

Morning Worship

December 30, 2018

Pastor — Allan Lane

Organ --- Alva Lou Schottel

Worship Leader — Don Beavers

Piano —

As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Scripture Reading	<i>John 1:1-14</i>	
Hymn # 87	<i>Joy to the World</i>	Don/People
Worship Prayer		Allan Lane
Welcome and Fellowship		Allan/People
Chorus # 82	<i>Emmanuel</i>	Don/People
Missions Moment		
Hymn # 88	<i>Hark the Herald Angels Sing</i>	Don/People
Hymn # 89	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	Don/People
Offering Prayer		Fred Kerns
Tithes and Offerings		People
Offering Music		Alva Lou Schottel
Children's Worship	(Children are dismissed)	
Message		Allan Lane
Hymn #317	<i>Only Trust Him</i>	Don/People
Prayer Concerns		Allan/People
Closing Chorus #89	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	Don/People

The Gift of a Savior

Hebrews 2:10-18

Another Christmas celebration has come and gone. In the midst of all the sparkling lights and noise of the season, it's easy to forget the powerful purpose of the Incarnation. To a lost world God gave us the gift of His Son to be Our Savior.

1. He became one of us.

Have you ever stopped to think that Jesus was unqualified to be our Savior before He became a man? In verse 10 the word "appropriate" emphasized in Greek this was God's perfect plan. The One who would deliver us, save us from our darkened sinfulness, had to be perfected for the task. It means to perfect, to qualify.

Every year thousands of would-be professional golfers attend "qualifying school." Those who suffer successfully become pros.

This suffering Christ experienced was not just the cross. He joined the human race, experienced the pain of living in a sinful world.

In his book "Black Like Me" John Howard Griffin tells the fictitious story of a white man in the South who darkened his skin and then walked throughout the South to experience what it was like to be an African American. The love of Jesus compelled Him to share the plight of those He calls brothers. Clearly in the economy and plan of God, it was required that our Lord and Savior suffer as a man in the kingdom of Satan, to go right into his living room and defeat him in the area of his greatest strength. That arena of great strength is the power of death.

2. He faced death for us.

There is a potent statement in verses 14-15 that we need to understand. Jesus became a man so he could defeat Satan on his own turf. And in doing so, verse 15 says His death also frees "those who all their lives have been held in slavery."

This is at the heart of the Christmas message: we don't want to miss it. We humans think we are OK as long as we remain alive. But death for us is a great unknown, an area of great speculation, if we choose to ignore God's revelation. We are trapped in the physical world, cut off from the spiritual.

This fear gives Satan a huge opportunity to deceive. He began the problem by telling Adam and Eve that they would not die if they ate the forbidden fruit (Genesis 3:4).

And now he continues to convince people under the curse that what they fear most will never happen. The fear of death is the fear of judgment, pure and simple. It's the same reason that in the passage last week we saw that the evil people avoid the light, because it will expose their sinfulness (John 3:20).

The nonbeliever hates the thought of his sin being exposed. But they have a sneaking suspicion that after they die, there could be a judgment. So Satan leaps on this fear and proposes a whole host of soothing remedies.

Take the Islamic faith. Works righteousness is the center of what they believe. Or examine what Buddhists believe. Buddha said to prepare for a peaceful death, One should: "Not be fond of a busy life involved in various activities, not be fond of being talkative, not be fond of sleeping, not be fond of having too many companions, not be fond of too much social intercourse, not be fond of daydreaming." Man, if this is correct, I'm toast!

And if these can't help you, there is always alcohol and drugs and materialism and entertainment to produce a fog that keeps you from thinking about it. God's solution was simple and incredibly effective. The sting of death is sin (1 Corinthians 15:56).

If sin could be dealt with, then the death penalty disappears, as does the fear of judgment. Satan deals with the symptoms, "you'll be fine." He sells us some "Snake oil." But God goes straight for the disease. In His death, Jesus gave atonement.

Greek word =to propitiate=to pay the penalty for a misdeed so powerfully that the offended deity is no longer angry, but instead is your friend. Death is fearful because of sin. Jesus paid the death debt we owed, and now we have nothing to fear.

And the amazing thing is that He used the very thing we were afraid of, death, the very penalty for our sin, and used it to defeat Satan and free us.

It's like causing a person to lose weight by eating an entire chocolate cake for him.

