

Virtual Worship Service for the Lord's Day
The Fourth Sunday in the Season of Epiphany
January 29, 2023
Crossnore Presbyterian Church
200 Chapel Drive, P.O. Box 386
Crossnore, NC 28616



Welcome and Church Family News (PDF attachment)

Choral Call to Worship: *The Old Rugged Cross*

Alabama: https://youtu.be/MqKo_lsf5WY

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross
The emblem of suffering and shame
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross (rugged cross)
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it some day for a crown

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true
It's shame and reproach gladly bear
Then he'll call me some day to my home far away
Where his glory forever I'll share

And I'll cherish the old rugged cross (rugged cross)
Till my trophies at last I lay down
And I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it some day for a crown
I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it some day for a crown

Call to Worship: Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

**Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.**

Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good;

**his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.**

Hymn of Praise # 39 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Celtic Worship: <https://youtu.be/rLNPml-7ui4>

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.

FAITHFULNESS

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:

Each week as a community we set aside time to admit our sin. For some, sin is hurting someone else. For others, sin is creating a rift between people. Sin may be our self-inflicted separation from God. However we understand sin, let us offer to God what lies heavily in our hearts this day.

Unison Prayer of Confession:

O Holy God, we know we have fallen short. We turn our backs when we could embrace. We remain silent when we could speak. We speak when we could listen. We close the door when we could fling it wide open. We judge when we could seek understanding. We cling when we could give. Forgive us, O God, for being so very human at times, and help us to continue to grow into the people you created us to be, through Christ our Lord (moment of silent confession). In the name of the One who is the Light of the World. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Friends, hear the Good News: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Amen.

Response to God's Grace and Mercy: *Amazing Grace*

Anthem Lights: <https://youtu.be/1LZOPuvZUCk>

**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**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come.**

**'Tis grace has brought my hear safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**

The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures

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 believed.

First Lesson and Meditation: Revelation 3:20-22 (PDF attachment)

Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. To the one who conquers I will give a place with me on my throne, just as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

Special Music: *Somebody's Knocking At Your Door*

an African American Spiritual; arr. by Joy F. Patterson

<https://youtu.be/8O17Wp8Vw7c> - Ochoa Middle School Choir directed by Victoria Schmidt

Second Lesson and Meditation: Psalm 90:1-6 (PDF attachment)

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals."
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night.
You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning;
in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

Special Music: *Evening Shade*

Tune: Stephen Jenks, 1805, Words: John Leland, 1792

<https://youtu.be/fNTtkxysgo> – Words of Mouth Chorus (in the Sacred Harp Tradition)

The day is past and gone,
The evening shades appear;
Oh may we all remember well,
The night of death is near.

We lay our garments by,
Upon our beds to rest:
So death will soon disrobe us all,
Of what we here possess.

And when our days are past,
And we from time remove,
O may we in thy bosom rest,
The bosom of thy love.

Third Lesson and Meditation: Jeremiah 29:11-14 (PDF attachment)

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Hymn of Meditation # 834 *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

PRECIOUS LORD

Kiev Symphony Orchestra: <https://youtu.be/7Gt-aeq6ZOM>

Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.

When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call,
Hold my hand lest I fall:
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.

When the darkness appears
And the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand,
Guide my feet, hold my hand:
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.

Affirmation of Faith—Christian Unity

We believe in God the Creator,
who is always creative
and invites us to affirm and explore who we are,
with all our differences;
and who is the source of our faith.

We believe in God the Savior
revealed in the world as Jesus the Christ
who died and is risen,
the one Lord of the church.

We believe in God the Reconciler,
the Holy Spirit,
who is always with us bearing witness with our spirits
that we are the children of God.

We believe that our smallness
can never diminish God's vastness;
that our frailties can never overcome
God's will for wholeness;
that our sin can never crush God's power for new life
even in the face of death.

We believe, and in this belief, we need one another,
as a choir needs every voice and every part
for the harmony to be complete.

**We believe - that in the Holy Spirit,
in Jesus Christ and in the love of God -
we are one!**

We believe -and may our lives reflect our belief.
(written by the United Church of Australia)

Prayers of the People:

With the power of the Spirit and in unity with Christ, let us pray to our Father:

We pray for our homes, families, friends and all those we love. Strengthen our community and bless our church family.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for the leaders of the nations. Grant them patience, knowledge, compassion, courage and peace of heart and mind. Allow them to serve and love their people well.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who are sick or close to death. We ask for healing and strength for the afflicted, peace for those who love them, and guidance for their doctors, nurses, and caregivers. We pray for these Lord and any others who we now lift before you. Lord, meet us in the silence (Silence)

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who have gone into your kingdom ahead of us. For the victims of the recent shootings and their families, and for anyone grieving the loss of a loved one. We ask that you would be near to them and cover them in your grace.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who have lost hope. We sometimes forget that we are inheritors of your kingdom. We ask you to light the lamps of those going alone. Mend their hearts, dull their pains and renew their faith in you. Show them that they are created in your image and remind them every day that they are loved.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for the unity of your Church, the Body of Christ. Help the sweet sound of our voices to become one. Unite Your church in wisdom and in love as we do the work of Your kingdom on earth.

Father, by your Spirit,

bring in your kingdom. Amen.

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings:

We are instruments of Christ's love by the way we share our lives with others. How will you let God work through your life this week? What will you bring before God to bless and multiply? Let us receive this morning's offering.

Offertory: *Canon in D*

~composed by Johann Pachelbel

<https://youtu.be/NlprozGcs80>

Flash Mob version (7-16 year olds): <https://youtu.be/eW-bDcqQgrI>

Doxology –# 608 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

PRAISE GOD (Hopkins)

<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:

God of new life, out of the abundance of our lives, we offer these gifts to you. Through your blessing and our willingness to share, may these offerings become a source for hope and love in this church family, and in the community beyond us, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Closing Hymn # 450 *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

<https://youtu.be/6kxwtUSqrVY> - Michael Lining Music

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 soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, 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 heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Charge and Benediction:

May the songs of the angels sustain you,
may the praises of the saints inspire you,
may the silent music of the Unseen Trinity be in your heart,
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen

Postlude: *What A Fellowship*

by Anthony J. Showalter; arr. by Gail Smith

The Lord's Quartet from Zimbabwe: <https://youtu.be/kGCYQnK33wo>

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