

Sunday, May 19, 2013

Welcome – Greg Snow

Call to Worship – *Psalm 148 (Source: David DeBruyon)*

Today is the Lord's Day. A day specifically set aside by God for the Church to corporately come together and worship the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Call to Worship is a call. God's word tells us in Psalm 29:1-2 that we have worship that is due to Him:

*Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.*

The call to worship calls us all to joyfully pay our dues.

“What happens here is no longer ordinary. Do not profane this time by treating it as ordinary or common. This time is specially set apart for knowing and magnifying God. Stop your normal way of thinking and acting and turn your entire attention to God.”

I encourage you to take the next few moments to seek God in prayer and plead for him to turn all thoughts towards Him so that we may worship the Lord as He has commanded us to do. Let's pray.

This is the word of God: Psalm 148

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!

Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord!

For he commanded and they were created.

And he established them forever and ever;

he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

*Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word!*

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!

*Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and maidens together, old men and children!*

*Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven.
He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his saints,
for the people of Israel who are near to him.*

Praise the LORD!

Song of Praise – Great In Power

The Savior We Worship – Hebrews 1:2-4

Hear the Word of the Lord from Hebrews 1:2-4, describing the Savior we worship:

God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son he created the universe. The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command.

When he had cleansed us from our sins, he sat down in the place of honor at the right hand of the majestic God in heaven. This shows that the Son is far greater than the angels, just as the name God gave him is greater than their names.

Song of Worship – Here I Am To Worship

Approaching the Throne of Grace – Hebrews 4:14

In Hebrews, Chapter 4, the word of God says:

Seeing that we have a great High Priest who has entered the inmost heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us therefore approach the throne of grace with fullest confidence, that we may receive mercy for our failures and grace to help in the hour of need.

Song of Worship – Grace That Is Greater Than All Our Sin

Your Sins Are Forgiven (Jeremiah 33:8)

Have peace knowing that your sins are forgiven. Hear the word of God from Jeremiah 33:8:

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.

Great is the faithfulness of our God!

Song of Worship – *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Offering - *“This is the great global hope of the gospel! Let him who is thirsty come. Let anyone who desires take the water of life without price. Receive the gospel. Stand in it. Hold it fast. There is no other hope that “the hope of the gospel!”* John Piper

An Easy, Self-Indulgent Life - *Luke 9:23/J.R. Miller (1840-1912)*

Hear the words from Luke 9:23:

And Jesus was saying to them all: *If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.”*

We cannot live a life that will please Christ — without great cost to ourselves. It is never an easy thing, to be a disciple of Christ. An easy, self-indulgent life — can never be a Christ-like life.

It was not easy for Christ to redeem sinners. From beginning to end of His earthly ministry, He poured out His own precious life. The people thronged about Him with their sins, their sorrows, and their needs — and virtue went out of Him continually to heal them, to comfort them, to feed their heart-hunger. He utterly forgot Himself — and gave His life and love without stint to everyone who asked. At last He literally gave Himself, emptying out His heart's blood — to give eternal life to sinful and dead souls. His sufferings were finished, when He bowed His head on the cross.

It is now *our privilege* to suffer for Him — to perpetuate the self-sacrificial love of Christ on this earth. Only in so far as we do this, are we living a life that will please Him.

Philippians 3:10 states, *“I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death!”*

In closing, let us all be continually reminded of Matthew 10:38: *“Anyone who does not take his cross and follow Me, is not worthy of Me.”*

Songs of Worship – *Redeemed, How I Love To Proclaim It/My Jesus, I Love Thee*

Message – *“Hope For Sinners”*

Scripture Reference: Matthew 12:15-21

Time of Prayer

Song of Worship – *Christ Is Able*

Benediction