

*Worship Service for the Lord's Day*  
*Sunday, February 27, 2022*  
*Crossnore Presbyterian Church*  
*200 Chapel Drive*  
*Crossnore, NC 28616*



Welcome and Church Family News (PDF attachment)

Choral Call to Worship # 626 *As the Deer*

Sing along: <https://youtu.be/UZv3jzOTE70>

AS THE DEER

As the deer panteth for the water  
So my soul longeth after Thee  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship Thee  
You alone are my strength, my shield  
To You alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship Thee

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**Call to Worship:**

This day is God's gift to us –

**A gift of community and Sabbath,**

A gift of doing nothing more than offering thanks and basking in the divine presence.

**This time is our gift to God –**

A gift of song, and prayer, and silence,

**A gift of offering our lives in service to our Maker.**

Surrounded by all these gifts, let us worship God.

**Hymn of Praise # 37 *Let All Things Now Living***

Sing along with the Lebanon County Youth Chorus: <https://youtu.be/KpMCE1G3N7Q>

ASH GROVE

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
To God the creator triumphantly raise.  
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.  
His banners are o'er us, His light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night.  
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished  
As forward we travel from light into light.  
His law he enforces, the stars in their courses  
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.  
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
With glad adoration a song let us raise  
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:  
"To God in the highest, Hosanna and praise!" Amen.

### **Call to Confession:**

When we seek God's mercy, we draw close the mystery of faith: love that cannot be undone by our sin. Trusting that God is grace, let us offer to God the truth of our lives.

### **Unison Prayer of Confession:**

**Holy and gracious God, at times we feel so frail and fragile, getting blown about by the latest crisis, by bad news, by our own short tempers and failings. You call us to hold fast to what is good, but so often we flounder, unable to find that solid thing that will center us again. Help us, we pray. Help us to see you as our center, and to cling to the good that you create in the world. Help us to set aside all our jealousies and prejudices, all of our betrayals and lies, all that adds to the world's hurt. Help us to grow even more into Christ's likeness, that we will bear his love and truth to the world (moment of silent confession). We pray in his name. Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon:**

Friends, hear the Good News: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting. Let us proclaim the Good News: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

### **Response to God's Grace and Mercy # 649 *Amazing Grace***

AMAZING GRACE

Sing along with Carrie Underwood: <https://youtu.be/2tae3rplvpg>

Amazing grace  
How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
Was blind, but now I see  
  
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun.

Amazing grace  
How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
Was blind, but now I see

### **First Lesson: Ecclesiastes 3:1-3**

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with.

He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.

### **Special Music: *Turn! Turn! Turn***

The Byrds: <https://youtu.be/pKP4cfU28vM>

### **Second Lesson: Revelation 21:1-6**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he

will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

**Sermon: "The Time of Our Lives"**

**Rev. Joseph Bennett**

**Affirmation of Faith: 20<sup>th</sup> Century South African Creed**

**Jesus taught us to speak of hope as the coming of God's kingdom.**

**We believe that God is at work in our world  
turning hopeless and evil situations into good.**

**We believe that goodness and justice  
will triumph in the end  
and that tyranny and oppression cannot last forever.**

**One day all tears will be wiped away;  
the lamb will lie down with the lion,  
and justice will roll down like a mighty stream.  
True peace and true reconciliation are not only desired,  
they are assured and guaranteed in Christ.**

**This is our faith.  
This is our hope.**

**Hymn of Meditation # 450 *Be Thou My Vision***

SLANE

Sing along with Celtic Worship: <https://youtu.be/XiukM6WHQEQ>

**Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.  
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.**

**Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.**

**Be Thou my battle Shield, Sword for the fight;  
Be Thou my Dignity, Thou my Delight;  
Thou my soul's Shelter, Thou my high Tow'r:  
Raise Thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.**

**Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.**

**High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.**

**Prayers of the People:**

Holy God,  
whose Spirit moved over the waters at the dawn of creation,  
hear our prayers for all who thirst today.

We pray for those who are spiritually thirsty,  
who long to know Your presence, but don't know where to find You.  
We pray for those who are alone and without hope,  
those who long to feel needed and loved,  
those who are searching for meaning and purpose.

**River of Life,  
pour down Your waters, and heal Your people.**

We pray for all who are physically thirsty,  
who don't have enough water to drink, or feed their animals,  
whose fields are parched, whose crops have withered;  
those who have to walk long distances to find enough water to survive,  
or who have to be content with water that is unclean.  
We pray for those whose homes and villages are torn apart  
because of drought or famine.

**River of Life,  
pour down Your waters, and heal Your people.**

We pray for those who are thirsty for justice,  
who long for an equal sharing of resources among peoples and nations;  
those who put their lives at risk to protect streams and rivers and oceans;  
those who are working to find clean water,  
and make it available to those who need it.

**River of Life,  
pour down Your waters, and heal Your people.**

God, we ask that you would open our hearts to the needs of all who thirst.  
Give us courage to work together for justice,  
to stand alongside those who are thirsty,  
so that all people, everywhere, may live without want or fear,  
and may discover the abundant life You promise to each one.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray,  
who taught his disciples to pray: **Our Father... Amen.**

**Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings**

Take a moment to reflect on all the blessings God has showered upon you this past week and then in gratitude, return a portion of those blessings by offering your time, your talents, your treasures to Christ's service in the coming week. What will you offer to God?

**\*Doxology # 606**

<https://youtu.be/2kmskQGUILc> - First United Methodist Church, Washington, NC3

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

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

God, you have given each of us gifts to use as members of the body of Christ. Here are our gifts – the work of our hands, our hearts, and our lives. We pray that they may help to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to our world, today and always, here and everywhere. Amen.

**\*Closing Hymn # 838 *Standing on the Promises***

PROMISES

Sing along with of Alan Jackson: <https://youtu.be/SJqXPDkZasE>

Standing on the promises of Christ my King,  
Through eternal ages let His praises ring,  
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,  
Standing on the promises of God.

**Refrain:**

Standing, standing,  
Standing on the promises of God my Savior;  
Standing, standing,  
I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,  
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,  
By the living Word of God I shall prevail,  
Standing on the promises of God. (Refrain)

**\*Charge and Benediction:**

And now let us take our worship into our work!  
May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you and with this beautiful and broken world.  
Amen.

**\*Postlude: *I Know Who Holds Tomorrow***

The Petersons perform: <https://youtu.be/C7BtGs1w6hA>