3. He intercedes for us.

This passage teaches that Jesus is the perfect High Priest. In the Jewish system, the High priest atoned for his own sin, then the sins of others. This recognition of personal sin by the priest identified with other sinners. This is a critical part of Jesus' qualification for being our Savior. He knew the power of being tempted. He knew the power of death, and even the fear of it in his humanity. Matthew 26:39 tells us... He prayed not My will but Thy will be done.

He is now able to "help" us, because He is one of us and has experienced in His body the wrath of God, which we are all under. He knew the separation from God, knew the agony of being cut off from the spiritual realm while dying in the physical.

Our amazing multi-tasking God not only entered our limited world, but in doing so atoned for our sins with such intense identification that at the same time He was atoning He was experiencing the pain of separation in the spiritual that we all know but that He had never known.

In doing so, He knew the terror of being cut off from God and became our Interceding Savior; One who can empathize with our condition from very real experience. His intercession for us took on a depth of compassion and love that is beyond our imagination.

Conclusion

It all started in a humble stall, with the plaintive cry of the Son of God beginning His suffering the way every baby does, the trauma of birth. This is why we try to sweep away the clutter and noise of the secular holiday that Christmas has become. It shrouds the glorious miracle of God becoming a man so that He might rescue us from the darkness of our physical dungeon, trapped by fear and ignorance, hoping against hope that something we can do inside these walls can guarantee that we will not be destroyed by judgment.

But He did become a man, and in doing so rescued us with a love that cannot be described with our limited vocabulary. The sin barrier has been removed, the bridge has been built to span the canyon between you and God, and the judgment you dread has been absorbed by the Righteous One, God who became a man to defeat sin and death.

Will you receive that gift today, by taking your first step on that bridge that is Jesus Christ?

Receive the Gift Today!

Strength for the New Year

Once again, we are fortunate enough to wake up to a brand new start in a brand new year. It doesn't matter what happened last year; there's nothing we can do about it. What's done is done, and life goes on. A New Year can be very exciting. It signals a new beginning, a fresh start. It's another chance to do the right thing and start over. There's now time to do those things that we have been talking about doing. You know, like "I'm really going to get serious about God....soon as I get time." Well, now's the time!

God is the giver of many wonderful new things. We come to Him by faith in Christ and He gives us the new birth. Then He gives us a new nature, a new heart, a new life, a new hope, and a new task. Finally at the end of the way He will give us a new body in a new home called heaven.

Often at this time of year we begin to realize time is slowly ticking away, and we are just along for the ride. It's like a canoe being swept down a river by the current. Where is it taking us? What are we doing while we're on this trip? Time marches on whether we like it or not. On the job employers are always worried about how you spent your time during the work day. Did you ever stop to think God is your employer and He is interested in how you spend your time?

Some folks make resolutions for the New Year. Perhaps you've already made a few. It's disappointing when we make them and then break them. We may start out well but our zeal cools down the first time we fudge a little or cheat on our commitment. If there is truly one resolution we all need to make this year it is to be closer to God. We can all agree that we would like to draw nearer to Him, but our zeal can easily disappear after a little while.

As a church, are we looking to have a purposeful, powerful year for the Lord Jesus Christ in

2019? As your pastor I am expecting great things from this New Year. Wouldn't it be great if we could break out of our slump and reach new people for God's Kingdom? What would you see as a reachable baptism goal for this year? How can we see our goals become reality? Are you praying for FIVE new families? We can have a purposeful, powerful year for the Lord if we will dedicate ourselves to cry out to God through prayer for our church and city. Our crying out to God must not end after we get past the newness of it, but we must continue until a movement of prayer is ignited within us.

Do you find it very interesting that Jesus never taught His disciples how to preach or teach? Instead He taught them how to pray. He didn't send them to seminars on Sunday School growth or evangelism, but He did show them how to bend their knees and bow their heads before their Heavenly Father.

Dr. Adrian Rogers said, "Prayer is our greatest Christian privilege and our greatest Christian failure." If we fail to pray then we fail to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. And we miss out on one the greatest privileges in life; connecting with the Creator of the Universe. Prayer is a privilege. But its necessity isn't often learned until we face the storms of life. John Trapp said, "He that cannot pray, let him go to sea, and there he will learn." God has never denied His people anything that they went as far as heaven to ask for it.

God Bless You!
Bro. Allan ☺

Opportunities For Service

Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

Sunday, December 30, 2018

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: ? ? ? ?, Fred Kerns, Ken Nice, Don Sharp

Alternate: ? ? ? ?

Mission Study: Noon

No services this evening.

