

Unworthy

And one cried unto another, and said Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of His glory.

Then said [Isaiah], Woe is me! For I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips. –Isaiah 6:3-5

Last Monday we ventured out from our home to survey the damage of the storm that caused Battle Creek and Calhoun County to be declared a disaster area. I was amazed when I turned the corner and saw the devastation. Trees down, many sheered in half and others totally uprooted; power lines tangled in branches and laying on the ground; homes, businesses and barns with roofs blown off and sides crushed in; cars smashed; and debris everywhere. I could hardly believe my eyes.

We drove over to the church uncertain about the damage. If the roads we traveled were any indication, things did not look good. We saw the sign down and a big tree up rooted. I was not ready for the scene we viewed. Not a bit of damage to the building, the parking lot or the pavilion. It seemed as if God in His mercy had placed his hands around our building and said “No, this will not be touched.”

I realize God often takes us through trials for His glory, but this time I believe He knew we were weak. The members of our congregation are going through many trials: sickness, surgeries, caring for elderly parents and other family responsibilities. I believe a gracious God protected us from the devastation of this storm.

As I beheld the church my eyes welled up with tears. I could only think we are so unworthy. Why did God spare our church? Not because we deserved it, but because of His love and grace. That is a picture of God’s saving love and grace. His provision on the cross keeps us from the devastation of an eternity in Hell.