

Virtual Worship Service
Crossnore Presbyterian Church
Sunday, September 13, 2020



"Signs of God's Love" by Chris Sadagnet

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

Text and Music: Laurie Klein, 1978

Sing along with Maranatha: <https://youtu.be/mLK8eG2JcB8>

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 voice of God gathers us this day;

The warmth of God brings us together as one people.

So we come, with joy and sorrow in our hearts,

With acts mighty and faltering,

With kindness and with selfishness,

With doubt and with faith:

So may we bring the fullness of our lives to God.

May we worship well this day.

Hymn of Praise # 35 *Praise Ye the Lord the Almighty

Text: Joachim Neander, 1680; translated by Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.; Music: Stralsund Erneuereten Gesangbuch, 1665

Sing along with the First Plymouth Church, Lincoln, NE: <https://youtu.be/0tMp674mxHY>

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, not to his temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord, O let all this is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly for aye we adore him.

Call to Confession:

It is difficult to examine our lives and to know that we have failed to love, to forgive, as God loves and forgives us. The good news is that God does not give up on us. Let us bring our brokenness before God as we share in our confession.

Unison Prayer of Confession:

O Lord we seek your mercy...yet we ourselves look for payback when we are wronged. We think it "only fair" and "what is right" when we retaliate and use harsh words and withdraw from relationship.

The forgiveness you offer on our account is larger than we can comprehend, still we withhold forgiveness and carry the grudge over petty items. We are eager to do your judging. And yet, we conspire our inner thoughts to secure your forgiveness while avoiding honest repentance. Forgive us Lord for the sins we know in our hearts. Save us Lord from the sins we hide (moment of silent confession). In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and has not dealt with us according to our sins. It is because of God's love revealed in Jesus Christ's life, death, and resurrection that our sins are forgiven. This gift of forgiveness makes us able, with the power of Holy Spirit, to choose to forgive, renew and live again in right relationship with each other and with our God. In the name of Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Response to God's Grace and Mercy # 443 *There Is a Redeemer*

Text and Music: Melody Green, 1982

Sing along with Grace Community Church: <https://youtu.be/6pUUOliSF7g>

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son;
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.
Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain.
Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.



Lamb of God Greek Orthodox Icon

When I stand in glory, I will see his face; there I'll serve my King forever in that holy place.
Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son, and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

Welcoming Our New Members:

Marie Cook, Bill and Shara Grant, Bill and BobbiRae Hassett, Gene Hodges, and Jayne Spangler

First Lesson: Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.



Special Music: *The Lone Wild Bird*

sung by Honey Whiskey Trio

<https://youtu.be/GJ5Ltn8sy7Y>

Second Lesson: Matthew 18:21-33

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to



"Forgiveness" by Jan Richardson

be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'

Sermon: "The Freedom of Forgiveness"

Rev. Kathy Campbell

Hymn of Meditation # 767 *Together We Serve

Text and Music: Daniel Charles Damon, 1996

Sing along with pianist, Josh Wilson: <https://youtu.be/85VcV6KqPBo>

Together we serve, united by love, inviting God's world to the glorious feast.

We work and we pray through sorrow and joy, extending God's love to the last and the least.

We seek to become a beacon of hope, a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.

We learn, year by year, to let love shine through until we see Christ in each person we meet.

We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor, the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.

We offer a home to those who will come, our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.

Together, by grace, we witness and work, remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.

Together we serve in Spirit and truth, remembering love is the strength of our song.

Prayers of the People:

God our Father, in whose eyes all life is precious,
help us to value the worth of every individual,
whom you have created in your image.

We pray for victims of violence or hatred,
especially people who have suffered innocently.
May they find the healing of body, mind or spirit which they need.

We pray that the causes of division and hatred may be brought down.
Where there is prejudice because of color, language, religion, sexuality, or culture,
help us to see things through the eyes of others,
and act towards them as we would like to be treated ourselves.

We also pray for people who deeply hurt others.
Enable them not only to admit their mistakes,
but also to use their time and energy for the benefit of others
and the welfare of society.

We pray for family relationships in our society.
Thank you for our own families,
and those who are like family to us.

We ask for your healing and reconciling love
in family disputes or misunderstandings.
Give family members good friends and wise counselors and pastors,
so that they may be guided in ways that offer forgiveness and new life.

Loving God,
as we have promised you our devoted service in words and prayer,
give us the strength of your Holy Spirit
to enable us to keep our promises,
for you are the source of our lives and our strength.
We lift up those who need your healing this day from our prayer list and from our hearts...
We offer our prayers to you in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray:
Our Father...

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings:

Take a moment to think of just a few ways that God has richly blessed you this past week. God is the giver and the forgiver of our lives. One of the ways we show our deep gratitude for life and grace is by giving to God a portion of the blessings God has showered upon us. Let us now receive this morning's offering which will go to share the love of Christ to care for people physically and spiritually.

***Doxology # 608**

Text: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988; Music: Hal H. Hopson, 2008

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, who we adore.**

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

O Lord, giver of life and source of freedom, we know that all we have received is from your hand. You call us to be stewards of your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us to always use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. Amen.

Closing Hymn # 313 *Lord, Make Us More Holy

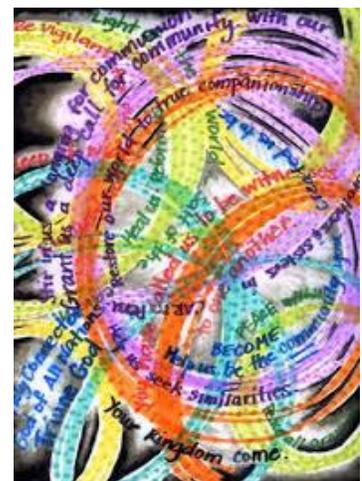
Text and Music: African American Spiritual

Sing along with https://youtu.be/LjwiniTNu_o

**Lord, make us more holy; Lord, make us more holy;
Lord, make us more holy, until we meet again:
Holy, holy, holy, until we meet again.**

**Lord, make us more loving; Lord, make us more loving;
Lord, make us more loving, until we meet again:
Loving, loving, loving, until we meet again.**

**Lord, make us more patient; Lord, make us more patient;
Lord, make us more patient, until we meet again:
Patient, patient, patient, until we meet again.**



“Discipleship”

Lord, make us more faithful; Lord, make us more faithful;
Lord, make us more faithful, until we meet again:
Faithful, faithful, faithful, until we meet again.



***Charge and Benediction:**

Whether we believe or whether we struggle, we are God's.

Let us go out to welcome the doubters and disciples around us.

Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

Let us go to embrace all who have lost hope.

Whether we are brave or quake at the knees, we are the Spirit's.

Let us go to encourage our sisters and brothers who struggle.

The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with each of you, be with all of us, be with our beautiful and broken world. **Amen.**