



Virtual Worship Service for the Lord's Day
Crossnore Presbyterian Church
Sunday, July 12, 2020

Choral Call to Worship # 627: *I Love You Lord*

Text and Music: Laurie Klein, 1978

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3xXkBVuQWU>

**I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship you;
O my soul rejoice.
Take joy, my King, in what you hear;
may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear. (repeat)**

Call to Worship:

The kingdom of God is here, and coming.

A mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;
it is the smallest of all the seeds,

but when it has grown, it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree,
so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

The kingdom of God is here, and coming.

Yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all was leavened.

The kingdom of God is here, and coming.

Treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid;
then joyfully sells all he has and buys the field.

The kingdom of God is here, and coming.

A merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one of great value,
sells all of his possessions and buys the pearl.

The kingdom of God is here, and coming.

Let all who have ears, hear.

Hymn of # 611: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1907; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1842, alt.

Sing along with the choir, orchestra, and audience in the Royal Albert Hall, London:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eMY3ivdNzwE>

**Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!**

**All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.**

**Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.**



**Mortals, join the happy chorus, which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning o'er us, brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us Sunward in the triumph song of life.**

Call to Confession:

It is in our confession where we realize our desire for God and our hope for God's mercy. It is in admitting the truth of our lives that we take the first step toward wholeness and healing. So let us make our confession together.

Unison Prayer of Confession:

Loving God, we know we don't have to make ourselves wallow in remorse before seeking your healing love. You understand our human nature; you know how unproductive and wasteful it is for us to get hooked on binges of guilt. Here and now we place before you the story of our successes and failures, our virtues and our sins, without trying to hide anything.

Please give us thankful hearts for all that has been beautiful and good and give us the love to repent for which has been ugly and evil. Help us to turn sharply away from all that is twisted and wrong, from all that neglects others and all that hurts others. Help us to turn away from all that harms our own souls, from everything that mars the divine image within us which is our truest nature and priceless treasure. Help us to turn completely towards you and move towards the beauty of your holiness.



By faith, we accept from you the saving love that forgives, restores and recommissions us for the business of glorifying you by loving service through all the common scenes of life. This is our need, and this is our prayer (moment of silence). Through Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Hear the Good News: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Response to God's Grace and Mercy # 441: *Hear the Good News of Salvation, verse one*

Text: Native American (Dakota); Jane Parker Huber, 1989; Music: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, 1813

Sing along with Geneva Presbyterian Church, Laguna Hills, CA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YuRSmUa0iz4>

**Hear the good news of salvation; Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness, such great mercy, comes to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.**

**All the sins I have committed, to my Savior now I bring.
I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing:
Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.**

First Lesson: Philippians 4:4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy

of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.



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Second Lesson: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Sermon: "A Priceless Treasure"

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of Meditation # 175: *Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

Text and Music: Karen Lafferty, 1971

Sing along with <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nvte9rcSiZ8>

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.**

Allelu, alleluia!

**You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.**

Allelu, alleluia!

**Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find;
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.**

Allelu, alleluia!

Prayers of the People:

Holy God, we enter this time of prayer mindful of our inability to be content.

We are restless and dissatisfied, even when we have all we need and then some.

Instead of giving thanks for that which we have, we lament that which we feel we lack.

We burden ourselves with things that do not offer that which they promise.

We burden others with expectations they cannot possibly meet.
We burden creation with our relentless abuse of the earth and its creatures.
As we pause to acknowledge our total dependence on you,
reveal to us the abundance you pour out upon your people.

We rejoice in the myriad of colors that show your glory around every corner —
the green leaves on the trees, the oranges and purples and pinks of blooming flowers,
the flash of the red cardinal and the shiny black of the crow.
Help us to stop and notice the beauty you so lavishly create and share.

We celebrate the goodness you embed in humanity.
We look for the helpers, the healers, the teachers, mentors, leaders and encouragers
who spend their lives looking to the interest of others,
seeking to serve rather than be served.
We give thanks for those closest to us, the people who love us at our worst,
cheer us when we are at our lowest, care for us when we are at our weakest
and want for us what is best.
They show us what it means to be called beloved and significant.

We praise you for the gift of this day, whatever it entails, knowing that you are present with us,
Christ prays for us, that the Spirit intercedes for us.
We rest in these promises —
so that emboldened by your power we can share these truths
with those yet to know of their priceless worth in your eyes.

We lament the suffering so pervasive in our world.
We cry out to you with sighs too deep for words for those who go to bed hungry,
the people fearing for their lives, the vulnerable too long exploited and your children denied justice.

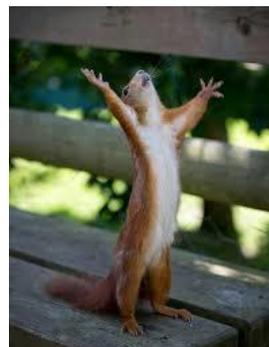
We lift up to you the sick and the broken-hearted, the lonely and the impoverished.
As we are yoked to Christ, yoke us to those who need their burdens lightened and their souls refreshed.
We make our prayer in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who taught us to say when we pray,
Our Father...

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

***Doxology # 609:**

**Text: Brian Wren, 1989; Music: Geistliche Kirchengesang, 1623
(same melody for "All Creatures of Our God and King)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**



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***Unison Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:**

Mighty God, our comfort and our strength: we have been navigating through this pandemic with anxiety and isolation. We have lived in fear of disease, death, and not having enough. Yet, we are here, offering our gifts to the work of your kingdom and reminding ourselves of the glory about to be revealed to us. Remind us that your plan is not bondage or decay but a love that will save us and free us and set us free to love others. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn # 697: *Take My Life and Let It Be

Text: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874; Music: H.A. Cesar Malan, 1827

Sing along with the Keaton Family Reunion: (the video moves around a bit but the music is worth it)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g5nPdada2EEY>

Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.

Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
It shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only all for thee.

***Charge and Benediction:**

Go out into the world in peace. Have courage! Hold fast to what is good.

Return no one evil for evil.

Strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering.

Honor all people.

Love and serve the Lord your God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord bless you and keep you;

the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;

the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. Amen.



Postlude: *Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Sung by Jimmy Fortune, Bill Gaither:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UUuPBjwo3LE>