

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

December 28, 2008

Reflection

The Valley of Vision

Lord, high and holy, meek and lowly,
Thou hast brought me to the valley of vision,
where I live in the depths but see Thee in the heights;
hemmed in by mountains of sin I behold Thy glory.

Let me learn by paradox
that the way down is the way up,
that to be low is to be high,
that the broken heart is the healed heart,
that the contrite spirit is the rejoicing spirit,
that the repenting soul is the victorious soul,
that to have nothing is to possess all,
that to bear the cross is to wear the crown,
that to give is to receive,
that the valley is the place of vision.

Lord, in the daytime stars can be seen from deepest wells,
and the deeper the wells the brighter Thy stars shine;
let me find Thy light in my darkness,

Thy life in my death,
Thy joy in my sorrow,
Thy grace in my sin,
Thy riches in my poverty,
Thy glory in my valley.



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

***In recognition of the reason and reverence of worship, please remember to turn off your cell phones. Also, if you need a drink, please bring only water into the worship service. Thank you.*

SONG OF ASCENTS

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

Trinity Hymnal #211

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay, remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day, to save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray;

Chorus:

**O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.**

From God our heav'nly Father, a blessed angel came;
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:
how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.

(Chorus)

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "let nothing you affright;
this day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
to free all those who trust in Him from Satan's pow'r and might."

(Chorus)

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,
and left their flocks a-feeding, in tempest, storm and wind:
and went to Bethlehem straight-way, the Son of God to find.

(Chorus)

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT PREPARATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Matthew 1:20-23

Leader: But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

People: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us."

ADORING GOD IN SONG

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Trinity Hymnal #207

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart, and soul, and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Earth and heav'n before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart, and soul, and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath op'ed the heavenly door, and man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart, and soul, and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!

CONFESSION OF SIN & ASSURANCE

Amazing Grace

Trinity Hymnal #460

Amazing grace! –how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
‘Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
A life of joy and peace.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
Than when we first begun.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism Q. 15-18

Leader: What kind of mediator and deliverer should we look for then?

People: One who is truly human and truly righteous, yet more powerful than all creatures, that it, one who is also true God.

Leader: Why must he be truly human and truly righteous?

People: God’s justice demands that human nature, which has sinned, must pay for its sin; but a sinner could never pay for others.

Leader: Why must he also be true God?

People: So that, by the power of his divinity, he might bear the weight of God’s anger in his humanity and earn for us and restore to us righteousness and life.

Leader: And who is this mediator – true God and at the same time truly human and truly righteous?

People: Our Lord Jesus Christ, who was given us to set us completely free and to make us right with God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDONING GRACE

Hebrews 9:14

How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Deacon's Prayer

David Tucker

The Giving of Our Tithes & Offerings

Please sign and pass the registers.

There is a Fountain

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from
Immanuel's veins. And sinners plunged beneath that
flood loose all their guilty stains; and sinners plunged
beneath that flood, loose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his
day. And there may I though vile as he wash all my
sins away; and there may I though vile as he, wash all
my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb thy precious blood shall never loose
its power 'till all the ransomed church of God be
saved to sin no more; 'till all the ransomed church of
God be saved to sin no more.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream thy flowing
wounds supply redeeming love has been my theme
and shall be 'till I die; redeeming love has been my
theme and shall be 'till I die.

MINISTRY OF WORD & PRAYER

Luke 18:31-43

page 1039 in the pew Bibles

Prayer for the Kingdom of God on Earth

Ivan Spronk

*If you are able,
please stand
in honor of God's Word,
which is forever true.*

SONG OF PREPARATION

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Trinity Hymnal # 252

When I survey the wondrous cross,
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

*Children age 30 months
through 1st grade are
invited to go to
Children's Church
during this song.*

*Children's Church is an
optional activity during the
sermon to help young chil-
dren prepare to sit through
the service. There is singing
and an explanation of this
week's Scripture Passage by
an Elder.*

*This Month's Children's
Church Workers:
The Helm's Shepherding
Group
Next Month's Children's
Church Workers:
The Helm's Shepherding
Group*

SERMON

For Further Discussion & Application:

Compare 18:29-30 to 18:31-34. Why might the disciples have found it difficult to see how both could be true?

How does Jesus display His kingship and character in 18:35-43?

In what ways does the blind beggar show faith in the King (18:38-43)?

How would explain the paradox of the Gospel to a family member or neighbor? Try and be as clear as possible.

Sunday Lunch Question:

What request would you like to bring before the King (18:38-43)? Do so now.

