

ORDER FOR THE CORPORATE WORSHIP OF GOD

A Service of Celebration and Covenantal Renewal

March 7, 2010

GATHERING MUSIC

Escape

Verse 1

Everybody crashes down
Sometimes
Everything comes falling down
Sometimes
I don't even know how,
Or know why

Chorus

The thing I can't escape is You
The promise that You made is You will pull me through
You're never far away no matter what I do
The thing I can't escape is You

Verse 2

At times I try to hide away
From Your eyes
At times I'm covered up in shame
From my lies
You sweep me into Your embrace
And I cry

Chorus

Bridge

It's You
Your grace
Irresistible
It's true, it's true
Your grace
Irresistible

Chorus x2

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WELCOME

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP GOD—

We gather to worship our God in spirit and in truth...

Isaiah 43:1-3a

But now, this is what the LORD says—
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.
²When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers,
they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire,
you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you ablaze.
³For I am the LORD, your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; ...

WORSHIPPING GOD THROUGH SINGING

CONFESSING OUR GOSPEL FAITH—

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
the Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord:
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell.
The third day He arose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED FOR THE GOSPEL TODAY—

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MINISTRY OF THE WORD, PART 1—

THE BOOK OF DANIEL :

Our Sovereign God... Servant Calling... Certain Hope

Daniel 3:16-29 (esp. v. 25)

- 1. Place faith in God (through Jesus) to deliver us from the furnace**
 - a. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego believed God *could* deliver them from the blazing furnace (3:17).
 - b. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego rested on the promises of God to his people (Exodus 3:12; 6:6-8; Psalm 34:4-8; Isaiah 43:1-3).
- 2. Jesus saves us by taking our place and delivering us...**

From:	To:
Sin (Colossians 2:13-15)	Righteousness (Romans 3:21-24)
God's Wrath (John 3:36)	God's Favor (2Corinthians 6:2)
Condemnation (Rom. 5:16)	Justification (Romans 5:1)
Hell (Colossians 1:13)	Heaven (Revelation 21:1-4)
Fear (Genesis 3:8-10)	Freedom (Ephesians 3:12)
2nd Death (Rev. 20:14-15)	1st Resurrection (1 Cor. 15:42-44)
Orphans (1 Peter 2:10)	Family (Romans 8:15-17)

Notes:

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MINISTRY OF THE WORD, PART 2—

- 1. Place faith in God (through Jesus) to deliver through the furnace**
 - a. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego chose to obey God over obeying Nebuchadnezzar.
 - b. Hold on to the truth you know in a crisis as did Daniel's friends did.
- 2. Jesus is in the fire with us and chooses to deliver us through things more often than from things:**
 - a. The evil one
 - b. The power of sin
 - c. The sting of death
 - d. Struggles with the world

Notes:

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER,

Bringing our needs to the Father's good heart and Jesus' glorious riches.

Welcome to our celebration of the Lord's Supper. All who confess Jesus Christ as their Savior are invited to be served. If you do not profess saving faith in Jesus, we ask that you refrain from taking communion and encourage you to prayerfully consider speaking with a Pastor or Elder. To receive the bread and cup--the body and blood of Christ broken and shed for you-- please come forward to the nearest table and an Elder will serve you. Elders and Deacons are available to help guide you. If you cannot come to the table, please let a Deacon or Elder know and you will be served at your seat. For your information—the outside ring of the service tray is filled with grape juice; the rest of the inside rings are filled with wine.

RESPONSE TO THE LORD THROUGH GIVING—

DEACONS OFFERING

BENEDICTION—

John 16:33 “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”



Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1. What had the most impact on you today from our time in God's worship and Word? What was encouraging, convicting, and/or calling for more clarification?
2. How does it encourage you that Jesus is willing to get in the fire with you?
3. What are the lies the enemy of God tempts you to believe in the midst of a crisis?
4. Why is it difficult to hold on to what you know in times of difficulties?
5. Why is it hard to believe God and trust that he is working within our lives?
6. How have you seen God work in delivering you through or from difficulties?

So what? Applications from this Service of Worship

1. Take a few moments this afternoon to write down your take-a-ways from this service of worship. How are you like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego?
2. What spiritual crises are you going through where you are being tempted to believe that God is not with you or for you?
3. What are the reasons God might have for choosing to deliver you through a crisis rather than delivering you from it?
4. Can you trust God in the midst of a crisis? Even if he does not meet up to your expectations do you believe that God is for you? Has he done enough to prove that in giving his Son, Jesus along with the Holy Spirit?

