# Welcome to Crestholme Presbyterian Church

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent March 22, 2020

"Lifelong Discipleship Formation"
The 1st Mark
Of a Vital Congregation



## **PRELUDE** Blessed Assurance

<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s3MbeE66MXU</u> (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

#### **WELCOME BEAUTIFUL SAINTS OF GOD!**

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjfToqk5w5g">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjfToqk5w5g</a> (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** Read out loud by yourself or with a loved one

YOU: As we devoted ourselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer,

LOVED ONE: Let us be filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the Holy Spirit.

YOU: We as believers are here together and hold everything in common giving to anyone in need.

LOVED ONE: Regularly we meet together, as we are here today, breaking bread and eating together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all.

ALL: The Lord continues to add to our numbers of those who are being saved.

## **OPENING PRAYER:** Read out loud

Lord, We have heard of your fame; We stand in awe of your deeds, Lord. Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known. Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet We will rejoice in the Lord, We will be joyful in God our Savior. The Sovereign Lord is our strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables us to tread on the heights. Amen

## **Opening Hymn** How Great Thou Art

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cc0QVWzCv9k (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

## **Prayer of Confession:**

God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

## **Assurance of God's Forgiveness:**

Hear the GOOD NEWS! God did not send his Son into the world to condemn it but to save it through Jesus Christ. Because of God's GREAT LOVE for the cosmos including us, we through Jesus Christ, have been forgiven. Thanks be to God!

#### **GLORIA PATRI**

<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUBxpypSblw</u> (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

#### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Lord, allow us to hear and see as you would have us to hear, see, and obey. Amen

#### **PSALTER READING**

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside still waters. He restoreth my soul:

He guideth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou hast anointed my head with oil; My cup runneth over. Surely goodness and lovingkindness shall follow me all the days of my life; And I shall dwell in the house of The LORD for ever.

#### **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

Ephesians 5:8-14

For ye were once darkness, but are now light in the Lord: walk as children of light (for the fruit of the light is in all goodness and righteousness and truth), proving what is well-pleasing unto the Lord; and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather even reprove them; for the things which are done by them in secret it is a shame even to speak of. But all things when they are reproved are made manifest by the light: for everything that is made manifest is light. Wherefore he saith, Awake, thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall shine upon thee.

## **SERMON** "Lifelong Discipleship Formation" Carlos Baladez Romans 8:1-17

From our conception, and even before, God already knew us. He called us his own. Discipleship is recognizing this call, this claim upon our lives, and answering a resounding, "YES!" to God our heavenly Father. By his grace and his faith we understand, receiving wisdom from above. We are given the desire to follow Jesus wherever he would go, or go wherever he would send us. Like the Prophet Isaiah, we to respond, "Here I am Lord, send me." Discipleship is a lifelong process until Christ is fully formed in us, for the Spirit of God lives in us. Christ in us is our hope of GLORY! In Christ, we are fully awakened to our true self, the new self. God redeemed us to be in Christ Jesus. We are new creations. The old life is gone while the NEW LIFE has begun! In, Christ, and in the power of his resurrection, we engage and shine his light, life, love on injustice, inequality, oppression, abuse and model his unconditional love and forgiveness bringing about transformation. Yes, a new way of living. This discipleship is formed, strengthen by the Holy Spirit in us, by the will of God, and grown in the community of Christ maturing in daily practices and ordinary living. Thanks be to God! He loves us so. Amen.

## **HYMN** Great is Thy Faithfulness

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ErwiBz1QA4o (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

#### THIS WE BELIEVE:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God sent not the Son into the world to judge the world; but that the world should be saved through him.

#### PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Save them and gather them until we meet again. Rejoice in the Lord always: again I will say, Rejoice.

#### **DOXOLOGY**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uyg6-htOtHU (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Father God, thank you. We offer this time and ourselves to you. In Jesus' name, amen.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Here, In your own words, pray and intercede for others and for yourself followed by the Lord's Prayer.

## CLOSING HYMN HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIHD40CZY34 (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

#### **BENEDICTION:**

With hands lifted unto the Lord, and a huge smile on my face, receive this blessing in the Name of Jesus our best friend!

The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

Now go in his peace, the peace that passes ALL understanding. Amen