

## "FREEDOM! From the Curse"

## OUR FATHER HEARS OUR CONFESSION AND FORGIVES OUR SIN

Leader: Father, we confess that we have been duped. We confess that, in the depths of our hearts, we cling to sin and relish that bondage. Though Christ was publicly crucified on our behalf, we are still fooled into believing that we somehow satisfy the curse of the law by our good works. We confess that we cannot be good enough, and have not remained faithful to the law. Please forgive us. Help us to believe.

*(silent confession)*

**All: In this time of repentance we call out for your mercy. Open our eyes to the truth. Continue to show us the wonder of Christ, who was tempted in every way, yet crucified without sin. Help us to believe only in the gospel of Christ crucified; help us to believe that he alone can bear the curse on our behalf. Help us to know that the only true redemption is faith in Christ's redeeming work.**

***"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"***

## OUR LORD COMMUNES WITH US

Leader: Almighty God, it was in love that your Son, Jesus Christ, bore the curse on the cross for our souls. He bore our shame and defeated death, offering forgiveness through faith as the Savior of the world.

**All: In our observance of Lent, help us to understand the meaning of your Son's death and resurrection, and teach us to reflect your grace in our lives. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

***"Free Grace"***

***"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"***

***"Father Long Before Creation"***

## BENEDICTION

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: Amen. Thanks be to God!**

*Next week's scripture: Galatians 3:15-25*

*For announcements go to our website at [www.northshore1.org](http://www.northshore1.org)*

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**February 21, 2010**

**North Shore Fellowship**

*Welcome to North Shore Fellowship on this first Sunday of Lent! Lent is a season in which we prepare for Easter. In the season of Lent, we celebrate our freedom and are invited to put aside our actions, attitudes, sin, and lifestyles that keep us from believing the gospel. Through Jesus Christ, we have been invited to look at our sin yet freely enjoy God's love together.*

## PREPARING OUR HEARTS

***"Come and Welcome"***

From the cross uplifted high, where the Savior deigns to die,  
what melodious sounds I hear, bursting on my ravished ear.  
Love's redeeming work is done.  
Come and welcome, sinner, come.

Sprinkled now with blood the throne, why beneath thy burdens groan.  
On my pierced body laid, justice owns the ransom paid.  
Bow the knee and kiss the Son.  
Come and welcome, sinner, come.

Spread for thee the festal board, see with richest dainties stored.  
To thy Father's bosom pressed, yet again a child confessed,  
never from his house to roam.  
Come and welcome, sinner, come.

Soon the days of life shall end. Lo, I come, your Savior, Friend.  
Safe your spirit to convey to the realms of endless day,  
up to my eternal home.  
Come and welcome, sinner, come. Come and welcome, sinner, come.

## REMINDER OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

## INVOCATION

## CALL TO WORSHIP

—from Psalm 86:8-10, NRSV

Leader: There is none like you, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.

**All: All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. For you are great and do wondrous things, you alone are God.**

***"This is My Father's World"***

This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears,  
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,  
the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world: he shines in all that's fair;  
in the rustling grass I hear him pass, he speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world, O let me ne'er forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world: the battle is not done;  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heav'n be one.

***"O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!"***

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;  
rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.  
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love;  
leading onward, leading homeward to thy glorious rest above!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Spread his praise from shore to shore;  
how he loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore;  
how he watches o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own;  
how for them he intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Love of every love the best:  
'tis an ocean full of blessing, 'tis a haven giving rest.  
O the deep, deep love of Jesus! 'Tis a heaven of heavens to me;  
and it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to thee!

**CONFESSING OUR FAITH**

Leader: What is justification?

**All: Justification is an act of God's free grace unto sinners, in which he pardons all their sins, accepts and accounts their persons righteous in his sight; not for any thing wrought in them, or done by them, but only for the perfect obedience and full satisfaction of Christ, by God imputed to them, and received by faith alone.**

Leader: What is sanctification?

**All: Sanctification is a work of God's grace, whereby they whom God has, before the foundation of the world, chosen to be holy, are in time, through the powerful operation of his Spirit applying the death and resurrection of Christ unto them, renewed in their whole man after the image of God; having the seeds of repentance unto life, and all other saving graces, put into their hearts, and those graces so stirred up, increased, and strengthened, as that they more and more die unto sin, and rise unto newness of life.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**WE OFFER OUR GIFTS**

***"Beloved"***

Beloved, these are dangerous times 'cause you are  
weightless like a leaf from the vine.  
And the wind has blown you all over town  
because there is nothing holding you to the ground.

So now you would rather be a slave again than free from the law.

*Chorus: Beloved, listen to me. Don't believe all that you see,  
and don't you ever let anyone tell you that there's anything that you need  
but me.*

Beloved, these are perilous days. When your culture is so set in it's ways  
that you will listen to salesmen and thieves  
preaching other than the truth you've received.

Because they are telling lies for they cannot circumcise your hearts.

Beloved, there is nothing more. No more blessings and no more rewards  
than the treasure of my body and blood given freely to all daughters and sons.

**SCRIPTURE**

Galatians 3:1-14

<sup>1</sup>O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. <sup>2</sup>Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? <sup>3</sup>Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? <sup>4</sup>Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? <sup>5</sup>Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith—

<sup>6</sup>just as Abraham "believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"? <sup>7</sup>Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. <sup>8</sup>And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." <sup>9</sup>So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

<sup>10</sup>For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." <sup>11</sup>Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." <sup>12</sup>But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them." <sup>13</sup>Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"— <sup>14</sup>so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.