



\* **GLORIA PATRI**

**Blue Hymnal #579**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nplylz-EEEE0>

\* **SHARE THE PEACE OF CHRIST (From your seats, please)**

Leader: Peace be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

Leader: As God's forgiven people, share the peace of Christ with each other.

### **CHILDREN'S TIME**

The Wilderness

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lzN1jjiFnIA>

### **Hear the Word of God**

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**Almighty God, as we hear your gracious Word, make us hungry for Jesus, your holy manna, that we may feed on him, the bread of life. Amen.**

### **FIRST READING**

**Proverbs 9:1-6**

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+9%3A1-6&version=NIV>

### **PSALTER READING**

**Psalm 34:9-14**

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+34%3A9-14&version=NIV>

### **CHORAL ANTHEM**

**"Just a Closer Walk With Thee"**

**Choir**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=58WdjJuWMsY>

### **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

**Ephesians 5:15-20**

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+5%3A15-20&version=NIV>

### **GOSPEL READING**

**John 6:51-58**

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+6%3A51-58&version=NIV>

### **SERMON**

**"I Am the Bread of Life"**

**Larry Sears**

We often times forget that God is a supernatural being. He was before our beginning, and He will still be after we leave this earth. He dwells in us through His Spirit. He tells us, *"Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life."* I'm going to tell you about an event that happened. It involved Jesus, Moses, Elijah and some of the apostles. It is an event that cannot happen except by the power of God. I pray this will help you to believe that God is not bound by the natural order of things but has the ability and the desire to change things when He wants to or needs too.

Today's Old Testament lesson finds Elijah in the depths of depression. He went into the wilderness by himself. He found a broom tree and prayed that God would let him die. He was tired, depressed and just wanted to give up and die, so he went to sleep.

Just prior to this, we hear about Elijah and the prophets of Baal. Elijah had built an altar, put wood on it, and cut up a bull to sacrifice on the wood. He then proceeded to dig a trench around it and then poured water over everything, and poured water, and poured water, and poured water. He soaked everything and the water even filled up the trench. He then simply asked God to accept the sacrifice. Fire came down from heaven and completely burned up the wood, the sacrifice and even the water in the trench. After that, Elijah prayed for rain, and it began to pour down for the first time in over 3 years. All of that should have made him realize the Lord was with him. Then Jezebel threatened his life, and he ran. It would take something pretty powerful to restore Elijah's confidence in himself and in God.

He is asleep, and God sent an angel to wake Elijah twice to eat cakes baked on coals near him and drink water from a jar. God told him he was to go to Mount Horeb, the mount of God. Many believe this is the same mountain as Mount Sinai, where Moses approached the burning bush, and where Moses received the law. So off he went.

Moses had a different problem. He had led God's chosen people out of bondage. They arrived at Mount Sinai where God wanted to meet with Israel to give them the law. The people hear God on the mountain, and tell Moses, "You go talk with God for us. We are afraid!" Moses goes up the mountain to meet with God and spends a lot of time up there. Meanwhile the Israelites decide that maybe He has left or something so they tell Aaron to make them a golden calf so they can have a god to lead them. This is after the show of strength that God did in Egypt and at the Red Sea. They had even promised to follow the Lord and do everything He said. In the Book of Exodus, we read of many things that happened because the Israelites worshipped a false god. It says when Moses came down the mountain with the tablets, he and Joshua heard singing and partying. Moses was distraught and angry. He broke the tablets that God had prepared with the law on it. He broke up the golden calf and then ground it up into dust. He put the dust in water and made the Israelites drink it.

