

**Worship for the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
August 2, 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

*God of our lives,
you search us and know us.
We have refused to take up your cross,
to bear the burdens that are ours to carry.
We have not given up our attachments
to possessions or to self.
We have not counted the cost
of walking into an unknown future with you.
Help us turn away from evil,
that we may walk with you once more.*

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 - “In Christ There Is No East or West”

*In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.*

*In Christ now meet both east and west;
in him meet south and north,
all Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.*

A Reading from the Epistles - Philemon 4-11

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me.

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

A Moment for Children

A Time of Reflection

*Connection is why we're here; it is what gives purpose and meaning to our lives.
- Brené Brown*

Worship in Song - Katherine Bamberg “Dear God”

A Reading from the Epistles - Philemon 12-22

I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

One thing more—prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you.

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

Hymn of Discipleship - “As the Deer”

*As the deer pants for the water
So my soul longs after Thee
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee*

*You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee*

*You're my friend
And You are my brother
Even though You are a King
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything*

*You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee*

Sermon
“Following Paul: Partners”

Responding

Silence and Meditation

When faith and church becomes merely a place for privatized religion and privatized salvation and privatized relationship with the divine, it is actually counter to Scripture. Jesus said that nations would be judged for how we treat the poor, the sick, the stranger, the immigrants and the least of these. - William Barber II

Hymn of Preparation No. 456 - “I Come with Joy”

*I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved and free,
The life of Jesus to recall
In love laid down for me,
In love laid down for me.*

*I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.*

Celebration of the Lord's Table

Hymn of Response No. 289 - “The Servant Song”

*Will you let me be your servant?
Let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I may have the grace
To let you be my servant too*

*I will hold the Christ light for you
In the night time of your fear
I will hold my hand out to you
Speak the peace you long to hear*

*I will weep when you are weeping
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through*

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.”