**Welcome and Explanation**

**Call to Worship**

**Song of Worship:** Come, Now is the Time to Worship

**Chorus**

Come now is the time to worship

Come now is the time to give your heart

Come just as you are to worship

Come just as you are before your God

Come

**Verse 1**

One day every tongue

Will confess You are God

One day every knee will bow

Still the greatest treasure remains

For those who gladly choose You now

**Verse 2**

Willingly we choose

to surrender our lives

Willingly our knees will bow

With all our heart soul mind and strength

We gladly choose You now

**Announcements & Greeting Time**

**Historical Background**

**Scripture Reading:** **Leader:** In the Old Testament (First Covenant), God reminded his people about obedience in this way:

**People:** Listen, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. *Deut. 6:4-7 (NLT)*

**Offering Instructions**

**Song of Worship (during offering):** More Love, More Power

**Verse 1**

More love more power

More of You in my life

More love more power

More of You in my life

**Chorus 1**

And I will worship You

With all of my heart

And I will worship You

With all of my mind

And I will worship You

With all of my strength

For You are my Lord

**Chorus 2**

And I will seek Your face

With all of my heart

And I will seek Your face

With all of my mind

And I will seek Your face

With all of my strength

For You are my Lord

**Offering Prayer**

**Responsive Reading:** *Confession*

**Leader**: We now come to Jesus because the Bible tells us he is our High Priest. We realize that we cannot obey God, we cannot be good without him. Do you understand just how much we need God’s grace, given in Jesus?

**People**: We understand how much we need God to save us. The Holy Spirit has enlightened our minds, because we see how helpless we are: "Lord, is there no hope of escaping out of this wretched state? We are dead if we stay this way. What may we do to be saved?"

**Leader**: Realizing just how sinful we are and our need for God to deliver us, we also know that we often try other ways to fix ourselves. We think that by praying more, being more disciplined, listening to sermons, or giving more we can somehow save ourselves. But these things, though they have their place, are not what saves us. (over 🡪)

**People:** Being more determined is not the answer. Doing “Christian” activities will not have any meaning unless our hearts are changed. We need to get to the place where we see that Jesus is the only answer to our selfishness and sinfulness.

**Leader:** It’s time to put away our illusions of being “good people” and to trust Jesus to make us “God’s people.”

**Responsive Reading:** *Supplication*

**People**: Lord, have mercy on us. What can we do? We can’t stay this way and we can’t do this on our own. Our praying alone will not help us. Our hearing alone will not help us. If we give everything we have to the poor, or give up our bodies to be burned, all this would not save us. What can we do?

**Pastor**: We must let our sins go. We must let our false righteousness go. Christ came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. He came to seek and to save the lost ones. Friends, will you now trust Jesus, who is the way, the truth, and the life, and who has provided everything needed for our forgiveness?

**All**: Jesus, do your work in us, restore our relationship with God, and save us! You have promised not to refuse us, for we have nowhere else to go. We come, Lord. We believe, Lord. We throw ourselves upon your grace and mercy. We trust that your sacrifice was enough to save us. We rest in your promises. You are our only hope for forgiveness, for life, and for salvation.

**Scripture Reading:** *please stand as we read*

**Pastor:** This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth. But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

**People:** If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.

**Pastor:** My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous. He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world.

**People:** And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. If someone claims, “I know God,” but doesn’t obey God’s commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. But those who obey God’s word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did. *1 John 1:5 - 2:6 (NLT)*

**Song of Worship (during offering):** Draw Me Close

**Verse 1**

Draw me close to You never let me go

I lay it all down again

To hear You say that I'm Your friend

You are my desire no one else will do

'Cause nothing else could take Your place

To feel the warmth of Your embrace

Help me find the way bring me back to You**Chorus**

You're all I want

You're all I've ever needed

You're all I want

Help me know You are near

**Commitment**

**Pastor**: Today we want to give ourselves fully to Jesus.

**All**: We are yours, Lord. We worship and honour you. We dedicate ourselves to your service.

**Pastor**: As we give ourselves to Jesus, we agree together to obey his commands and to follow his teaching. We want to represent him in the world as individuals and as a local church family. There are many ways that we can serve our God. Some of them we find easy to do, others are difficult. Some things Jesus calls us to suit our interests and our natural abilities, other things we are called to we struggle against. Things Jesus asks of us, such as denying ourselves, are much more difficult. We need to let the Holy Spirit examine us and “see if there are any wicked ways in us” (Ps 139:24). Let us agree to listen to the Spirit without arguing or holding back.

