

Sunday, October 6, 2013

Welcome – Greg Snow

Call to Worship – *Psalm 57:5, 7, 11*

Welcome to all who have come to join us in worship today. This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it! May we be reminded of the privileges we enjoy as His people: to come to Him in these moments, to confess our sins, to receive forgiveness and give it, to pray and sing and listen, to renew our fainting spirits, to rest in all His promises. Let us open our eyes to see the Lord. Open our ears to hear His Word. May the Holy Spirit visit us, and help us to celebrate our faith.

Join me as together we speak these words of praise to our God, found in Psalm, Chapter 57:

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth. My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and make music. Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

Song of Praise – *He Is Exalted*

The Lord Reigns Forever – *Psalm 102:25-27*

In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. But you remain the same, and your years will never end.

Glory be to our great God!

Song of Worship – *Our Great God*

Confession of Sin & Prayer (*Source: Reformed Theology*)

It is amazing that we serve a great and mighty God but all too often we ignore Him, we forget the fact that the Father gave His one and only perfect Son to die on the cross for our sins. We choose to do our will, rather than the will of the Father. Hear this prayer as we begin to turn our thoughts toward confession of sins...

Lord Jesus, I have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, and of neglect to seek you in my daily life. My sins and shortcomings present me with a list of accusations, but I thank you that they will not stand against me, for all have been laid on Christ. Deliver me from every evil habit, every interest of former sins, everything that dims the brightness of your grace in me, everything that prevents me taking delight in you. Amen.

Let's spend the next few moments silently confessing our sins to God, so that we might rest in His love and know it more fully. Let's pray.

Assurance of Salvation – 1 Timothy 1:15/1 Peter 2:2

Hear the good news:

This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Song of Worship – Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Offering “Some people do not like to hear much of repentance; but I think it is so necessary that if I should die in the pulpit, I would desire to die preaching repentance, and if out of the pulpit I would desire to die practicing it.” Matthew Henry

The Cross of Christ – Matthew 20:28; 1 Corinthians 1:18-19; Galatians 6:14; 1 Peter 1:18-19 (Source: Pictures from Pilgrim’s Progress by C.H. Spurgeon)

For you know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life inherited from the fathers, not with perishable things, like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life – a ransom for many. For to those who are perishing the message of the cross is foolishness, but to us who are being saved it is God’s power. For it is written: I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and I will set aside the understanding of the experts. But as for me, I will never boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

We owe all to Jesus crucified. What is your life, my brother, but the cross? From where comes the bread of your soul but from the cross? What is your joy but the cross? What is your delight, what is your heaven, but the Blessed One, once crucified for you, who forever lives to make intercession for you? Cling to the cross, then, put both arms around it! Hold to the Crucified, and never let Him go. Come afresh to the cross at this moment and rest there now and forever! Then, with the power of God resting upon you, go forth and preach the cross! Tell out the story of the bleeding Lamb. Repeat the wondrous tale, and nothing else. Never mind how you do it, only proclaim that Jesus died for sinners.

Believe in Christ crucified, and preach boldly in His name, and you shall see great and gladsome things. Do not doubt the ultimate triumph of Christianity. Do not let a mistrust flit across your soul. The cross must conquer; it must blossom with a crown, a crown compatible with the person of the Crucified, and the bitterness of His agony. His reward shall parallel His sorrows. Trust in God, and lift your banner high, and now with psalms and songs advance to battle, for the Lord of hosts is with us, the Son of the Highest leads our van. Onward, with blast of silver trumpet and shout of those that seize the spoil. Let no man’s heart fail him! Christ has died! Atonement is complete! God is satisfied! Peace is proclaimed! Heaven glitters with proofs of mercy already bestowed upon ten thousand times ten thousand! Hell is trembling, heaven adoring, earth waiting. Advance, ye saints, to certain victory! You shall overcome through the blood of the Lamb!

Song of Worship – There Is A Fountain

Message – “Meanwhile in the Valley”

Scripture Reference: Matthew 17:14-27

Time of Prayer

Song of Worship – *Christ is Able*

Benediction