

**Welcome to
Crestholme Presbyterian Church
21th Sunday after Pentecost
October 25, 2020**

***Those who are able, please stand.**

PRELUDE "Our Father Who Art In Heaven" **Bach**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBKHG_rEKuo

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP "Thank You Lord" **Choir**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CbWL7yvK80E>

OPENING PRAYER

God of all glory, on this first day you began creation, bringing light out of darkness. On this first day you began your new creation, raising Jesus Christ out of the darkness of death. On this Lord's Day grant that we, the people you create by water and the Spirit, may be joined with all your works in praising you for your great glory. Through Jesus Christ, in union with the Holy Spirit, we praise you now and forever. Amen. (Book of Common Worship (WJKP, 1993) 51)

***OPENING HYMN** "Almighty Fortress Is Our God" **Blue Hymnal #260**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8XUYZoguhEQ>

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen. (From the PCUSA Book of Common Worship Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1993; p. 88)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

L: Hear the good news: Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners! Saints, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

***GLORIA PATRI** **Blue Hymnal #579**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUBxpypSblw>

OLD TESTAMENT READING **Isaiah 64:1-9**
<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah%2064:1-9&version=NIV>

PSALMIC READING **Psalm 80:1-7**
<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+80%3A1-7&version=NIV>

ANTHEM**"Have Faith In God"****Choir**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GjLhhwzKmfY>**GOSPEL READING****Mark 13:24-37**<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+13%3A24-37+%amp;version=NIV>**SERMON****"Always Thankful"****Carlos Baladez****1 Corinthians 1:3-9**<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+1%3A3-9&version=NIV>

"Thank you," is one of the earliest words our parents taught us to say. The others were, "please, I love you, and I'm sorry." The famous motivational speaker, Zig Ziegler, is known to say, "Your attitude determines your altitude." Thankfulness is also tied to good health. Scientists agree with scripture when they say, "gratitude is healthy for your heart."

Here, in today's scripture, Paul blesses its recipients with grace and peace from the Source of all good things, the Father and his son Jesus Christ. He then proceeds to give thanks. He gives thanks for what is Given, for who is Enriched, and for what it does - Sustains.

Paul lives in this attitude of gratitude. He always thanks his God. He thanks his God for his recipients and for a specific reason. Because of the grace given them in Christ Jesus. This grace of God is found in a specific person, in Jesus Christ. This grace did something in the recipients. It enriched them. It enriched them in every way. It enriched them in every way with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge. In this way, God confirmed that Christ was indeed among them. Jesus had previously told his disciples, "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you," and he did, on the day of his resurrection. Fifty days later, the Spirit of truth came to them on the day of Pentecost.

These Corinthian believers did not lack any spiritual gifts. I will only mention a few here, but I encourage you to look at a more comprehensive lists of these gifts. You may want to consult the following scriptures asking the Holy Spirit to reveal to you his gifting to you. In 1st Corinthians Paul mentions the following: Word of wisdom, Word of knowledge, Faith, Gifts of healings, Miracles, Prophecy, Distinguishing between spirits, Tongues, and Interpretation of tongues. In Romans 12:6-8 Paul mentions these: Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Giving, Leadership, and Mercy. For a fuller list please see 1st Corinthians 12:28-30, Ephesians 4:11, and 1 Peter 4:11.

We are quite familiar with 1 Corinthians 14:40, "Let all things be done decently and in order." Let us too be as familiar with the preceding verse, 14:39 which states, "Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues." Why? May I suggest, because prophesy builds up the body while tongues builds up the inner man as it speaks mysteries with our heavenly Father.

These gifts of grace are not lacking in these Corinthians as they wait eagerly for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.

Paul's thankfulness is also given to God because God will keep his people firm to the end and they will be found blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Yes, thankfully and confidently so because God is faithful who has called them and us into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, let us too thank God and fly high with an attitude of gratitude. Let us thank God for the grace we have been given in Christ Jesus, because we have been enriched in Christ Jesus, and because in Jesus Christ Almighty God sustains us.

To God alone be all the Glory, Amen.

***HYMN** *"There's A Wideness In God's Mercy"* **Blue Hymnal 298**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I5LN1ZvwWfs>

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed (traditional) Blue Hymnal, p. 14**
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hear our prayers ... (lift your prayers unto the Lord). Follow with the Lord's Prayer: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

***HYMN FOR OUR NATION "Heal Our Land" Red Hymnal #800**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTm_rA54EGw

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY Blue Hymnal #592**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Q5ojehA78c>

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN "Blessed Assurance Jesus Is Mine" Blue Hymnal #341**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S3TGrRkf4H8>

***BENEDICTION**

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. Amen

The end of this worship gathering - The beginning of service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship this glorious morning! We're glad that you're here! If you do not have a church home, we invite you to become part of our compassionate church family... ask Dick or an Elder about meaningful participation and membership!

Dr. Carlos Baladez will lead our Sunday morning worship next Sunday. We will be celebrating Communion. All are welcome!

COVID-19 Reminder

As we gather in worship together, we are reminded to adhere to the rules of "social distancing," hand washing, and facemask wearing. We have, to the best of our ability, cleaned and disinfected the sanctuary. Please cooperate by not sitting in the "skipped rows". Hymn books, Bibles, and bulletins are pre-distributed to indicate where to sit. Families are allowed to sit together. Thank you!