

**Worship for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
June 28, 2020
Crosscreek Baptist Church**

Gathering

Prelude

Welcome and Opportunities to Connect

A Blessing of Peace

Centering

Chiming of the Hour and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship Litany

*Come into God's house!
Come and hear what God has done!
God has made the world
and breathed the breath of life into us!
But God hasn't stopped there. There's more!
God is still on the scene,
upholding all our life,
surrounding us in power and love.
We live, move, and have our
very being in God!
Let the sound of God's praise be heard!
Praise God! Praise God!*

The Lord's Prayer

....Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hearing

Hymn of Praise - No. 425 - "How Firm a Foundation"

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word!
What more can He say than to you
He hath said, To you who for refuge
to Jesus have fled.*

*Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee,
and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles Acts 17:1-10

After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you." Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house. When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, "These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus." The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

That very night the believers sent Paul and Silas off to Beroea; and when they arrived, they went to the Jewish synagogue.

*This is the word of the Lord...
Thanks be to God.*

A Moment for Children

A Time of Reflection

No daylight to separate us.

Only kinship. Inching ourselves closer to creating a community of kinship such that God might recognize it. Soon we imagine, with God, this circle of compassion. Then we imagine no one standing outside of that circle, moving ourselves closer to the margins so that the margins themselves will be erased. We stand there with those whose dignity has been denied. We locate ourselves with the poor and the powerless and the voiceless. At the edges, we join the easily despised and the readily left out. We stand with the demonized so that the demonizing will stop. We situate ourselves right next to the disposable so that the day will come when we stop throwing people away. - Gregory Boyle

Worship in Song - Doug Davis

A Reading from the Epistles 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12; 5:12-22

Now concerning love of the brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anyone write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another; and indeed you do love all the brothers and sisters throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, beloved, to do so more and more, to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we directed you, so that you may behave properly toward outsiders and be dependent on no one.

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

*This is the word of the Lord...
Thanks be to God.*

Hymn of Discipleship - No. 587 - "Amazing Grace"

*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am 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 first begun.*

Sermon "Following Paul: Unquenchable Spirit"

Responding

Silence and Meditation

I imagine one of the reasons people cling to their hates so stubbornly is because they sense, once hate is gone, they will be forced to deal with pain. - James Baldwin

Hymn of Response - No. 48 - "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

*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.*

Chorus:

*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!*

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!*

Chorus

Enacting

Benediction and Blessing

Hymn of Parting “An Old Irish Blessing”

May the road rise to meet you, May the wind blow at your back,
May the sun shine warmly on your face, May the rain fall softly on your field; And until we
meet again, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen.

Postlude

A Note about the Colors in Our Sanctuary

Crosscreek is a congregation that follows the liturgical year. This means that we recognize the major seasons of the church calendar: Advent, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. Each of these seasons is represented by a different color and presentation in our sanctuary.

We follow this liturgical calendar as a reminder that as Christians we are to order our lives differently, we are to order our lives to a higher calling.

Currently, we are between these “high” seasons and in the longest season of the church year - Ordinary Time. Typically, we will refer to this season as “The _____ Sunday after _____,” denoting that it is a Sunday falling between the high liturgical seasons of the church.

The color for the season of Ordinary Time is green. Among other places, you will see this color in the pastor’s stole, in table decorations, and in wall hangings. Green is the color of growth, and it helps to remind us that ordinary time can be beautiful and meaningful.

As we journey together in this season of growth, in what ways are you being asked to grow? How is God changing you?

May we all allow God’s grace to change us in every season and in this “Ordinary Time.”