Wednesday, January 2, 2019

No services this evening.

Sunday, January 6, 2019

Sunday School.....9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: ? ? ? ?, Gary Yarbrough, John Lewis, Joseph Coats

Alternate: Larry McKahan

Monday, January 7

Food Kitchen.....6:30 pm

Wednesday, January 9

Prayer Warriors.....10:00 am

Prayer/Bible Study.....6:30 pm

Worship Team.....7:30 pm

Up-Coming Events

December 30 — Mission Study—NOON

January 7, 2019 — Food Kitchen 5:30 pm

January 9 — Prayer Warriors 10:00 am

January 14 — Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 17 — Food Pantry

January 20 — Fellowship Dinner and Business Meeting

January 27 — Diversicare 2:00 pm

GROW Team

Commit to **GROW!** **Everyone make a contact!** Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

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Sunday Night

We will not have Sunday evening service tonight. Please join us for our International Mission Study immediately following this morning's service.

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

Prayer is such a vital part of everything a church does. Please come as we pray for the direction of our church.

We will not have Wednesday evening service this Wednesday, January 2.

The Christmas Card Mail Boxes

have been taken out of the hallway. Leftover cards have been placed on the table or left in the Sunday School room where you are a member. Be sure to get them! And the good news is we went over our Lottie Moon goal!

REFUGEES

International Mission Study
Today, December 30th at NOON

We're having a lite lunch after morning worship, followed by the mission study. Soup will be provided. Even if you didn't bring anything, please stay for this great time to learn more about missions. Ruth Anne Bush will be leading our study. Don't miss it!

To Our Calvary Family,

Blessings to you this Christmas and for the coming year. You will always have a special place in our hearts.

Tim and Sharon Waters
and family

**Business Meeting and
Carry-In Dinner**

We will have our regular business meeting and carry in meal immediately following the morning worship service January 20.

**Diversicare Nursing Home
January 27, 2019
at 2:30 pm**

Please join us as we minister to those who can no longer attend their own churches.

For the Record-

Attendance: December 23, 2018

Sunday School.....	29
Visitors.....	4
Total.....	33
Contacts Made.....	11
Morning Worship.....	41
Sunday Night.....	N/A
Children's Worship	??
Wednesday Night	N/A

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget	\$ 2,286.39
Offering Received ...	\$ 735.00
Lottie Moon.....	\$ 1,525.00
Long Family –Nov. ...	\$ 170.00

Offering Received by Mail:

January Counting Team:

John Lewis and Bill Schottel

January Van Driver:

Mike Green

Remember to call 232-3747

before 8 am if you need a ride.

January Member Birthdays:

01... Carol Helean

01... Marcia Hart

08... Al Shirley

19... Juanita Haskins

22....Eric Thompson

23... Pat Puckett

24....Aubrey McCamy

27... Gary Yarbrough

28... Donna Dunn

29... Sharon Waters

January Anniversaries

Allan and Ellen Lane

Married January 2, 1983

Philip and Kelsey Lane

Married January 3, 2009

Prayer Requests ...

The Family of George Ferbert

John Wildberger

Brendan Conner—Swymeller's Grandson

Joyce Winfrey and family

Whitesville Baptist Church

Mike Green

Jack and Flo Conard

Shirley Wilson—strength and recovery

Sandy and Stanley Wilson

Ruth Anne Bush—healing

Sharri Duty—Jerry Garcia

Linda Huff—cancer treatment

Marcia and Don Hart—blessings

Arlette Duty—strength

Peggy & Gary Fewins—Peggy's health

Donna and Bill Dunn—health

Karissa and Matt Long and family

Stephanie & Jason Terpack

Rosella Davis—Flo Conard's sister

Mary Sharp's brother-in-law Jim

Bill Clinton—Don and Mae's son

Lisa Bowers—Jack and Flo's daughter

Zella Davis —Doris Richardson's sister

Doris Richardson June Fritchle

The Waters Family Betty Campbell

Jim Winans Kevin Duty

Nellie Reynolds Ann Riddle

Don Beavers Tim Izer

Kathryn Beavers Keon McKahan
Jozy Winans Kenny Duty
Pat Means Buddy Means
Bill & Juanita Debbie Sands
Pat Puckett Curtis Conard
Brenda Burgess Roscoe Lane
Carolyn Houts Seth Long
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church
David and Deborah Grace
Our Nation and Leaders
Our Military Service Women and Men
Terrorism in our world
Today's Prayer Requests ...

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...
