Welcome to Crestholme Presbyterian Church Christ the King/Reign of Christ November 22, 2020

At the *, please stand, if you are able.

Large Print Hymnals and Bibles, and Hearing Assist Devices, are available

Gather for Worship

PRELUDE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Kaufmann

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuXm42NTj38

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP "For The Fruit of All Creation" Choir https://www.voutube.com/watch?v=hfXziMbZvCI

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne

All: And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

LEADER: To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

All: "Look, he is coming with the clouds," and "every eye will see him, even those who pierced him"; and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him." So shall it be! Amen.

LEADER: "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

OPENING PRAYER

* OPENING HYMN "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" Blue Hymnal #551 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWiEMJPxoZ8

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Righteous God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, and are slow to acknowledge his rule. We give allegiance to the powers of this world, and fail to be governed by justice and love. In your mercy, forgive us. Raise us to acclaim as ruler of all, that we may be loyal ambassadors, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. (Book of Common Worship (1993), of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Kenneth Randolph Taylor

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Hear the Good News, Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for true and just are his judgments. Beloved, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen!

* GLORIA PATRI

Blue Hymnal # 579

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUBxpypSblw

* SHARE THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: Peace be with you!

All: And also with you!

One: As God's forgiven people, share the peace of Christ with each other (from your

seat please).

Hear the Word of God

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Come, Spirit of the Lord, and speak through us. Send your Holy Word to be upon our tongues and your gospel upon our hearts. Speak to us, speak through us, speak among us, for we, your servants, are listening. Amen. (Written by Rev. Stephen M. Fearing - www.stephenmfearing.com)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ezekiel%2034%3A11-16%2CEzekiel%2034%3A20-24&version=NIV

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Let All Things Now Living"

Choir

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KpMCE1G3N7Q

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 25:31-46

https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+25%3A31-46&version=NIV

It's that time of the year, Thanksgiving. It's a time to set aside, a Sabbath, if you will, to remember. To remember and give thanks to God for so much. It is time to give thanks for the parents we have or had. Thanks for family, friends, health, a roof over our head, clothes on our backs, and food on our table. It is a time to remember and to reflect. Over the past few months we have faced a contentious election, a pandemic, closures, masks, social distancing, travel bans, riots, takeovers, racial tensions, injustices and yet here we are. Yes, here we are, by the Grace of God. Grace. Interesting word. It conveys much meaning. Gift. Favor. Unmerited. Not earned. And yet received without cohesion or sleight of hand. It is freely given and gratefully received. And yet we use this very word as a synonym for prayer.

Every year in Christian homes around the country, at about noon, many gather around the table and say, "Grace." We say, "Thank you, Lord for this abundant bounty. This bonanza. This converted sunshine. Lord, it all comes from you to us. We did nothing to deserve it and yet you....." Thank you!

Is it no wonder that the Psalmist invites us, encourages us, inspires us to declare, announce, decree that our God Reigns.

Notice the four verbs in this passage. One, Shout. Two, Worship. Three, Know, and four, Enter.

Our God reigns therefore SHOUT! Yes, shout for joy. Our God is a good and gracious God. He blesses in abundance overflowing. He loves us, cares for us, protects us, and even lives among and within us. There is no other God like ours.

Our natural response to such extravagant love is worship. Worship is accompanied with gladness expressed in joyful (FULL OF JOY) songs. An oxymoron, inexpressible joy expressed. Our hearts overflow with gratitude and cannot help but to sing songs of joy and gladness to our Good God.

The Psalmists invites us to Know, to Taste, to Experience for ourselves that the LORD is God. The LORD, the one who makes covenant with humankind. A covenant which He keeps and fulfills abundantly! We have reason to rejoice. This Good Lord and God made us. He made us very good. We are his. He redeemed us from sin and death. We are his people, His temple. And we are the sheep of his pasture. In him we graze, eat, and live. He is our place, our home for In Him we live and move and have our being!

The invitation continues. Knowing whose we are, we are ready to enter into deeper fellowship with our creator. We come bearing gifts of thanksgiving and praise to our maker. Jesus is that Door by which we come to our Father. We enter through the gate

and into his court. We as his children are not limited to the porch outside looking in. No. We his creation, his people, his sheep are welcomed to sweet fellowship in love, mercy and grace. Indeed we give him our thanks and we praise, bless His name. His name is.... Good. Mercy. Grace. Love. Yes His name is mine, yours, and ours. We are our Beloved's and He is our Beloved.

Oh, as if that were not enough, here comes God's over-the-top Grace. In verse three we came to know that the LORD is God. After tasting, entering, and giving thanks we come to experience that He is Good AND that his love towards us endures forever. And what about his faithfulness you ask? Is this a one-time experience? Be at ease. His faithfulness continues. Yes, it continues through ALL, yes all generations! It includes all the generations that proceeded ours and all the generations following ours. And "ALL" includes ours too. Here and now! Indeed, Our God Reigns! Halleluiah and Amen...

To God alone be all the Glory and Praise, Amen.

* HYMN "Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart" Blue Hymnal #145 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B0UszNIBAME

Respond in Love and Service

* This we believe

Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb. Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen! Jesus Christ is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, let your will be done. Lord, hear our prayer. Lord, bless as only you can bless. Lord, hear our prayer. Lord, reign as it is your right. Lord, hear our prayer. Father, now we pray as Jesus taught his disciples to pray, Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on 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, forever. Amen.

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

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

* DOXOLOGY Blue Hymnal # 592

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8TkUuKIh84

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, to you and to you alone we bring what is rightfully yours. Take. Bless. Multiply and use for your glory and kingdom. Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN "Now Thank We All Our God" Blue Hymnal #555 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s99dNPKYtHk

* BENEDICTION

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers (NIV). Go, bless as you have been blessed. Amen

The End of this Worship Meeting — The Beginning of Service