Hallelujah
Hallelujah

Praise God on high
Praise God on high
Praise God on high

Your will be done
Earth as Heaven
Amen, Amen
Amen, Amen
Amen, Amen

OUR GREAT SAVIOR

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

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

Hallelujah, What a Savior...

Jesus! What a Strength in weakness,
Let me hide myself in Him;
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,
He, my Strength, my victory wins.

Hallelujah, What a Savior...

Jesus! what a Help in sorrow,
While the billows over me roll,
Even when my heart is breaking,
He, my Comfort, helps my soul.

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.

Hallelujah, What a Savior...
Kingdom Practices

Benediction

The prayer team is available (near the chapel stage) for any who want prayer after the gathering.

The Practice is an experimental community learning to align the rhythms of our lives with God’s eternal rhythms. We long to become the kinds of people who can put Jesus’ words into practice, for the sake of the world.

We seek to be:

KINGDOM-FOCUSED. 
Jesus has invited every one of us to join Him in healing and redeeming this world. Through the scriptures, story, and worship, we want to align ourselves with this good work.

EQUIPERS. 
According to Eph 4, the church exists to equip the people for ministry. Sunday night is not the main event, but a training ground to become the kinds of people who can live our actual lives the way Jesus would if He were in our place.

PRACTICE-BASED. 
More of a spiritual gymnasium than classroom. The focus is on the practices and disciplines that form us into Christlikeness.

ECUMENICAL. 
Relentlessly committed to humbly learning from other Christian traditions and practices.

Eucharistic. 
Every gathering will culminate with communion to weekly anchor us in Christ’s death, resurrection, and promise of return.

Community. 
The Christian life is not meant to be lived alone. We need each other.

A part of the Willow Creek community.

practicetribe.com
the Practice

Learning the Unforced Rhythms of Grace

ORDER of PRACTICE
November 1st, 2015

Willow Creek Chapel
GOSPEL READING

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

(Matthew 5:1-11)

The Kingdom of God is justice and peace And joy in the Holy Spirit Come, Lord, and open in us The gates of Your Kingdom (repeat)
Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
when there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
and where there is sadness, joy.

The Kingdom of God is justice and peace  
And joy in the Holy Spirit  
Come, Lord, and open in us  
The gates of Your Kingdom

Grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood, as to understand,  
to be loved as to love;  
for it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born  
to eternal life. Amen.  

(Prayer of St. Francis)

The Kingdom of God is justice and peace  
And joy in the Holy Spirit  
Come, Lord, and open in us  
The gates of Your Kingdom  
(repeat)

PSALM READING (Psalm 34)
I will extol the Lord at all times;  
his praise will always be on my lips.  
I will glory in the Lord;  
let the afflicted hear and rejoice.  
Glorify the Lord with me;  
let us exalt his name together.  
I sought the Lord, and he answered me;  
he delivered me from all my fears.  
Those who look to him are radiant;  
their faces are never covered with shame.  
This poor man called, and the Lord heard him;  
he saved him out of all his troubles.  
The angel of the Lord encamps around those  
who fear him, and he delivers them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good;  
blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.  
Fear the Lord, you his holy people,  
for those who fear him lack nothing.  
The lions may grow weak and hungry,  
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Come, my children, listen to me;  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.  
Whoever of you loves life  
and desires to see many good days,  
keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from telling lies.  
Turn from evil and do good;  
seek peace and pursue it.

The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,  
and his ears are attentive to their cry;  
but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil,  
to blot out their name from the earth.  
The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them;  
he delivers them from all their troubles.  
The Lord is close to the brokenhearted  
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.  
The righteous person may have many troubles,  
but the Lord delivers him from them all;  
he protects all his bones,  
not one of them will be broken.  
Evil will slay the wicked;  
the foes of the righteous will be condemned.  
The Lord will rescue his servants;  
no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

(Psalm 34)

I sought for the King, And He heard me  
And delivered me, From my lonely fears  
They looked unto Him  
And they were lightened  
And all their faces  
Were made unashamed

Gloria, Gloria  
Gloria, Gloria
This poor man had cried
And the King heard him
And He rescued him
From his worst troubles

God sent His angels
All around their camp
They that fear Him
Have nothing to fear

Gloria, Gloria
Gloria, Gloria

Oh taste and see
That the Lord is good
All you people, all you saints
All you children of the King

Oh taste, and see
That, the Lord is good
All you people, all you saints
All you children of the King

Praying Psalm 34

I sought the Lord, and he answered me;
   he delivered me from all my fears.
Those who look to him are radiant;
   their faces are never covered with shame.
This poor man called, and the Lord heard him;
   he saved him out of all his troubles.
The angel of the Lord encamps around those
   who fear him, and he delivers them.
   (Psalm 34:4-7)

Space to Pray for God’s Help
(In what ways do you need God to deliver you today? Take a moment to pray and hold this deep need before God.)

Gloria, Gloria
Gloria, Gloria
Come, my children, listen to me;  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.  
Whoever of you loves life  
and desires to see many good days,  
keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from telling lies.  
Turn from evil and do good;  
seek peace and pursue it.

(Psalm 34:11-14)

Space to Prepare for Confession  
(O God, in what ways have I failed to “turn from evil  
and do good, seek peace and pursue it” this week?)

CONFESSION

Most merciful God, we confess that we  
have sinned against you in thought, word,  
and deed, by what we have done, and by  
what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole  
heart; we have not loved our neighbors  
as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we  
humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us; that we  
may delight in your will, and walk in your  
ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

ASSURANCE

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted  
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.  
The righteous person may have many troubles,  
but the Lord delivers him from them all;  
he protects all his bones,  
not one of them will be broken.  
Evil will slay the wicked;  
the foes of the righteous will be condemned.  
The Lord will rescue his servants;  
no one who takes refuge in him will be  
condemned.

(Psalm 34:18-22)

Space to Say “Thank You” to God
Oh taste and see
That the Lord is good
All you people, all you saints
All you children of the King

Oh taste, and see
That, the Lord is good
All you people, all you saints
All you children of the King

Gloria, Gloria
Gloria, Gloria
Gloria, Gloria
Gloria, Gloria

Bless the Lord Oh my soul, Oh my soul
Worship God’s holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
I worship your holy name

The sun comes up
It’s a new day dawning
It’s time to sing your song again
What ever may pass and
whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord Oh my soul, Oh my soul...

You’re rich in love and you’re slow to anger
Your name is great and your heart is kind
For all your goodness I will keep on singing
10,000 reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord Oh my soul, Oh my soul...

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Soon my soul sing your praise un-ending
10,000 years and then forever more

Bless the Lord Oh my soul, Oh my soul
Worship God’s holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
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Bless the Lord Oh my soul, Oh my soul...
Worship God’s holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
I worship your holy name
Passing of the Peace
“The peace of Christ be with you.”
“And also with you.”

Fr Michael Sparough, SJ
*An Embodied Examen*
The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being; sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

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