

*Virtual Worship Service for the Lord's Day*  
*Proper 11 C, Sunday, July 17, 2022*  
*Crossnore Presbyterian Church*  
*200 Chapel Drive, P.O. Box 386*  
*Crossnore, NC 28616*



Welcome and Church Family News (PDF attachment)

Choral Call to Worship # 701 *Lord, Prepare Me* and *Alpha and Omega*  
Sung by Israel and New Breed: <https://youtu.be/zXC8bH4huLg>

**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 # *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*  
<https://youtu.be/Fff2xQETe1c> - Jaron and Katherine Kamin

ST. DENIO

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:  
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.  
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

**Call to Confession:**

They are there in the Bible: men and women who are as weak, as foolish, as prone to sin as we are. Every page, every story reveals to us our brokenness. Yet every page, every story tells us of the One who longs to make us whole. Let us confess our sins, and clear the way for God's reconciling love to work within us. Please join me as we confess our sins before God and each other.

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

Revealing God, in the mirror we call scripture, we see ourselves for who we are and are not. We whine about those who are not doing what we think they should, and ignore our failings. We speak words which nibble away at the life in our family and friends. We step over the poor on our way to get more and more, ignoring their needs.

Forgive us, God, and sit us down at Jesus' feet, so we may learn the balanced life you intend for us. Then, and only then, we can set aside our grudges, to offer our gifts to our neighbors; we can stop licking at our hurts, to bring healing to others; we can reach out and welcome our sisters and brothers, even as we have been welcomed into your heart (moment of silent confession). Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

### **Assurance of Pardon:**

When we are in Christ, everything becomes new. Our past is just that - our past!

Thanks be to God! We will go forth and live as reconciled people. Amen.

### **Response to God's Grace and Mercy # 437**

WAYFARING STRANGER

<https://youtu.be/o--Fx9zukvQ> - Newport Presbyterian Church

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy;**

**You are the Christ, giver of mercy;**

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy.**

### **First Lesson: Colossians 1:15-20**

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

### **Special Music: *The Lone Wild Bird in Lofty Flight***

<https://youtu.be/cjaSnN68YNM> - The L.A. Choral Lab

### **Second Lesson: Luke 10:38-42**

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

### **Sermon: "Choices" (PDF attachment)**

**Rev. Kathy Campbell**

### **Affirmation of Faith:**

**We believe in an innovative God,  
who does not wait for us to find ourselves  
but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way.**

**We believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God's crucial initiative,  
that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power  
to become, both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.**

**We believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us,  
calling us into an obedience which is true liberty  
and a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.**

**We believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ's people,  
called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations  
as we travel the road towards the "promised land" of God's future.**

**Because Christ has called us, in this we truly believe. Amen.**

(adapted from an affirmation of faith written by Rev. Bruce Prewer)

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

<https://youtu.be/WZBOSfiH8Rk> - Keith & Kristyn Getty

SLANE

(words to verses are on the video)

**Prayers of the People:**

Gracious and generous God, creator of all,  
giver of all life, of summer, of sun and warmth,  
of the green earth and blue seas,  
we give thanks for the many blessings flowing from you to us,  
like a basket of summer fruit.

Gracious and generous God, creator of all,  
pouring your love into Christ Jesus,  
your steadfast promise of love, of hope, of faith, to us,  
may we hear your words calling us to be your Body.

Gracious and generous God, merciful lover of souls,  
tend to those who grieve and blanket them in your comfort and hope.  
We pray for those who are suffering in body, mind, and spirit,  
may your love embrace their pain and heal their wounds.

Gracious and generous God, merciful lover of souls,  
take our worries and the brokenness of the world  
and heal it as only you are able.  
Speak into our lives and show us the way  
to be your love, your healing.

As Martha offers hospitality to the stranger,  
as Mary listens carefully to your word,  
may we learn from our sisters  
to be your hands and heart in the world.  
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,  
who taught his disciples to pray: Our Father...Amen.

**Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings:**

Do you remember the old song "Count Your Blessings One by One"? Think of all the ways God has blessed you and has been with you in this past week. How will you show your gratitude to the One who loves you unconditionally? What offering will you bring before God this day to be blessed and used to spread the Good News of God's love to all creation? Let us receive this morning's offering.

**Doxology # 608**

<https://youtu.be/VXKULgrCpUg> - First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, Alabama

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

**Unison Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:**

**Because we trust in your never-ending love, Gracious God, we offer not only our thanks, but our gifts, knowing that what you have done in the past – rescuing the lost, healing the broken, feeding the hungry, loving the poor – will continue to be accomplished through our gifts. Bless all that we offer to you, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: Celtic Benediction (in Scottish Gaelic and English)**

<https://youtu.be/y3-tRu8MIk>: Celtic Worship and Friends

**Charge and Benediction:**

Go out into the world to serve God with love.  
Be ready to laugh with delight at the good news God has to offer you.  
Make room at your table for unexpected guests.  
When the work of discipleship leaves you weary or frustrated,  
rest in Christ's presence and listen to what he is saying.  
And the blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,  
go with you today and always. Amen.