

Sunday, February 3, 2013

Welcome – Greg Snow

Call to Worship – *Matthew 18:20*

Joyful is the sound we make this morning!

For Christ liberates us from doubt and fear.

Thankful is the song we sing!

For we have past from darkness and despair.

Hopeful is the prayer upon our lips!

For a glorious new life has been given to us.

Jesus said, “Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Christ lives here and now. He is among us at this and every moment!

May his peace and presence be known to you.

And also to you.

Let us worship our risen Lord and Savior!

Songs of Praise – *See What A Morning/Lord I Lift Your Name On High*

Prayer of Confession – *Adapted from the Valley of Vision*

Lord, we thank you for your provision in Jesus

For revealing Him in your word

Where we see his grace, glory,

Humiliation, death, and resurrection;

Open our eyes to our need of Christ and His sacrifice.

May we with Isaiah cry out:

**Woe to us, for we are a people of unclean lips,
and our eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.**

We come to you in the name of Jesus,

With nothing of our own,

No achievements, no worthiness, no good words.

You provide everything we need

You lead our days, our lying down, our death,

And our resurrection in Christ.

In humility and faith let us silently confess our sin to God.

Assurance of Pardon – Jeremiah 33:8

Hear the words of the Lord and know that you are forgiven of your sin:

*I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me,
and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.*

Let's continue worshipping our Lord and Savior as we sing of God's amazing grace.

Songs of Worship – Grace Flows Down/In Christ Alone

Offering

You Are the Worst Sinner You Know – 1 Peter 2:21-25/1 Timothy 1:16 (Excerpt from C.J. Mahaney's book, *"The Cross-Centered Life – Keeping the Gospel the Main Thing"*)

Hear the word of the Lord:

For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to him who judges righteously; and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed. For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

Every one of us can honestly claim that "worst of sinners" title. No, it isn't specially reserved for the Adolf Hitlers, Timothy McVeighs, and Osama bin Ladens of the world. William Law writes, "We may justly condemn ourselves as the greatest sinners we know because we know more of the folly of our own heart than we do of other people's."

So admit you're the worst sinner you know. Admit you're unworthy and deserve to be condemned. But don't stop there! Move on to rejoicing in the Savior who came to save the worst of sinners. Lay down the luggage of condemnation and kneel down in worship at the feet of Him who bore your sins. Cry tears of amazement. And confess with Paul: "I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life."

Let's take the next few moments to examine our sinful hearts and express our love and gratitude to the Lord for bearing our sins in His body on the cross. Let's pray.

Songs of Worship – The Look/My Jesus, I Love Thee

Message – "Shepherds and Sheep"

Scripture Reference: Matthew 9:35-10:4

Time of Prayer

Song of Worship – *Behold the Lamb (Communion Hymn)*

Observance of the Lord's Supper – *Luke 22:19, 20/1 Corinthians 11:26*

Benediction

Most gracious God, we praise you for what you have given and for what you have promised us here. You have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service. Now we give ourselves to you; and we ask that our daily living may be part of your kingdom, and that our love may be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**