

Gospel Flow of the REPC Worship Liturgy¹

Every week we practice the Gospel story through intentional step-by-step, love-shaping practices called liturgy. The order and content of these practices move us from adoring God's greatness, to confessing our sinfulness, to restoring joy in our forgiveness, to redirecting our life by God's Word, to pleading for God's help, and to devoting our lives to God's mission, all by God's grace (Is. 6:1-8)! As we participate in these practices, God shapes us with a deeper grasp of His grace in Christ: His initiating love, undeserved goodness and empowering favor. These practices form a dialogue between God and His people. He initiates an invitation to worship, we respond in praise. He forgives us in the Gospel, we respond in confession. He assures us of pardon, we respond in thanksgiving. He teaches us His Word, we respond in affirmation of faith, praise, and prayer. He provides resources, we respond in offering our lives to Him. He sends us out with His benediction, we respond by living on mission. Below, you will find the definition of each practice along with how this practice transforms us.

[Drawn to God's Greatness]

- ❖ **The Call to Worship:** God's gracious invitation to behold His glory and worship
Transformation: This practice increases our reverence and boldness to draw near to God in worship.
- ❖ **The Hymn of Praise/Prayer of Adoration:** Our adoration of God's glory, character and grace
Transformation: This practice stirs our affections with a deeper love for God's character and awe regarding His glory.

[Renewed in the Gospel]

- ❖ **The Confession of Sins:** Our acknowledgement of sin and need of grace
Transformation: This practice humbles us by revealing our unrighteousness before a righteous God, Who has mercy.
- ❖ **The Assurance of Pardon:** God's proclamation of gracious forgiveness by Jesus' life, death and resurrection
Transformation: This practice strengthens our trust in God's forgiveness and acceptance of us in Christ.
- ❖ **The Acclamation of Praise:** Our expression of praise and thanks for God's gracious forgiveness
Transformation: This practice cultivates gratefulness to God for His mercy and steadfast love in Jesus.
- ❖ **The Fellowship of the Peace of Christ:** Our gracious welcome to others as God welcomed us in Christ
Transformation: This practice unites us to each other and increases our desire for community.

[Redirected in the Scripture]

- ❖ **The Reading of Scripture/Sermon:** God's declaration of His Word calling us to trust, obey and grow in grace
Transformation: This practice equips us with the knowledge and know-how to love the Lord, love others, and live our calling.
- ❖ **The Affirmation of Faith:** Our recitation of the historic creeds and the foundations of grace
Transformation: This practice roots our lives in the security of God's truth passed down through the ages.
- ❖ **The Gloria:** Our adoration of God's grace in the persons of the Trinity: God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Transformation: This practice stirs a greater love and affection for each person of the Trinity.

[Sent on Mission]

- ❖ **The Pastoral Prayer:** Our expression of dependency on God's grace for local and global concerns
Transformation: This practice cultivates dependency on God for all of life's challenges.
- ❖ **The Offering:** Our contribution of our lives and resources for the expansion of God's gracious kingdom
Transformation: This practice reminds us that all we are and have belongs to God and should be stewarded for His purposes.
- ❖ **The Benediction:** God's commission of us into the world with God's gracious promise
Transformation: This practice empowers us to continue to grow in maturity and serve on mission throughout the week.

¹ Compiled by Mike Palombo, Director of Relational Discipleship, 2/07/2017