Jazz Vesper Service
Calvin Symposium on Worship
Seminary Chapel

January 30 and 31, 2014 at 4:15pm

Reflection

Because I longed for eternal life, I went to bed with harlots and drank for nights on end...I soared in bliss, but awoke with the bitter taste of mortality.
— Albert Camus, The Fall

Everything’s supposed to be different than what it is here.
— Mac, in Grand Canyon

Who is this Christ, who interferes in everything?
— Rainer Maria Rilke, The Workman’s Letter

I am enthralled by the luminous figure of the Nazarene. Jesus is too colossal for the pen of the phrase-mongers, however artful... No one can read the gospels without feeling the actual presence of Jesus. His personality pulsates in every word. No myth is filled with such life.
— Albert Einstein, interview Saturday Evening Post

Prelude — Just as I Am — Bradbury/arr. Jon Cowherd

Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me
and that thou bidst me come to thee
O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Preparing for Worship
Hymn

God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory

David Clowney, 1960

Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824

1. God, all nature sings thy glory, and thy works proclaim thy might;
   ordered vastness in the heavens, ordered course of day and night;
   beauty in the changing seasons, beauty in the storming sea;
   all the changing moods of nature praise the changeless Trinity.

2. Clearer still we see thy hand in man whom thou hast made for thee;
   ruler of creation's glory, image of thy majesty.
   yet thy grace and saving mercy in thy Word of truth revealed
   are the calling of his Maker to the harvest feast of praise.

3. But our sins have spoiled thine image; nature, conscience only serve we, thy creatures, would adore thee now and thru eternity.
   as unceasing, grim reminders of the wrath which we deserve
   saved to magnify thy goodness, grant us strength to do thy will.
   claim the praise of all who know thee, in the blood of Jesus sealed.

4. God of glory, power, mercy, all creation praises thee;
   we, thy creatures, would adore thee now and thru eternity.
   all the changing moods of nature praise the changeless Trinity.
   with our acts as with our voices thy commandments to fulfill.
Call to Worship — 1 Chronicles 29

Leader: Praise be to you, O Lord, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

All: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor.

Leader: For everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

All: Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things.

Leader: In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

All: Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.
I give You glory,
I te doy la gloria,
I give You honor,
I te doy la hon-ra,
I give You my life,
I te doy mi vi-da,
I give You praise.
I te a give la Rance Green
paise.

For You are my sweet Salvation.
Y mi ben-di-to Redeemer.
You died for me, and gave me Your life.
I give You my life, I give You praise.

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Nothing But the Blood

1. What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
2. For my pardon this I see, nothing but the blood of Jesus;
3. Nothing can for sin a-tone, nothing but the blood of Jesus;
4. This is all my hope and peace, nothing but the blood of Jesus;

What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
For my cleansing this my plea, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Naught of good that I have done, nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

O, precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;

No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Prayer of Adoration (Concluded by the Lord’s Prayer)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Silent Praise and Thanksgiving
How Deep the Father’s Love for Us

1. How deep the Father's love for us. How vast beyond all measure. That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure. How great the pain of losing, the Father turns His face away, as wounds which mar the chosen One bring many sons to glory.

2. Behold a Man upon the cross My sin upon His shoulders Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice Call out among the scoffers It was my sin that held Him there Until it was accomplished His dying breath has brought me life I know that it is finished

3. I will not boast in anything No gifts, no pow'rs, no wisdom But I will boast in Jesus Christ His death and resurrection Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer But this I know with all my heart His wounds have paid my ransom

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Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (NIV)
Prayer of Confession

All: Lord Jesus Christ, though being in very nature God, when you came to redeem us you humbled yourself and made yourself nothing. Though you were rich, for our sakes you became poor, so that through your poverty we might become rich.

We confess how unlike you we are in our attitudes and actions. We strive for recognition from others, and we sulk and become bitter if we do not get it. We attend to our own needs and concerns, yet fail to care for others except when it serves our purposes.

Forgive us our sin and renew our hearts. Grant us to realize that we only achieve greatness and gain our lives by giving them away. Work in us by the power of your Spirit so that we become more like you and so bring glory to our Father in heaven. Amen.

Private Confession
Confessional Response

Give Me Jesus

African-American spiritual

1. O when I am a-lone, O when I am a-lone, O
2. In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise, in the
3. O when I come to die, O when I come to die, O

when I am a-lone, give me Je-sus. Give me
morn-ing when I rise, give me Je-sus.
when I come to die, give me Je-sus.

Je-sus, give me Je-sus. You may
have all this world, give me Je-sus.

Words of Encouragement — 1 John 2:1-2

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense — Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.
Scripture Reading — Psalm 146: 1, 6-10

1 Praise the Lord.
   Praise the Lord, my soul.

6 He is the Maker of heaven and earth,
   the sea, and everything in them—
   he remains faithful forever.
7 He upholds the cause of the oppressed
   and gives food to the hungry.
   The Lord sets prisoners free,
8 the Lord gives sight to the blind,
   the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down,
   the Lord loves the righteous.
9 The Lord watches over the foreigner
   and sustains the fatherless and the widow,
   but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.
10 The Lord reigns forever,
    your God, O Zion, for all generations.
   Praise the Lord. (NIV)

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer
1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no
   Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morn-ing by

2. Pardon and winter and spring-time and harvest, sun, moon, and
   shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
   vi-ded Great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

3. For sin and a peace that endures, thine own dear
   stars in their cours-es a- bove, join with all na-ture in
   pas-sions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou for-ev-er wilt be.
   man-i-fold wit-ness; as thou hast been thou for-ev-er wilt be.

   Passages, they fail not; as thou hast been thou for-ev-er wilt be.
   Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by
   Morn-ing new mer-cies I see: all I have need-ed thy hand hath pro-

   Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by
   Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

   Morn-ing new mer-cies I see: all I have need-ed thy hand hath pro-

   Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by
   Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by
Final Song

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and give you peace, and give you peace. The Lord be gracious to you and give you peace. Amen, Amen. The Lord be gracious to you and give you peace.

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Benediction

Dismissal

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude — James — Pat Metheny

Worship Musicians

Jonathan Gilley — bass Fred Knapp — drums
Tom Jennings — piano Julia Smith — song leader