

**AUGUST 14, 2022**  
**Crosscreek Baptist Church**

**Gathering**

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**Prelude**

**Welcome and Opportunities to Connect**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Centering**

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**Chiming of the Hour**

**Lord's Prayer—Cathy Lee**

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**

(Adapted from the Rev. Leslie Penrose)

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

We come today to worship the Source of All Life...

**May the soil of our hearts be fertile.**

We come today to celebrate the Giver of All Good Things...

**May only that which is life giving take root in our hearts.**

We come today to be sustained...

**May God root out that which keeps us from growing in grace.**

We come today to celebrate mystery...

**That God became one of us and loves all.**

May we lift up our hearts in these moments...

**May God come into our lives anew.**

## Hearing

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### Hymn of Praise: 696—I'm Coming to Gather All Peoples of Earth (vv. 1-3)

#### A Reading from the Gospels: Luke 6:43-45—Anna Havercroft

“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; for each tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they pick grapes from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil, for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.

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

#### A Moment for Children—Scott Ford

##### A Time of Reflection

*“Whatever it means to be a Christian, it at least involves the discovery of friends you did not know you had.” - Stanley Hauerwas*

##### Pastoral Prayer

##### Invitation to Generosity

(Offertory by Kaye Slanker)

### Worship in Song —This Is My Father's World — Cecily and Andrew Metzler

#### A Reading from the Epistles: John 10:1-21—Adam Oliver

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me,

because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Again the Jews were divided because of these words. Many of them were saying, “He has a demon and is out of his mind. Why listen to him?” Others were saying, “These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”

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

## **Hymn of Discipleship: 272—They’ll Know We Are Christians**

### **Sermon—Brandon Hudson “The Bible Tells Me So: Imago Dei”**

#### **Responding**

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#### **Silence and Meditation**

*“God’s grace is a gift that is freely given to us. We don’t earn a thing when it comes to God’s love, and we only try to live in response to the gift. No one is climbing the spiritual ladder. We don’t continually improve until we are so spiritual we no longer need God. We die and are made new, but that’s different from spiritual self-improvement. We are simultaneously sinner and saint, 100 percent of both, all the time. The Bible is not God. The Bible is simply the cradle that holds Christ. Anything in the Bible that does not hold up to the Gospel of Jesus Christ simply does not have the same authority. The movement in our relationship to God is always from God to us. Always. We can’t, through our piety or goodness, move closer to God. God is always coming near to us. Most especially in the Eucharist and in the stranger.” - Nadia Bolz-Webber*

## **Hymn of Response: 275—Who Is My Mother, Who Is My Brother**

#### **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

### Upcoming

- **Sunday Night Youth begins on tonight - August 14, 5:30-7 p.m.**, for 7th-12th grade students. We will meet at the home of Kim and Gary Hyden (130 Emerald Lake Drive, Pelham). Food will be provided! Come and fellowship and learn with one another!
- **Crosscreek Choir Begins Next Sunday, August 21, at 4 p.m.** - Have you ever sung in a choir? Please consider joining us this new season! Never sung in a choir but enjoy singing? Please join us – this may be your very best choir experience ever! Let's fill out all the vocal parts and overflow the choir loft this season. Come to learn and to laugh!
- **Feed Our Youth!** - Feeding youth is a great incentive for them to spend their Sunday evenings together, building relationships and growing their faith. If you are able and willing to help feed our youth one Sunday this fall, please go to the following link - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4babac29a2f4cf8-sunday> or let Dixie know.