

August 7, 2022
Crosscreek Baptist Church

Gathering

Prelude

Welcome and Opportunities to Connect

Call to Stewardship

Passing of the Peace

Centering

Chiming of the Hour

Lord's Prayer—Brad Jeffcoat

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.

Call to Worship

(Light print read by leader; **bold print read by congregation.**)

In the beginning...

God chose to be with us in the garden.

In our beginnings...

God knit us together and knew the hairs on our head.

In these present days...

God's peace extends before us.

In our present days...

God knows us all and cares for us.

In our ending days...

God walks with us through darkest valley and leads us to cool streams of rest.

Now, in this moment...

May we worship the Lord who creates us, keeps us, and holds us. Amen.

Hearing

Hymn of Praise: 378—We Gather Here in Grateful Praise

A Reading from the Psalms: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18—Sophia Hudson

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
 you discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down
 and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
 O Lord, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before,
 and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
 it is so high that I cannot attain it.

For it was you who formed my inward parts;
 you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
 Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.
 My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
 intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
 all the days that were formed for me,
 when none of them as yet existed.
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
 How vast is the sum of them!
I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
 I come to the end—I am still with you.

This is the word of the Lord...

Thanks be to God.

Blessing of the Backpacks—Dixie Ford

God, who created these students, who calls them by name and knows them inside and out, and who loves them with a never-ending love, we ask for your blessing today:

God, may you bless these backpacks.

May they be strong enough for the 180 days ahead of them. May their zippers slide with ease. May their straps never fray or break despite the weight they carry or the amount of times they are slung around.

May these backpacks be filled with tools for learning, nutritious snacks, interesting books, and encouraging notes from teachers. May they never hold more than their owner can handle.

God, may you bless these backpacks.

God, may you bless these students.

May they sleep well at night. May they awaken each morning with hope and joy. May they have strength and energy for every homework assignment, every group project, and every performance or game. May they have good friends and be good friends. May they have peace and be peacemakers. May the love of Christ fill them, and may they share that love with all those around them.

God, may you bless these students.

God, you know the plans you have for these students. They are plans for peace. They are plans to give them a future filled with hope.

We thank you for your blessing upon them today. In the name of Jesus, our Teacher, we pray. Amen.

A Time of Reflection

“When will you have a little pity for every soft thing that walks through the world, yourself included.”

“It must be a great disappointment to God if we are not dazzled at least ten times a day.”

- Mary Oliver

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation to Generosity

(Offertory by Dixie and Allie Ford)

A Reading from the Gospels: Luke 9:51-56—Dee Dee Lyon

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

This is the word of the Lord...

Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Discipleship: 477—We Are Called to Be God's People

Sermon—Brandon Hudson “The Bible Tells Me So: Womb to Tomb”

Responding

Silence and Meditation

“Today the danger of the pro-life position, which I vigorously support, is that it can be frighteningly selective. The rights of the unborn and the dignity of the age-worn are pieces of the same pro-life fabric. We weep at the unjustified destruction of the unborn. Did we also weep when the evening news reported from Arkansas that a black family had been shotgunned out of a white neighborhood.

When we laud life and blast abortionists, our credibility as Christians is questionable. On one hand we proclaim the love and anguish, the pain and joy that goes into fashioning a single child. We proclaim how precious each life is to God and should be to us. On the other hand, when it is the enemy that shrieks to heaven with his flesh in flames, we do not weep, we are not shamed; we call for more.” - Brennan Manning

Hymn of Preparation: 466—Jesus, at Your Holy Table

Communion

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

Postlude

Announcements

Next Week

- **Monday at the Movies and Ice Cream Social - August 8, 6 p.m., The Bad Guys**—FREE event for all ages! Invite a friend! Additionally, you are invited to bring your favorite ice cream topping as the deacons will provide ice cream for us to celebrate together!
- **Sunday Night Youth begins on August 14, 5:30-7 p.m.**, for 6th-12th grade students. Location information coming soon!
- **Perry County Mission Trip:** We will be heading to Perry County (Union City) on August 13th to work on a construction project and help a family in need. We will leave that morning and be back that evening. If you haven't signed up yet but would like to help, please contact Brandon at brandon@crosscreekbaptist.org.