**All**: Do what you want with us Jesus. Whether you give us tasks full of honour or whether you assign us the daily grind of obedience, we will still follow you. If we don’t get to be the head or the eye or the ear in your body, the Church, we are content to be the hands or the feet – serving with gladness wherever we can.

**Pastor**: Lord Jesus, place us in your kingdom in the roles you have designed for us.

**People**: Lord Jesus, make all of us your servants.

**Pastor**: In places of honour or in places of humility.

**People**: Let us be full; let us be empty.

**Pastor**: Let us have all things; let us have nothing.

**People**: We freely and gladly embrace our places in your kingdom.

**Pastor**: Dear friends, the commitment to Christ we have just expressed is the essence of discipleship. When we have nothing else to hope in but the promises of Jesus, when we realize that his goodness is given to us, and when we give our whole lives to him then we are truly Christians, truly God’s people. His people are a willing people. God’s desire is to be our everything!

**Hymn:** I Surrender All (with In My Life Lord, Be Glorified)

**Chorus**

I surrender all

I surrender all

All to Thee my blessed Savior

I surrender all

**Verse 1**

All to Jesus I surrender

All to Him I freely give

I will ever love and trust Him

In His presence daily live

**Verse 2**

All to Jesus I surrender

Humbly at His feet I bow

Worldly pleasures all forsaken

Take me Jesus take me now

**Verse 3**

All to Jesus I surrender

Make me Savior wholly Thine

Let me feel the Holy Spirit

Truly know that Thou art mine

**Verse 4**

All to Jesus I surrender

Lord I give myself to Thee

Fill me with Thy love and power

Let Thy blessing fall on me**In My Life Verse 1**

In my life Lord

Be glorified be glorified

In my life Lord

Be glorified today

**In My Life Verse 3**

In Your church Lord

Be glorified be glorified

In Your church Lord

Be glorified today

**The Covenant** **Pastor:** Let us together commit…[Pastor will exhort the congregation to dependence]…Let us pray together.

**Covenant Prayer** *please stand*

**People**: In the quiet of this moment, we accept your gift of covenant relationship with you, God of Heaven and Earth.

The benefits of this covenant relationship come as we trust and obey. We offer ourselves as disciples of your Son, Jesus - the one who came and lived out your perfect law of love. We ask for the empowerment of your Holy Spirit to be true to your ways. We cannot obey unless Jesus lives in us. We come to you through the work of your Son, Jesus, who opened the way to your holy presence through his life, death and resurrection. Amen.

**Song of Worship:** Wonderful Cross

**Verse 1**

When I survey the wondrous cross

On which the prince of glory died

My richest gain I count but loss

And poor contempt on all my pride

**Chorus**

Oh the wonderful cross, oh the wonderful cross

Bids me come and die and find that I may truly live

Oh the wonderful cross, oh the wonderful cross

All who gather here by grace draw near and bless your name

**Verse 2**

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,

Sorrow and love flow mingled down;

Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,

Or thorns compose so rich a crown.

**Verse 3**

Were the whole realm of nature mine,

That were an offfering far too small,

Love so amazing, so divine,

Demands my soul, my life, my all,

**Prayer of Approach**

**People**: Heavenly Father, let the power of Your Holy Spirit fill us, so that we can feel and know what the life, death and resurrection of Jesus truly means. May Your Spirit help us to know, as we eat this bread and drink this juice, that Jesus is here with us. Jesus would never turn away anyone who wanted to know Him. Father God, Jesus and Holy Spirit, connect us to You, so we can love each other, and serve You by loving the world you created. Amen.

**The Lord's Supper** *(rise and follow to your right; go to the table row by row, blessing the one who follows you)*

**Hymn:** It Is Well With My Soul

**Verse 1**

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,

When sorrows like sea billows roll;

Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,

"It is well, it is well with my soul."

**Chorus**

It is well (It is well)

With my soul (With my soul)

It is well, it is well, with my soul.

**Verse 2**

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,

Let this blest assurance control,

That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,

And hath shed his own blood for my soul.

**Verse 3**

My sin, o, the joy of this glorious thought!

My sin, not in part but the whole

Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

**Verse 4**

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,

The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;

The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,

Even so, it is well with my soul