

*the*  
Practice



Learning *the*  
Unforced Rhythms  
*of* Grace

ORDER *of* PRACTICE  
April 19, 2015



Willow Creek Chapel

**Please speak, Your servant is listening  
Please speak, Your servant is listening  
Please speak, Your servant is listening  
Your servant is listening  
O Hosanna**

*from 1 Samuel 3:7-11*



**Be Thou my vision, oh Lord of my heart  
Nought be all else to me, save that Thy art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping, Thou presence my light**

**Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true word  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Maker and I Thy true one  
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one**

**Riches I need not, nor man's empty praise  
Thou my inheritance through all of my days  
Thou and Thou only though first in my heart  
High king of Heaven my treasure Thou art**

**High King of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys,  
O bright Heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.**

#### OPENING READING

When Peter saw this, he said to them:  
“Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you?  
Why do you stare at us as if by our own power  
or godliness we had made this man walk? The  
God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of  
our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You  
handed him over to be killed, and you disowned  
him before Pilate, though he had decided to let  
him go. You disowned the Holy and Righteous  
One and asked that a murderer be released to  
you. You killed the author of life, but God raised  
him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. By  
faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you  
see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name  
and the faith that comes through him that has  
completely healed him, as you can all see.

“Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord...”

Acts 3:12-19 (NIV)

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

### Silence

*Space to reflect on the  
scripture reading.*

**You Hear us Calling, You Hear us Calling,  
O Creator.**

**Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy;  
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy.**

We plead before you Jesus, for all tonight who are in need of your merciful love and protection.

For our families, friends, neighbors and enemies; that being freed from sin, doubt, and despair, we may live in the fullness of your perfect peace, hope and love.

**You Hear us Calling, You Hear us Calling,  
O Creator.**

For our families, friends, neighbors and enemies, and for those who are alone or lonely. Lord, visit and sustain them, grant us your kingdom significance in the routine and mundane.

For all people in their work, toil and daily rhythms.

**You Hear us Calling, You Hear us Calling,  
O Creator.**

For those whose burden has become heavy, whose eyes are downcast and whose heart is hard. For the anxious, addicted, and depressed, the lonely and those who are grieving. Lord, share in their suffering.

**Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy;  
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy.**

For the victims of violence, the weak and the oppressed, for the children of the poor, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember them and cry out for justice.

Lord, defend the cause of the needy, give deliverance to the children of injustice and crush the systems of oppression.

For a blessing upon all who care for the last and the least of these, for those who bring your light into darkness, that our communities may be freed from oppression, violence and injustice, we invite your peace before them.

**You Hear us Calling, You Hear us Calling,  
O Creator.**

For this gathering of people, and believers everywhere who are working for God's Kingdom to come on Earth as it is in Heaven.

For the peace and unity of the local and global Church of God; For all who proclaim the Gospel, and nations who seek the Truth.

**Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy.**

Now take time to think of someone you want to pray for. Picture their face, speak their name, and pray for God's blessing and mercy on them.

Space to Pray

**Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy.**

GOSPEL READING

What marvelous love the Father has extended to us! Just look at it—we're called children of God. That's who we really are. But that's also why the world doesn't recognize us or take us seriously, because it has no idea who God is or what God is up to.

But friends, that's exactly who we are:  
children of God. And that's only the beginning.  
Who knows how we'll end up! What we know  
is that when Christ is openly revealed, we'll see  
him—and in seeing him, become like him.  
All of us who look forward to his coming stay  
ready, with the glistening purity of Jesus' life  
as a model for our own.      1 John 3:1-3 (MSG)

**You made this world (x3)**

**Thank you, thank you**

**You gave me life (x3)**

**Thank you, thank you**

**Your love is everywhere**

**Your love is everywhere**

**Open me, open me**

(repeat)

**You brought this peace (x3)**

**Thank you, thank you**

**You sowed these seeds (x3)**

**Thank you, thank you**

**Your love is everywhere**

**Your love is everywhere**

**Open me, open me**

(repeat)

**Won't You let it flow through me,**

**Won't You let it flow through me,**

**Won't You let it flow through me.**

(repeat)

**Your love is everywhere**

**Your love is everywhere**

**Open me, open me**

(repeat)

**Holy Space**

*to open our hearts, minds, bodies,  
and souls to the Present Christ.*

EPISTLE READING

(Luke 24:36-48)

**Your love is everywhere**

**Your love is everywhere**

**Open me, open me**

(repeat)



Passing of the Peace



**Jonathan Martin**

*Everyone is Welcome at The Table*



## Eucharist Liturgy



## Kingdom Practices

## Benediction

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



*“Be Thou My Vision”. Public Domain. // “Prayers of the People”. Refrain by David Gungor. Used with permission. // “Thank You (Your Love is Everywhere)” by Glenn Phillips. CCLI#5032549.*

The Practice is an experimental gathering where we immerse ourselves in God's dream for humanity, practice the historic disciplines that align us with His dream, and carry each other along the way. We are learning to live out Jesus' teachings in the world. Vision / Practice / Tribe



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.

**EQUIPPERS.**

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.

**EUCCHARISTIC.**

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](http://practicetribe.com)