

Sunday, November 3, 2013

Welcome – Greg Snow

Call to Worship – *Psalm 97*

Good Morning! Today is the day we have set aside to praise and worship our gracious God. Our worship provides a place of meeting with God – a place for us to encounter His very presence and embrace His invitation to join Him as He works.

As we enter a time of worship let us hear the word of God from Psalm 97...

Rejoice in the Lord you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name.

The heavens proclaim your righteousness, O God, and all the people behold your glory.

For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth and are exalted above all gods.

Rejoice in the Lord you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name.

Let us worship God!

Song of Praise – *Doxology*

Praising our Savior – *Psalm 19:14*

King of Glory, we praise you, we adore you, our Savior and Lord. You suffered on the cross and gave your life as a ransom for many. We bless and thank you for the outpouring of your love and offer our worship today out of unspeakable gratitude. *May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.*

Song of Worship – *Worthy is the Lamb*

Confession of Sin & Prayer – *James 4:7-10/Acts 3:19 (Source: Kevin DeYoung)*

This is the word of God found in James 4:7-10

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

We confess our sin not in order for God to forgive us but because God has forgiven us in Christ. It's in the prayer of confession that we experience the gospel. It's here that we find troubled kids and Ph.D.'s humbled together, admitting the same human nature. It's here we, like Pilgrim, can unload our burden at the foot of the cross.

Over the next few moments, let's come to God, silently praying, laying our burden at the foot of the cross, and asking God to prepare our hearts to be a living sanctuary unto Him. Acts 3:19 calls us to *"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord"*. Let's pray.

Song of Worship – *Sanctuary*

Assurance of Salvation – *Colossians 2:13-14*

Hear these words of assurance found in Colossians 2:13-14

When you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with Christ, 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.

Song of Worship – *My Jesus, I Love Thee*

Offering *"Thou hast formed us for Thyself and our hearts are restless until they find rest in Thee."* Augustine of Hippo 354-430

Resting in the Lord – *Psalms 4:8; 62:1; 94:18, 19; 116:7, 8 (Source: John MacArthur)*

This is the word of the Lord:

Be at rest once more, O my soul, for the LORD has been good to you. For You, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. If I say, "My foot is slipping," Your faithful love will support me, LORD. When I am filled with cares, Your comfort brings me joy. My soul finds rest in God alone; I will both lie down and sleep in peace, for You alone, LORD, make me live in safety.

The Thanksgiving season is a wonderful time to heighten your sensitivity to the blessings bestowed by God. Thanksgiving grabs your attention, shakes the cobwebs loose, and reminds you of all God's most precious gifts. That's one reason Thanksgiving has always held such a special place in my heart. It rekindles in me the kind of God-centered gratitude that our Lord demands and deserves — the kind that should readily be on our lips year round.

Perhaps the most difficult time to be thankful is when we're in the midst of a setback, a challenge, or a trial. When the storm comes, giving thanks is rarely our first reaction. Being thankful for adversity is never easy, but it is always right. From experience I know the difficult times are the ones in which God seems to be most at work in our lives, strengthening our weak spots, comforting our hurts, and drawing us to greater dependence. A well-known businessman offered this perspective: "Good timber does not grow with ease; the stronger the wind, the stronger the trees." Let's not neglect to thank God for the strong winds He allows to blow our direction.

No matter what we might be facing today, may the sufficiency of our Father in heaven be our peace, may His grace be our portion and may His love be our comfort. May the Lord touch each one of us today deep within our souls as we consider the immeasurable love of God toward us in willingly giving His one and only Son the Lord Jesus that we might be saved. Know today, that because of God's great sacrifice and

because of Jesus' great love for His Father, we are able to, with confidence and in all circumstances, to walk through the storms of this life, singing loudly, "It is well with my soul."

Songs of Worship – *It Is Well/Show Us Christ*

Message – *"What If I'm Sinned Against?"*

Scripture Reference: Matthew 18:15-35

Time of Prayer

Song of Worship – *All I Have Is Christ*

Benediction