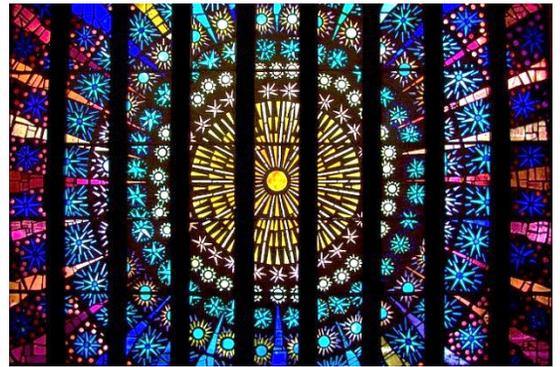


Virtual Worship Service for the Lord's Day
Ascension Sunday, May 29, 2022
Crossnore Presbyterian Church
200 Chapel Drive, P.O. Box 386
Crossnore, NC 28616



Welcome and Church Family News (PDF attachments)
~a reflection on the shooting in Uvalde, Texas, is included

Choral Call to Worship # 792 *There Is a Balm in Gilead*
https://youtu.be/8fcMxl_6xsk - The Adventist Vocal Ensemble

Refrain:

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged,
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again. (Refrain)

Don't ever feel discouraged,
for Jesus is your friend,
and if you lack for knowledge,
he'll not refuse to lend. (Refrain)

If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus
And say, "He died for all." (Refrain)

Call to Worship:

Why are we looking up to heaven?

Christ has come; Christ has risen; Christ will come again.

Why are we looking ahead to the future?

The Holy Spirit is among us now.

In our baptism, we have already died and risen with Christ.

Why are we afraid of death and dying?

God's love casts out our fear.

Why are we afraid to follow Jesus?

In Christ, we have the promise of new life now and forever.

In Christ, we join our hearts to worship God, who has prepared for us to enter the reign of God.

Hymn of Praise # 307 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

<https://youtu.be/i1G6uArjXYI> - First Presbyterian Church, New York City

CWM RHONDDA

God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore.

Let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

Call to Confession:

“Search my heart, probe me, God! Test and judge my thoughts. Look! Do I follow the crooked paths? Lead me along your ancient way.” Like the psalmist, we can express our longing to be reconciled with God and with one another as we make our honest confession, remembering God’s assurance of love and forgiveness.

Unison Prayer of Confession:

O Lord, we have not always lived our lives as your disciples, as heirs of your kingdom. We place our crowns on hopelessness, fear, and selfishness. We are ruled by our schedules and our need for control. We make kings of the things we acquire and queens of our immediate desires. We forget that your kingdom draws near to us on earth, as it is in heaven. Forgive us, we pray. Come, Lord, and open in us the gates of your kingdom (moment of silent confession) In the name of Christ, the Ruler of all creation. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Forgiveness and love have been poured out upon us, to offer hope to all nations. We are called and blessed to be messengers of God’s good news to all people. Amen.

Response to God’s Grace and Mercy # 268 *Crown Him with Many Crowns*, verse one

DIADEMATA

<https://youtu.be/Kc3UnhPHTOo> -Westminster Abbey

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time;
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

Welcoming Our New Members: Esten Medlin, Lynn O'Meara, and Jo Ann Riddle

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.

First Lesson: Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging.
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.
God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.
Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.
The Lord Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.
Come and see what the Lord has done,
the desolations he has brought on the earth.
He makes wars cease
to the ends of the earth.
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.

He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."
The Lord Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Choir Anthem: *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

<https://youtu.be/YUvxPGxZt-s> - the Choir of Washington National Cathedral

Second Lesson: Luke 24:44-53

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.' Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Sermon: "Don't Look Up" (PDF attachment)

Rev. Kathy Campbell

Hymn of Meditation # 726 *Will You Come and Follow Me*

KELVINGROVE

<https://youtu.be/Y7Y5RWel6eg> - Chris Brunelle

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?
Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?
Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
And never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean,
And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean
In you and you in me?
Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?
Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
And never be the same.
In your company I'll go
Where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
In you and you in me.

Prayers of the People:

Gracious God, on this Memorial Day weekend,
we remember and give thanks
for those who have given their lives
in the service of our country.

When the need was greatest,
they stepped forward and did their duty
to defend the freedoms that we enjoy,
and to win the same for others.

O God, you yourself have taught us
that no love is greater than that
which gives itself for another.

These honored dead gave the most precious gift they had, life itself,
for loved ones and neighbors,
for comrades and country - and for us.

Help us to honor their memory
by caring for the family members
they have left behind,
by ensuring that their wounded comrades
are properly cared for,
by being watchful caretakers of the freedoms
for which they gave their lives,
and by demanding that no other young men and women
follow them to a soldier's grave
unless the reason is worthy and the cause is just.

Holy One, help us to remember that freedom is not free.
There are times when its cost is, indeed, dear.
Never let us forget those who paid so terrible a price
to ensure that freedom would be our legacy.

Though their names may fade with the passing of generations,
may we never forget what they have done.

Help us to be worthy of their sacrifice,
O God, help us to be worthy.

We pray in the name of Christ, the Prince of Peace,
who taught his disciples to pray, Our Father...Amen.

Presentation of Our Offerings and Tithes:

As we have been fed and nourished by our faith, our relationship with Christ, we are called to help feed and nourish those who hunger spiritually and physically. What will be your gift to God this week to expand the ministry of Christ through this congregation and to spread hope? Let us receive this morning's offering.

Doxology # 606

https://youtu.be/ILdeoa_2kdY - The St Mary Magdalene Church Choir

**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. Amen.**

Unison Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

Loving God, we offer these gifts to you today, as thanks for the work that you are doing within us. As we give, we pray for the courage to increase our faith and strengthen our walk with you, today and always. Amen

Closing Hymn # 700 *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'M GONNA LIVE

<https://youtu.be/fp7Nd3oG5bk> - Bishop G. E. Patterson

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

Charge and Benediction:

May God bless us with a broken heart open to those who are suffering,
May God bless us with an angry spirit that seeks both peace with justice,
May God bless us with a courageous will that goes beyond intent into action.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Love of God,
and the Fellowship and Friendship of the Holy Spirit
be with you and with this beautiful and broken world.
Amen.