

Virtual Worship Service for the Lord's Day
Sunday, November 14, 2021
Crossnore Presbyterian Church
200 Chapel Drive, P.O. Box 386
Crossnore, NC 28616



Kelly Latimore, Iconographer

Welcome and Church Family News (PDF attachment)

Choral Call to Worship # 406 *We Are Standing on Holy Ground*
Sing along with Divine Hymns: <https://youtu.be/i2YEHMs05Lw>

HOLY GROUND

We are standing on holy ground and I know that there are angels all around.
Let us praise Jesus now; we are standing in his presence on holy ground.

Call to Worship:

Look at the birds of the air;
they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns
and yet God provides for the basic sustenance of life.

May our hearts be open to trust you.

Look at the birds of the air;
they neither study nor plan nor plot their course
and yet God writes the instinct for migration into their hearts.

May our eyes be open to see you.

Look at the birds of the air;
they neither argue nor debate their responsibility
yet God weaves them into communities which nurture and defend.

May our hands be open to serve you.

Hymn of Praise # 39 *Great is Thy Faithfulness*
<https://youtu.be/dTKlqmdfHsk> - Dutchforward

FAITHFULNESS

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

Call to Confession:

Longing for the touch of God, we cry out; humbled by the awareness of our human nature and brokenness, we bring our prayers of confession to God.

Litany of Confession:

Gracious God, we long to be faithful stewards of your abundant grace,

to serve each other in love and humility; to serve your world with wisdom and energy.

Forgive us when we stumble over pride, when our words and actions are not guided by love.

Turn our hearts when we act in folly and restore our energy when it is gone.

Sometimes, many times, O God, our efforts fail.

But your abundant grace is strong and eternal, and forgiveness is ours through Jesus Christ.

(moment of silent confession)

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

“The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy” (James 3:17).

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, and we are given a new way to live.

Let us accept God’s grace, and live new lives of faith, obedience, and joy.

Response to God’s Grace and Mercy # 647 Give Thanks

<https://youtu.be/PYRgB26rPIs> - Janella Salvado

Give thanks with a grateful heart,

give thanks to the Holy One;

give thanks, because he’s given

Jesus Christ, his Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,

give thanks to the Holy One;

give thanks, because he’s given

Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say ‘I am strong’,

let the poor say ‘I am rich’,

because of what the Lord has done for us;

and now let the weak say ‘I am strong’,

let the poor say ‘I am rich’,

because of what the Lord has done for us.

Give thanks...

Prayer of Illumination:

Living God, help us so to hear your holy Word

that we may truly understand;

that, understanding, we may believe;

and believing,

we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience,

seeking your honor and glory in all that we do;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Lesson: Isaiah 49:8-16a

Thus says the Lord: In a time of favor I have answered you, on a day of salvation I have helped you; I have kept you and given you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages; saying to the prisoners, "Come out," to those who are in darkness, "Show yourselves." They shall feed along the ways, on all the bare heights shall be their pasture; they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them down, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. And I will turn all my mountains into a road, and my highways shall be raised up. Lo, these shall come from far away, and lo, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene.

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones. But Zion said, "The Lord has forsaken me, my Lord has forgotten me." Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands...

Special Music: *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*

vocal duet by Kim Hayes and Rose Jackson Sparrow: <https://youtu.be/XLzkcPH7ZKk>

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?

Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home,

when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he:

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Refrain:

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,

for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

"Let not your heart be troubled," His tender word I hear,

And resting on His goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;

Though by the path He leadeth, but one step I may see;

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me. (Refrain)

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,

When songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies,

I draw the closer to Him, from care He sets me free;

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me. (Refrain)

Second Lesson: Matthew 6:25-34

"No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth. "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

Affirmation of Faith: A Portion of the Brief Statement of Faith (PC USA)

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in God,
whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

Lord God, our Provider,
We worship you as the one who meets our needs,
who grants our daily bread,
who restores our humanity.

We worship you as the God who knows human need from experience,
who knows want, and thirst and humiliation.

And we worship you as your people,
in a world where wealth is mixed with poverty;
where we have all we need, but don't know how to share.
Where want and hunger and thirst and humiliation are hidden
from those with the power to offer challenge and bring change.

So, open our eyes.
Not only that we learn sad facts about the world.
But open the eyes of our heart,
that we may feel our place in this world, as your people.
Where there is need,
teach us to learn where our wealth lies, and help us to give.
Where there is injustice,
teach us to learn the causes, and help us to fight.
Where there is brokenness,
teach us to learn of our own brokenness, and help us to bring wholeness.

Help us to look to you,
that we neither remain ignorant of the world,
nor lose ourselves in despair at its brokenness.

Show us how to worship you,
the crucified God,
the risen God,
the God who provides.

Help us to accept your gift of new life,
to live with grateful hearts,
and to share your good news with others.
In the name of Jesus, we pray, who taught us to pray: Our Father... Amen.

Hymn of Meditation # 215 *What Wondrous Love Is This*
<https://youtu.be/oVNktRGU3As> - Sounds Like Reign

WONDROUS LOVE

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!**

**When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!**

**To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing!**

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings:

God is the Creator and Provider of all life and we are the recipients of the daily blessings showered upon us new every morning. What will you return to God in deep gratitude for all that you have received this past week?

Doxology # 606

https://youtu.be/ivaDXu27_IY - Music for the soul

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above all, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

Unison Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

God of majesty and power, you have dominion over all the universe, and yet you choose to rule not in power but in love. The gifts we give to you are offered with our deepest gratitude for all your blessings that keep us and sustain us. May our whole lives reflect to the world your holy love and compassion. In the name of your Son, the Christ, we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn # 546 *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessings*

Sing along with Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, Michigan: <https://youtu.be/aGzMd1i92lo>

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us,
traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound;
may the fruits of your salvation
in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
to your truth may we be found.

Savior, when your love shall call us,
from our struggling pilgrim way,
let no fear of death appall us,
glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
reign with you in endless day.

Charge and Benediction:

Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

Go in peace.

May God our Creator renew in us the creative Spirit
that brings healing and life to all creation.

May Jesus the Christ, sustain us in boundless grace and love.

May the Holy Spirit fill us with courage to be bearers of God's hope in the world,

Amen.



Artist, Robert E. Fuller