**Sunday, November 18, 2012**

**Welcome** – Greg Snow

**Call to Worship –** *Hebrews 13:15/Psalm 78:5-8*

This morning we enter a time of worship with these words from Hebrews 13:15, *“By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name.”* No matter what circumstances come our way, we have much for which to be thankful. Before we begin our worship this morning, take a moment to silently pray asking the Lord to prepare our hearts in order that we may offer the sacrifice of praise unto our Lord and Savior.

(Silent Prayer)

Father, we want to bless You at all times allowing praises to spring from our hearts and express themselves in our words and actions. We magnify Your name and exalt You, Almighty God, for You are our great Deliverer. As we celebrate our thanks to You we tell of Your mighty power and miracles in our lives. We teach these to our children so the next generation might know them, even the children not yet born, that they in turn might teach their children. We want each generation to set their hopes anew on God, remembering His glorious and miraculous provisions, as they turn their hearts toward You. Thank You, Father, for everything! For apart from You we have nothing! Amen.

 **Song of Praise –** *Doxology*

 **Thank You –** *A Prayer of Thanksgiving (Source: Stephen Weber)*

 Jesus, Your physical death on the cross was an act of barbaric cruelty that we would not, in any way, be attracted to. But we realize it was God’s redemption plan for all humankind and because of that we can say with the hymnist that it indeed “has a wondrous attraction for me.” Because You took the weight of our sin upon Yourself You provided a precious cleansing fountain, a healing stream from Your saving blood that provides forgiveness for our sins. Thank You for giving Your all that we might have eternal life.

**Song of Worship –** *Once Again*

**Praise Your Name Forever –** *Psalm 44:8*

Hear God’s word:

 *In God we boast all the day long, and praise Your name forever.*

**Songs of Worship** *– I Will Sing Of My Redeemer/O Precious Is the Flow*

**Worthy of Forgiveness**

Jesus, there would be no forgiveness without Your blood.

 There would be no salvation without Your sacrifice.

 I worship you and give you praise, for Your blood has cleansed my sin

 and made me worthy of forgiveness.

**Song of Praise** – I Worship You, Almighty God

**Offering *(Yes, give thanks for “all things” for, as it has been well said, “Our disappointments are but His appointments.”* A.W. Pink)**

**The Presence of God – *Exodus 33:12-23; Martyn Lloyd-Jones/Charles Spurgeon***Men and women, when they are truly awakened, begin to realize there is nothing so serious as to be without the presence of God. Is God in the midst? Is He really amongst us? Are we aware as we should be of His glorious presence? We cannot go on without God…the presence of God is essential. For the children of Israel, they knew better than to cross over into the Promised Land without the presence of God amongst them. God even promised to send an angel before them to drive out their enemies. But the people refused to continue their journey without the being of God. Listen to the words from Exodus, Chapter 33…

 *Moses said to the LORD, “See, you say to me, ‘Bring up this people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” And he said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” And he said to him, “If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?”*

 *And the LORD said to Moses, “This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” Moses said, “Please show me your glory.” And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The LORD.’ And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live.” And the LORD said, “Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen.”*

 Just as Moses had to be put in the cleft of a rock before he could see God, so must we. I know that some of you are in that cleft of the Rock. But let me ask others, where are you? When we meet God as a Judge, will you be standing in the cleft of the Rock? There is a passage we would mention before closing – “I saw death on a pale horse, and hell followed him.” Yes, death is after us. Ah, Run! Run! Run! Death is riding! Here his horse comes – I hear his snorting, I feel his hot breath; he comes! He comes! And thou must die! But wicked man, what comes afterwards? Will it be heaven or hell? I pray that God will deliver you from hell; he is coming after you, sure enough; and if you have no hiding-place, woe unto you. See the cleft in the rock, see that cross, see that blood. There is security and only there.

 “Nothing in my hands I bring, simply to thy cross I cling.”

**Songs of Worship –** *Rock of Ages/In the Presence*

**Message** – *“The Leprosy of Sin”*
 *Scripture Reference: Matthew 8:1-4*
 **Time of Prayer**