

Sunday, December 29, 2013

Welcome – Greg Snow

Call to Worship – *Come, Worship the Lord*

God is here! The Messiah has come! We open our eyes to see him and lift our hearts to worship him. We have come to exalt the name of Jesus, our Savior and King, and to bring glory to God the Father.

In our worship we demonstrate the mind of Christ in declaring to God that he is the supreme authority in our lives. We bow before him in submission to our Lord and King. Come, worship the Lord!

Song of Worship – *Joy to the World*

Glorify Him Forever

When all things in silence lay and the night was in the midst of her course, your Word leaped down from your royal throne, O God. So we rejoice and give you praise, that your Word may live in us and that we may glorify you forever. Amen.

Song of Praise – *Silent Night (Luke 2:8-14)*

That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger."

Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."

Confession of Sin & Prayer – *1 John 1:9 (Source: "The Star and the Wise Men" by C.H. Spurgeon)*

"Jesus was born that you might be born again. He lived that you might live. He died that you might die to sin. He is risen, and today He maketh intercession for transgressors that they may be reconciled to God through Him.

Come, then: believe, trust, rejoice, adore! If you have neither gold, frankincense, nor myrrh, bring your faith, your love, your repentance, and falling down before the Son of God pay him the reverence of your hearts.

The word of God in 1 John 1:9 says that *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

I encourage you to spend the next few moments in silent prayer confessing our sins before our heavenly Father. Let's pray.

Assurance of Salvation – 1 Timothy 1:15/Titus 2:11

Hear these words of assurance:

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

Songs of Praise – *Because He Lives/My Savior's Love*

Offering

Any Room for Jesus? – Romans 8:14-17 (Source: "Christ's Incarnation, The Foundation of Christianity" by C.H. Spurgeon)

The palace, the forum, and the inn, had no room for Christ. Have YOU room for Him?

"Well," says one, "I have room for Him, but I am not worthy that He should come to me."

Ah! I did not ask about your worthiness; have you room for Him?

"Oh!" says another, "I have an aching void the world can never fill."

Ah! I see that you have room for Christ.

"Oh, but the room I have in my heart is so base!"

So was the manger at Bethlehem.

"But it is so despicable."

So was the manger a thing to be despised.

"Ah! but my heart is so foul."

So, perhaps, the manger may have been.

"Oh, but I feel it is a place not at all fit for Christ!"

Nor was the manger a place fit for Him, and yet there was He laid.

"Oh! but I have been such a great sinner! I feel as if my heart had been a den of evil beasts."

Well, the manger had been a place where beasts had fed.

Make room for Jesus! Make room for Jesus now!

He will come to you, and He will cleanse the manger of your heart; nay, more, He will transform it into a golden throne, and there He will sit and reign for ever and ever!

Jesus is willing to find a home in every humble heart that will receive Him. Here is the Son of God made flesh, have you room for Him?

Here is He who can forgive all sin, have you room for Him?

Here is He who can take you up out of the horrible pit, and out of the miry clay, have you room for Him?

Here is He who, when He comes in to your soul, will never go out again; but will abide with you for ever, to make your heart a heaven of joy and bliss through His presence!

Have you not room for Him? That is all He asks, room. Your emptiness, your nothingness, your lack of goodness, your lack of grace -- all these will be but room for Him.

It is a splendid act of Divine grace, that He should take us, who were heirs of wrath, and make us heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ!

Romans 8:14-17 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Songs of Worship – *Holy Spirit/I Surrender All*

Message – *"The Triumphal Entry of Jesus"*

Scripture Reference: Matthew 21:1-11

Time of Prayer

Song of Worship – *All Hail the Power of Jesus Name*

Benediction