

Sunday, March 24, 2013

Welcome – Greg Snow

Call to Worship – *Psalm 118:1, 5, 14, 17, 22-24*

Hear the Word of the Lord:

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

His love endures forever.

In our anguish we cried to the LORD, and he answered by setting us free. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

His love endures forever.

The LORD is our strength and our song; he has become our salvation. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

His love endures forever.

We will not die but live, and will proclaim what the LORD has done. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

His love endures forever.

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;

The LORD has done this; and it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O magnify the LORD with me. Let us exalt God's name together as we sing of His amazing love!

Songs of Praise – *And Can It Be/I Will Glory In My Redeemer*

Confession of Sin – *Crucify Him*

Like the people who greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem and then later pronounced “Crucify him,” we are careless people who often deny Christ in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Remembering the events of Jesus’ last week, just prior to the crucifixion, helps us see ourselves for what we are: sinners in need of a Savior, a Savior—praise God—we have in Christ. In honesty and hope, let’s now silently confess our sins to God. Let’s pray.

-Silent Prayer-

Assurance of Salvation – Colossians 2:13-15

Know that your sins are forgiven and be at peace. Hear the encouraging words of the Lord from Colossians 2:13-15...

When you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

Brothers and sisters: through the cross of Christ we are forgiven, and the power of evil is broken.

Praise be to God!

Songs of Worship – My Jesus, I Love Thee/O How He Loves You and Me

Offering - *“Today Jesus Christ is being dispatched as the Figurehead of a Religion, a mere example. He is that, but he is infinitely more; He is salvation itself, He is the Gospel of God.”* Oswald Chambers

The Coming Messiah as the Suffering Servant– Psalms 16:10; 22:1, 13-14, 16b-18; 118:22-23; Isaiah 11:10; 53:3-5, 6b-12; Daniel 9:25-27a; Zech 12:10b; Acts 26:22-23; Romans 11:25b-27; 1 Peter 2:23 (Source: *One Perfect Life* by John MacArthur)

Know therefore and understand that from the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks. Then for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time. And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing.

He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed

They gape at Me with their mouths, like a raging and roaring lion. I am poured out like water, and all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax, it has melted within Me.

The LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth. When He was reviled He did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously. He was taken from prison and from judgment, and who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgressions of My people He was stricken.

They pierced My hands and My feet; I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me. They divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.

They made His grave with the wicked – but with the rich at His death, because He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief.

My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are you so far from helping Me, and from the words of My groaning?

When you make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied.

For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong. The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. He poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Therefore, having obtained help from God, to this day I stand, witnessing both to small and great, saying no other things than those which the prophets and Moses said would come – that the Christ would suffer, that He would be the first to rise from the dead, and would proclaim light to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles.

Blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; for this is My covenant with them, when I take away their sins."

Then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a first born. In that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious.

The Grace of the Cross – (Source: Valley of Vision by Arthur Bennett)

Gracious God,

I thank You from the depths of my being for Your wondrous grace and love in bearing my sin in Your own body on the tree.

May Your cross be to me as the tree that sweetens my bitter Marahs, as the rod that blossoms with life and beauty, as the brazen serpent that calls for the look of faith.

By Your cross crucify my every sin; use it to increase my intimacy with Yourself; make it the ground of all my comfort, the liveliness of all my duties, the sum of all Your gospel promises, the comfort of all my afflictions, the vigor of my love, thankfulness, graces, the very essence of my religion and by it give me that rest without rest, the rest of ceaseless praise. Amen

Songs of Worship – *Near the Cross/Grace Flows Down*

Message – *“Our Lord’s Invitation”*

Scripture Reference: Matthew 11:25-30

Time of Prayer

Song of Worship – *Hide Away in the Love of Jesus*

Benediction