

*Virtual Worship Service for the Lord's Day
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost,
September 25, 2022
Crossnore Presbyterian Church
200 Chapel Drive, P.O. Box 386
Crossnore, NC 28616*



CHILDREN PRAYING

Welcome and Church Family News (PDF attachment)

Choral Call to Worship # 469 *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*
<https://youtu.be/IUOapzz4Zwk> - by Ken Medema, Morning Star Music

Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Call to Worship:

In the beginning, before time, before people,
GOD WAS.

Here and now, among us, beside us,
clearer than air, closer than breathing,
GOD IS.

In all that is to come, when we have turned to dust
and human knowledge has been completed,
GOD WILL BE.

Not despairing of earth, but delighting in creation,
not condemning the world, but redeeming it
through Jesus Christ,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
GOD WAS, GOD IS, AND GOD WILL BE!

Hymn of Praise # 32 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*
<https://youtu.be/uCLCHebTKas> - The Ball Brothers

ELLACOMBE

I sing the mighty power of God
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God's command,
and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord
who filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures through the Word,
and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below
but makes thy glories known.
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne,
while all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be,
thou, God, art present there.

Call to Confession:

In God's presence, our lives are exposed, our words are shown for their hollowness, our need is revealed. Let us confess all of who we are, both light and shadow, as we ask God to embrace us with grace and hope.

Litany of Confession:

from *The Pattern of Our Days* edited by Kathy Galloway

Lord, you know that we love you, and we know what you ask us to do—
but for those times when we have been too busy, when we have been hard-hearted,
when we have been lukewarm, we ask for your forgiving love.

Prepare for us your way, O Lord; your kingdom come, your will be done.

Lord, you know our good intentions, and we know your will—
but hold us back long enough to listen to those in need and to learn from them
and to learn of our own need.

When we think we are sent, make us ready to receive,
where we are keen to teach, make us ready to learn.

Prepare for us your way, O Lord; your kingdom come, your will be done.

Lord, you know our deepest desires, and we know your vision of your kingdom—
we bring before you those elements in our lives
in need of your transforming power:
that which we misuse or neglect,
that which we are reluctant to let go of,
that which we believe is not good enough.

Inspire us and disturb us to examine our deepest desires.

Prepare for us your way, O Lord; your kingdom come, your will be done.

Lord, you know our potential, but what is your purpose for our lives?

In our uncertainty and in the knowledge of your faithfulness,

Prepare for us your way, O Lord; your kingdom come, your will be done.

Assurance of Pardon:

This is the good news that comes from God: I will hear your prayers, I will answer with hope and peace,
I will deliver you from your sins.

God has covered us with grace and filled us with new life in Christ. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response to God's Grace and Mercy # 418 *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling*

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY

<https://youtu.be/7mVrDsuvdHA> - Rosemary Siemens

**Softly and tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me.**

**See, on the portals he he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.**

Refrain:

Come home, (come home) come home (come home)!

You who are weary come home.

**Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, "O sinner, come home!"**

**O for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me!**

**Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,
pardon for you and for me. [Refrain]**

First Lesson: Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16

You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust." For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence; he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, or the arrow that flies by day, or the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or the destruction that wastes at noonday. Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them. With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

**Special Music: *It Is Well With My Soul* sung in English, Spanish, Russian, Ukrainian
Sung by Rooted in Christ: <https://youtu.be/GRTVx3gPoWA>**

Second Lesson: Psalm 139:1-14, 23-24

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,"
even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Sermon: "The Ever Present God" (PDF attachment)

Rev. Kathy Campbell

*Note: A guest pastor is preaching at CPC this morning.

Pastor Kathy is providing a gently used sermon on Psalm 139

for you to read and listen for God's living word for you as you enter a new week.

Affirmation of Faith Litany: Portion of the Brief Statement of Faith

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 the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

**In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

**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.**

Gloria Patri # 581

<https://youtu.be/onJLwQS8dR0> - First Plymouth Church, Lincoln, Nebraska

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

Hymn of Meditation # 462 *I Love to Tell the Story*

Sing along with First Plymouth Church, Lincoln, Nebraska: <https://youtu.be/onJLwQS8dR0>

HANKEY

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.

Refrain:

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. [Refrain]

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

Prayers of the People:

Jesus Christ, our faithful friend,
we thank you for the precious gift of friendship,
for the people who accept us as we are,
love us even in our most unattractive moments,
help us laugh at ourselves and laugh at life,
encourage us, support us, believe in us, value us.
Help us never to take friendship for granted,
but to nurture it like a beautiful plant.

Jesus Christ, our faithful friend,
you call us to expand our circle of friendship
as you showed us through your own life on earth—
to include those who are lonely, lost, hungry, sick, forgotten,
and even those we dismiss, dislike, and even hate.
We pray for your blessing on all your children
and their specific needs.

We pray for your blessing
on the unemployed and those who stand by them,
on the prisoners and those who offer friendship,
on the neglected and abused and those who believe them.

We pray for your blessing
on the hungry and those who feed them,
on refugees and those who welcome them,
on the sick and those who nurse them,
on drug addicts and those who treat them,
and the grieving and those who comfort them.

We pray for your blessing
on our loved ones near and far,
on those we see and those who never catch our eye,
on those we avoid and those we dislike,
on those we believe in and those we have given up on.

We pray for your hope and healing
for all who are in need physically and spiritually this day
and we offer our prayers in the name of Christ Jesus,
who taught his disciples to pray: Our Father...Amen.

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings:

God's blessings are showered upon us with each new morning and if we pay attention, we begin to realize all the ways God knows us, loves us, and provides for us. This morning's offering is our opportunity to say "thank you" and to offer our lives to God's ministry of hope and healing in the week ahead. Let us receive this morning's offering.

Doxology # 608

PRAISE GOD (Hopson)

<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:

May our gifts this day go to serve those who need healing, those who are hungry, those who need a friend or community, and those who are on the other side of that chasm we call indifference. Open our eyes that we may notice them, as you do. May your light and love shine through our words and actions and fill those who are in need with your grace and hope. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn # 542 *God Be With You Till We Meet Again*

GOD BE WITH YOU

Sing along with the Antrim Mennonite Choir, Freeport, Ohio: <https://youtu.be/GZHrtHdbdOE> -

God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
unseen wings protecting hide you,
daily manna still provide you:
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you:
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
keep love's banner floating o'er you;
smite death's threatening wave before you:
God be with you till we meet again.

Charge and Benediction:

As we leave this time of worship, let us not forget:

There is nowhere we can go where God is not. Everywhere we go, God goes before us.

From the farthest ocean to the highest mountain, from the heights of joy to the depths of despair—
wherever we find ourselves, God is already there. So go in peace, for we do not go alone.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.