Sermon

Luke 18:31-43

Assistant Pastor Andy Wood

RESPONSE & BLESSING

SONG OF RESPONSE

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Trinity Hymnal #224

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds, kept their watching o'er silent flocks
by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy
light.

(Refrain)

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! above the
earth,

Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

(Refrain)

Down in a lowly manger our humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

(Refrain)

BENEDICTION

THIS WEEK

Today	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study will NOT meet again until January 5
	7:15 p.m.	Middle School Girl's Bible Study will NOT meet again until January 5
	7:30 p.m.	High School Girl's Bible Study will NOT meet again until January 5
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study will NOT meet again until January 7
Friday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study will NOT meet again until January 9
Saturday	8:30 a.m.	Prayer Gathering at the church
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Music Team Practice (rescheduled)
Birthdays	12/31	Stewart Laster, Tim Phillips
Next Sunday:	Nursery	Infants: (Open) Toddlers: (Open)
	Greeters	Archer

We will celebrate communion next Sunday.

Our next fellowship dinner will be on January 7. The Spronk shepherding group will be in charge of setup and cleanup.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hear Sunday's Sermons online @ www.redeempca.net

Prayer Gathering

You are invited to attend a church wide New Year's gathering for prayer to be held on Saturday, Jan. 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. We will take an hour to pray as a whole group, in small teams, and as individuals, for global, local, congregational, and personal concerns. The hour will pass quickly! One representative from each household is encouraged to come, and to come hungry -- for food and for God. We will break the fast with breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Questions? Please contact Jeff Smith at 949-9710.

Attention: Redeemer Women

You are invited to attend a Women's Conference on February 6-7, 2009 at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Durham. More detail to come. Questions? Contact Becky Chapman, 878-5675, or becky_chapman@bellsouth.net.

Newsletter

for December is available on the foyer table.

Save the Date

for these upcoming events that you won't want to miss!

- January 3: Prayer Gathering, 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. at the church
- February 6-8: Senior High Ski Trip, West Virginia
- February 6-7: Women's Conference, Durham
- April 17-18: Men's Retreat
- June 29-July 3: Junior High EDGE Conference, Chattanooga, TN
- July 5-11: Senior High RYM Conference, Panama City, FL

Nursery Volunteers Needed!

Sign up at the foyer table, or contact Judy Dunn (juddun@earthlink.net or call 847-4145). You can choose a date as far in advance as you wish; a reminder will be sent to you.

*Need to contact Dan?
Call anytime—
518-2370 (office)
or 413-9954 (cell)
dan@redeempca.net*

*Need to contact Andy?
Call anytime
518-2370 (office)
or 457-2282 (cell)
andy@redeempca.net*

*Need an elder?
Ivan Spronk—789-4282*

*Need a deacon?
David Tucker—847-5157*

*Prayer chain:
Cynthia Morris—845-9372
cynthiamorris@bellsouth.net*

*Church Office
518-2370
office@redeempca.net*



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CHURCH LEADERSHIP

ELDERS:	DEACONS:	SENIOR
Anthony Dunn	Todd Blevins	PASTOR:
Rob Helms	Steve Brown	Dan Seale
Mike Newkirk	Mark Brubaker	ASSISTANT
Dan Seale	Al Cadwell	PASTOR:
Jeff Smith	Ken Coyer	Andy Wood
Ivan Spronk	Dave Larsen	
Steve Welsh		

SHEPHERDING GROUPS

At Redeemer, we desire to see each person grow in the amazing grace of God. One means to foster that growth is through involvement in shepherding groups. These small groups meet twice a month for teaching, fellowship and prayer. This is a great way to get to know people as well as learn more about the church and how you can become involved. Groups meet on the first and third Sundays of each month.

North Raleigh (Creedmoor/I-540)

Leader: Ivan Spronk 676-1944

Meeting time: 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Northeast Raleigh

Leader: Dan Kemp 848-9945

Meeting time: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Crabtree Area

Anthony Dunn 881-0478

Meeting time: 5:45 - 7:30 p.m.

North Raleigh

Leader: Dave Larsen 345-3996

Meeting time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Northwest Raleigh

Leader: Mike Newkirk 412-0621

Meeting time: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

North Raleigh (Creedmoor/I-540)

Leader: Steve Welsh 676-1944

Meeting time: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Northwest Raleigh

Leader: Rob Helms 518-1271

Meeting time: 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Southwest Raleigh/Cary

Leader: Jeff Smith 949-9710

Meeting time: 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.