

**Worship for the 15th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 13, 2020  
Crosscreek Baptist Church**

**Gathering**

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**Prelude**

**Welcome and Opportunities to Connect**

**A Blessing of Peace**

**Centering**

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**Chiming of the Hour and Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Call to Worship Litany**

*Whenever something good happens to us,  
we want to shout it from the rooftops.  
But sometimes it is better just to wait,  
thanking God for the blessing we have been given.  
Lord, help us understand your healing love and your ministry of peace.  
Make us ready for service.  
In Jesus' Name,  
we offer ourselves, our souls, and our lives to you, O Lord.  
AMEN.*

**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

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### Hymn of Praise No. 27 - "Morning Has Broken"

*Morning has broken like the first morning  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird  
Praise for the singing  
Praise for the morning  
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word*

*Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven  
Like the first dew fall on the first grass  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden  
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass*

*Mine is the sunlight  
Mine is the morning  
Born of the One Light Eden saw play  
Praise with elation, praise every morning  
God's recreation of the new day.*

### A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures - 2 Kings 5:1-12

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. And the king of Aram said, "Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel."

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy." When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his

God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage.

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

## **A Moment for Children**

### **A Time of Reflection**

*When another person makes you suffer, it is because he suffers deeply within himself, and his suffering is spilling over. He does not need punishment; he needs help. That's the message he is sending. - Thich Nhat Hanh*

### **Worship in Song - Donna Fitch "One Day at a Time, Sweet Jesus"**

#### **A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures - 2 Kings 5:13-19a**

*But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.*

*Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel; please accept a present from your servant." But he said, "As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing!" He urged him to accept, but he refused. Then Naaman said, "If not, please let two mule-loads of earth be given to your servant; for your servant will no longer offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god except the Lord. But may the Lord pardon your servant on one count: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, leaning on my arm, and I bow down in the house of Rimmon, when I do bow down in the house of Rimmon, may the Lord pardon your servant on this one count." He said to him, "Go in peace."*

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

#### **Hymn of Discipleship No. 509 - "Trust and Obey"**

*When we walk with the Lord  
in the light of His Word,  
What a glory He sheds on our way!  
While we do His good will,  
He abides with us still,*

*And with all who will trust and obey.*

*Trust and obey, for there's no other way  
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.*

*Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet.  
Or we'll walk by His side in the way.  
What He says we will do,  
where He sends we will go;  
Never fear, only trust and obey.*

*Trust and obey, for there's no other way  
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.*

## **Sermon “Seeing Clearly: The Inmost Being”**

### **Responding**

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#### **Silence and Meditation**

*Eternity is with us, inviting our contemplation perpetually, but we are too frightened, lazy, and suspicious to respond; too arrogant to still our thought, and let divine sensation have its way. It needs industry and goodwill if we would make that transition; for the process involves a veritable spring-cleaning of the soul, a turning-out and rearrangement of our mental furniture, a wide opening of closed windows, that the notes of the wild birds beyond our garden may come to us fully charged with wonder and freshness, and drown with their music the noise of the gramophone within. Those who do this, discover that they have lived in a stuffy world, whilst their inheritance was a world of morning-glory: where every tit-mouse is a celestial messenger, and every thrusting bud is charged with the full significance of life. - Eveyln Underhill*

#### **Hymn of Preparation - “Let Us Break Bread Together”**

*Let us break bread together  
on our knees, (on our knees)  
Let us break bread together  
on our knees. (on our knees)  
When I fall on my knees  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)*

*Let us praise God together  
on our knees, (on our knees)*

*Let us praise God together  
on our knees. (on our knees)  
When I fall on my knees  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)*

## **Celebration of the Lord's Table**

### **Hymn of Response No. 497 - "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"**

*Just as I am, without one plea  
But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee  
O Lamb of God, I come! I come*

*Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt  
Fighting and fears within without  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come*

*Just as I am, and waiting not  
to rid my soul of one dark blot  
to thee whose blood can cleanse each spot  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come*

## **Enacting**

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### **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.”