

**Welcome to  
Crestholme Presbyterian Church  
Trinity Sunday  
May, 30, 2021**

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

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

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**Gather for Worship**

**PRELUDE:**

**"All Glory Be To God On High"**

**Zachau**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07D6NPkOs7c>

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Lord willing, we will be celebrating Communion next Sunday 06/06/2021. Come ready to share in the Lord's Table.

**THE BELLS**

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

**"Glorify Thy Name"**

**Choir**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x1JiIxU-F7o>

**RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

LEADER: And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

**All:** So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

LEADER And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

**All:** Hallelujah! (Gen. 1:26-28, KJV)

**OPENING PRAYER**

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thank you! Thank you for inviting us into your presence where there is fulness of joy. May our worship be pleasing in your sight. Amen.

**\* OPENING HYMN "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!" Blue Bk #138**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AgHrNNM23p8>

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in more ways than one. We have failed to act as the people you have made us to be. We repent. For the sake of your name and your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; and according to your loving nature allow us to be a delight in your sight, accomplishing your will, and walking in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

## **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

Beloved, hear the Good News, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Hallelujah! Amen!

\* **GLORIA PATRI** **Blue Hymnal #579**

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

\* **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).

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

Trinity Song

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gZ\\_vnP0kwrQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gZ_vnP0kwrQ)

## **Hear the Word of God**

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Holy Trinity, creator of heaven and earth and all there is, may your Spirit speak to our spirits to listen and obey out of love for you. Amen.

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Isaiah 6:1-8**

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+6%3A1-8&version=NIV>

### **PSALTER READING**

**Psalm 29**

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+29&version=NIV>

### **CHORAL ANTHEM**

**"My Lord of Light"**

**Choir**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZrQ5p1zl1Hc>

### **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

**Romans 8:12-17**

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+8%3A12-17&version=NIV>

**GOSPEL READING****John 3:1-17**<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+3%3A1-17&version=NIV>**SERMON*****"Now There was a Pharisee"*****Dr. Carlos Baladez****John 3:1**

My name is Nicodemus. I am a Pharisee, an elite religious governing party for the land of Israel. I have studied the scriptures all my life, even from my youth. I can quote the first five books of scripture from memory, yet never have I met a Rabbi, a teacher, like Jesus. When He speaks, supernatural things happen. Water turns to wine, for example. I have never seen such authority in any man.

Some tell my story calling it, "Nick at night," because I came to speak with Jesus in the cover of darkness. Not until my retelling of my encounter did I realize this was a metaphor for my spiritual condition. Here was God in the Flesh, and like Jacob, I did not know it.

I knew he was sent from God, not only because I heard he turned water into wine at a wedding but because the Prophet John the Baptist called him the Lamb of God. He also referred to Jesus, whose name means, Jehovah saves, as the Word of God. Is it possible this Jesus is really the Messiah Israel has been waiting for since the time of Moses?

Jesus then starts telling me of having to be born again if I wish to enter the kingdom of God. What!? Are you kidding me? I think I might have scoffed as I said, "Can a man enter the womb of his mother a second time and be born again?" That's impossible. And that was precisely the point. Eternal life is impossible with man, but possible with God.

He asked me a question which pierced my heart, "And you are the teacher of Israel and don't know these things?" He was challenging all the years of my training, education, and teachings letting me know that I did not know even the basics of the Kingdom of God. What then had I been teaching? What kind of leader was I? A mere carpenter teaching me? How could this be? Was he a prophet dressed incognito? Was he more than a prophet?

And then he goes on to say, that "God loves the world!" The world? Not just the Jewish nation? Not just the righteous? Not just the obedient to his holy word? How could a holy God love the world? So much corruption, injustice, lawlessness and here Jesus is saying, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever would believe in him would have everlasting life." And to my amazement he proceeds, "For God did not sent his son to condemn the world, but that through him the world would be saved. Are you for real? No condemnation? I was puzzled to say the

least. Really, my mind and heart were sent reeling under the strain of such world shattering truths.

Here I was a learned teacher of Israel and I realize in hearing this man that I had made it all about rules and regulations. Right and wrong. Black or white. No color anywhere. Righteousness or unrighteous behavior. A scorecard to enter heaven and please God. He made me aware that I had failed to see the truth. The truth was so glaring its ever so bright shine blinding me. I, a son of Abraham had failed to display the Faith of Abraham in the God of Abraham. I had not encountered the sweet fellowship with Almighty God, much less with my Heavenly Father.

God created man not as a mechanistic God pleaser but as an individual to be loved and to commune with experiencing a loving, vibrant, everlasting relationship with him. And not merely a relationship but a oneness, a unity, with unbroken fellowship - forever.

I invite you to learn from my trip to Jesus at night. Take your own darkness to Jesus and you will come out of that experience with an unimaginable light which will illuminate and light up your world forever. You will see God in Jesus, Emmanuel – God with us. Jesus is who he says he is, Jehovah saves. Jehovah restores. Jehovah makes whole. Amen.

To God be the glory, honor, and praise forever, amen.

\* **HYMN**

**"Come, Thou Almighty King"**

**Blue Hymnal #139**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mgzRB4gEPf4>

## **Respond in Love and Service**

\* **This we believe**

Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God. He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—he remains faithful forever. He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked. The Lord reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord. (Ps. 146:5-10, NIV)

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

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens. Lord, receive our praise. Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. Lord, receive our praise. When we consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? Lord, receive our praise. You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. Lord, receive our praise. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. Lord, receive our praise. Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! Lord, receive our praise. (Ps. 8, NIV)

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy 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 "O Beautiful For Spacious Skies" Blue Hymnal #564**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCQq6HzcXI8>

## **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. Thank you!  
Rejoice in the Lord always: again I will say, Rejoice.

**\* DOXOLOGY**

**Blue Hymnal # 592**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Q5ojehA78c>

**\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We believe in God, the Eternal Father, and in His Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost. To you O Loving God we bring ourselves and these gifts of your bounty. Accept

them as a love offering. Bless them and multiply them for the use of your kingdom.  
Amen.

\* **CLOSING HYMN**      **“There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”**      **Blue Hymnal #398**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CM7Iym4u9QY>

\* **BENEDICTION**

Go forth in joy and in confidence and be the witness that you are to the grace of the Son, to the Love of the Father, and to the communion of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

\* **POSTLUDE**

**The End of this Worship Meeting — The Beginning of Service**