

**October 18, 2020
Crosscreek Baptist Church**

Gathering

Prelude

Welcome and Opportunities to Connect

Centering

A Blessing of Peace

Chiming of the Hour and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship Litany

*As we gather to worship you, Holy One,
show us your presence, O God.
As we join to pray at your footstool, Exalted One,
show us your ways, O God.
As we unite our voices to praise you, Lover of Justice,
show us your glory, O God.
As we tremble in the cleft of the rock,
silently awaiting you, Merciful One,
show us your goodness, O God.
Let the earth shake in your praise, Most High!
We extol your great and awesome name,
ever-present 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. 418 - "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

A mighty fortress is our God,

*a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
does seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.*

*That Word above all earthly powers
no thanks to them abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever!*

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures - Exodus 33:12-23

Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

The Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

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

A Moment for Children

A Time of Reflection

*We rarely think of the air we breathe, yet it is in us and around us all the time.
In similar fashion, the presence of God penetrates us, is all around us, is always
embracing us. - Thomas Keating*

A Reading from the Psalms - Psalm 99

The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
The Lord is great in Zion;
he is exalted over all the peoples.
Let them praise your great and awesome name.
Holy is he!
Mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity;
you have executed justice
and righteousness in Jacob.
Extol the Lord our God;
worship at his footstool.
Holy is he!

Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel also was among those who called on his name.
They cried to the Lord, and he answered them.
He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;
they kept his decrees,
and the statutes that he gave them.
O Lord our God, you answered them;
you were a forgiving God to them,
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.
Extol the Lord our God,
and worship at his holy mountain;
for the Lord our God is holy.

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

Hymn of Preparation No. 325 - "Great Is the Lord"

*Great is the Lord
He is holy and just
By His power we trust
In His love
Great is the Lord
He is faithful and true
By His mercy He proves*

He is love

*Great is the Lord
And worthy of glory
Great is the Lord
And worthy of praise
Great is the Lord
Now lift up your voice
Now lift up your voice
Great is the Lord
Great is the Lord*

Sermon

“Patience, Presence, and Promises: Consider Too”

Responding

Silence and Meditation

Look at the animals roaming the forest: God’s spirit dwells within them. Look at the birds flying across the sky: God’s spirit dwells within them. Look at the tiny insects crawling in the grass: God’s spirit dwells within them. Look at the fish in the river and sea.... There is no creature on earth in whom God is absent... his breath had brought every creature to life... God’s spirit is present within plant as well. The presence of God’s spirit in all living things is what makes them beautiful; and if we look with God’s eyes, nothing on earth is ugly. - Pelagius

Hymn of Response No. 543 - “Abide with Me”

*Abide with me, fast falls the eventide
The darkness deepens Lord, with me abide
When other helpers fail and comforts flee
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life’s little day
Earth’s joys grow dim, its glories pass away
Change and decay in all around I see
O Thou who changest not, abide with me*

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.”