

LOVED ONE: Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

YOU: For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.

LOVED ONE: In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.

YOU: The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

ALL: Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

OPENING PRAYER: Read out loud

We were glad when they said unto us, Let us go into the house of the Lord. You, O Lord, make known to us the path of life; you will fill us with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand. You keep us safe, our God, for in you we take refuge. We say O Lord, “You are our Lord; apart from you we have no good thing.” Amen.

Opening Hymn

"How Firm a Foundation"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vXcgQL0SQ40> (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

Prayer of Confession:

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out our transgressions. Wash away all our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. For we know our transgressions, and our sin is always before us. Against you, you only, have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. Forgive us O, God. In Jesus' name we ask, amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness:

Hear the GOOD NEWS!

They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. Saints of God, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia!

GLORIA PATRI

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zdo3A35L9Wg> (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

You O Lord, are our light and our salvation. One thing do we desire of you Lord, that will we seek after; that we may dwell in your house all the days of our lives, to behold your beauty and to enquire in your temple. Grant us today the light of your Holy Spirit and open our ears and our eyes that we may hear and see and be saved. We give you praise. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 17:1-7

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+17%3A1-7&version=NIV>

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:23-32

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+21%3A23-32&version=NIV>

Children's Time

The Joy Joy Joy Joy Down in my heart!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=imK7pAMf61E> (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

MESSAGE

“Be”

Psalm 46:10a

“Be still, and know that I am God”

Hear ye the Word of the Lord afresh today. Let it speak to you. Engage it. Speak to it. Ask it questions. Allow it to challenge you, to inform you, and even to transform you. Old things have passed away, behold ALL things are made new.

Words have meaning. Words have power. The writer of Proverbs says, “Death and life are in the power of the tongue.” How much more the “tongue” of God?

When you were a child, did your mom ever tell you to behave? Probably. What did she mean? You were misbehaving? You were not acting right? You were out of

character? Yes to all of these, yet could it be that there is a deeper meaning to this message than first meets the eye?

Let me explain. My wife and I have four children. The godparents of one of our children were our guest for dinner one night. In conversation, my child's godfather said, "Do you know an easy way to see what a word means? Put the suffix in front of the root word." I tried it and it worked. Wonderful became full of wonder. Careful became full of care. Awful became full of awe (in the old sense of the word).

This little trick got me to thinking about the word "behave." Using the advice I just received, behave means to have being. I was misbehaving, therefore I was not having being. I ceased to be and became a do. I was doing what I was not supposed to do. I was acting in a way that was inconsistent with a person of being. My mother was not scolding me, which is what I thought when I was a child, yet now I see she was inviting me to return to a state of being.

I share this, because there are ways to hear a message as if for the first time. When I was first accepted into my doctoral program at Our Lady of the Lake University, a Sister welcomed us. During her welcome speech she shared with us the following. Psalm 46:10a, "Be still, and know that I am God." She instructed us to meditate on this verse in parts and listen for the Voice of God. She quoted the phrase in its entirety first. "Be still, and know that I am God." She then proceeded to instruct us to think, meditate, and contemplate on this verse like this:

"Be."

Then,

"Be still."

Then,

"Be still and know."

Then,

"Be still and know that I am."

And finally,

“Be still and know that I am God.”

She then took us in reverse order until we were meditating once more on “Be.”

I invite you to do this and write down your experience. Meditate on it again. Write down any new insights, and then share with others. Ask them to share with you. Our God is greater than anyone of us individually, and collectively for that matter. “For now all of us see through a glass, darkly.” Perhaps in sharing, we can all see a bit more clearly, love him more dearly, walk with him as one, and BE!

To God be the glory, amen.

HYMN

"O Word of God Incarnate"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mRpN6E2Hjcs> (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

THIS WE BELIEVE:

We are confident of this, that he who began a good work in us will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Amen!

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please, continue to support the life and work of Crestholme. You can mail your tithes pledges and offerings to...

CPC
PO Box 23919.
SA TX 78223-0901

Or you can 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=eMnevRoAz74> (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, it is because of you that we live, and move, and have our being in you. Therefore, in loving gratitude we bring to you these offerings to receive, bless, multiply and use for your kingdom and your glory. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

“O, God we pray for those who feel forgotten and unseen, let them know that they are remembered and seen by you. Grant us Dear Lord to partner with you and remember the forgotten, the least and the marginalized. Search our hearts and reveal to us those we are hiding our faces from; those who think different from us, those who believe different from us, those who do not look like us. Change our hearts, that we may turn our faces towards these people and see them as your beloved children.” ... Follow this with the Lord's prayer.

CLOSING HYMN "Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=spE-BE23qxA> (place your cursor over the link. Right click, and then choose Open Hyperlink)

BENEDICTION:

[With our hands lifted unto the Lord and a heart full of grace and love, receive this blessing in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!]

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. Now, go in the power of the Holy Ghost and share his peace with confidence for he has sealed us unto the day of redemption. Amen.

"The Sevenfold Amen"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qbugV4kUFLQ>

Announcements:

Happy Birthday to all our September Folks!

**In House Worship with Communion Celebration next Sunday, 10/04/2020.
Wearing masks, temperature checks, and adhering to social distancing
required...**

We have temporarily closed our congregation's campus — no group activities, no church programs, no shared-space partners' programs, no Food Pantry or Clothes Closet... to honor the White House's Guidelines and the City's Emergency Directives and to protect our vulnerable volunteers and members and neighbors during these perilous COVID-19 days.

But that does not mean that we've... gone away. How can we support you? Your prayer life? Your every-day needs and cares?

Yes, "Social distance!" But, NO, not "Emotional distance!" Help us connect and care!

There's an active "hug train" — our phone tree. Would you make a call or two? Would you like to be called? Chat with Carlos at: crbaladez@yahoo.com or 210 324 5665.

There are lots of "little things" that are quite important for us — for someone — to continue to do. Got an hour? Some of our members could use a hand with... shopping, "essential errands," every-day little things. Got a hand?

God bless you!