

MARCH 19, 2023
Crosscreek Baptist Church

Gathering

Prelude—Kaye Slanker

Welcome and Opportunities to Connect

Passing of the Peace

Centering

Chiming of the Hour and Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Lord's Prayer—Ron Prevatte

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

Friends, we know what God desires of us:

That we do justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

We gather this morning to remind each other about that,

To remember that now is always the right time to do these things.

So with thanks in our hearts, let us worship God.

Hearing

Call to Worship Hymn: 254, Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race

Reading from the Epistles: James 2:8-13—Claire Jeffcoat

You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as

transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For the one who said, 'You shall not commit adultery', also said, 'You shall not murder.' Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgement will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgement.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

A Moment for Children—Dixie Ford

A Time of Reflection

*Inexperience can be overcome, ignorance can be enlightened,
but prejudice will destroy you.*

—Mercedes Lackey

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory—Kaye Slanker

Worship in Song

Reading from the New Testament: Acts 10:34-43—Dee Dee Lyon

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Justice: 688, Show Us How to Stand for Justice

Sermon—Ronnie Brewer
Dark Corners: Partiality

Responding

Silence and Meditation

If you judge people, you have no time to love them.—Mother Teresa

Hymn of Response: 671, God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

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—Kaye Slanker

Opportunities to Connect

Today:

- **Sunday Night Youth, 5:30-7 p.m.** Students in 6th-12th grades are invited to the home of Gary and Kim Hyden for a time of friends, games, food, & Bible study.

This Week:

- **Deep Dive, Tuesday, 10 a.m.** Deep Dive is an in-depth Bible study for adults. Join us as we continue our study of the book of Acts.
- **Lenten Walk, Wednesday, 1 p.m., Cahaba Greenway Trailhead, Riverchase:** Come join us as we prayerfully and reflectively walk together each week of Lent.
- **Wednesday Night Programing, 5:30 p.m.**
 - **Wednesday Night Supper, 5:30-6 p.m.**
 - Make your reservation by emailing Dixie Ford (dixie@crosscreekbaptist.org) by Monday at 5 p.m.
 - \$7 for youth & adults; \$5 for children (5th grade and younger)
 - Menu for March 22: spaghetti, salad, garlic toast, Swiss German chocolate cake
 - **Wednesday Night Kids, 6-6:45 p.m.,** Choir Room/Godly Play Room
 - **Adult Choir, 6:45 p.m.,** Choir Room

Coming Up:

- **Holy Week Services:**
 - Palm Sunday, April 2
 - Maundy Thursday, April 6, 6 p.m.
 - Good Friday, April 7, 6 p.m.

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