He had to go back up the mountain to get the law again. The first time God had made the tablets and given them to Moses to take back to the people. This time Moses had to chisel the words into the stone and cut the stone out of the rock around it. I suspect he wasn't in a good mood. Every time the chisel hit the stone, I bet he thought about what those stiff-necked people made him do. But look at Moses' heart. Even in a foul mood, twice Moses interceded for the Israelites while he was up on the mount. Once God told him He would wipe out those stiff-necked people and give Moses a new group to bring into the promised land. Moses told God that if He was going to wipe them out, Moses should be included in that. God relented. The second time Moses interceded, God told him that He would send an angel to guide them, but He wouldn't go with them. Moses interceded for the tribes and said that if God would not go with them, he wouldn't lead them. God relented.

If you remember the event when Moses approached the burning bush? Moses didn't want the job in the first place. He argued with God about it, but in the end accepted his calling. Now with the Israelites grumbling, and worshipping a false god, he was probably pretty bummed out. Then God tells him He will destroy the nation and raise up another one for Moses to lead. I can imagine that shook Moses to the core of his being. Moses, a begrudging leader intercedes, and God relents. Moses asks to see God, and God shows him His goodness.

Elijah and Moses, 2 men from the Old Testament who lived centuries before Jesus Christ was born. Jesus, the One Who was to be the fulfillment of the law (represented by Moses) and the prophets (represented by Elijah.)

Now comes the hard part of this story - the final event. People have explained away the plagues in Egypt in natural terms. They have even explained the crossing of the Red Sea in natural terms. All of the miracles in the Bible have been looked at and decided by some that they are just metaphors or allegories designed to teach lessons. The only problem is that our God is not just the God of the natural. He created the natural, but He is the God of all creation. The creator of the natural that we can see, feel, hear, smell and taste, and also the creator of the spiritual that requires the eyes of faith to behold it.

I think Elijah and Moses needed something supernatural to encourage them to continue to do what God had called them to do. Do you remember the event that we call the Transfiguration of Christ? Generally, we talk about the apostles, or about what happened to Jesus on Transfiguration Sunday, but what happened to Elijah and Moses? How did they end up there, and why?

I think Moses and Elijah were both in a conundrum. They needed encouragement. They did what the psalmist in today's psalm says to do, *"I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles."*

How did Moses, Elijah, and Jesus end up in the same place and time so they could talk to one another? Somehow the God of all creation, the One Who was and is and shall ever be, bent time and space so that Moses, (representing the law, and dying 1,300 years before Christ), and Elijah (representing the prophets and being taken up to heaven 900 years before Christ) could meet the One Who was the fulfillment of all the law and the prophets. This meeting cannot be explained away by natural terms or events. Two men meeting the One Whom they were preparing the world for in both the law and prophecies. Talk about a boost! Can you imagine how Moses and Elijah felt meeting the One they had been told was to come at the proper time? What they must have felt seeing the culmination of their work in the person of the Messiah?

This is the God we worship and serve. An all-powerful God Who walks with us through everything we are going through on earth - the good and the bad - because He loves His creation, but more importantly He loves you and me.

That is why we are told by the Lord, *"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever."*

Call on the Lord. He will hear and answer you about anything! When you do call on Him, be sure to pay attention. - God gets to choose how He will respond to Your prayers.

Amen.

\* HYMN

**"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"**

**Blue Hymnal #379**

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

## **Respond in Love and Service**

### **\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on 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 Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

The stories of scripture speak of God's goodness and generosity, over and over again. So we keep offering our gifts to God, over and over again, trusting that God will bless them. May the gifts we bring continue feeding the world with God's goodness, in mission and in ministry, for the sake of Christ, the Bread of Life.

### **\* DOXOLOGY**

**Blue Hymnal #592**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uyg6-htOtHU>

### **\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious God, we joyously place before you our offerings. May these gifts support our ministry so that others may gather in your name and follow your path of love and peace. We, your beloved children, seek to be "imitators of God" and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

### **\* HYMN FOR OUR NATION**

**"Heal Our Land"**

**Red Hymnal #800**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTm\\_rA54EGw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTm_rA54EGw)

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

Remembering all you have done for us, with us and through us, O God, we pray the words that Jesus taught:

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

### **\* CLOSING HYMN**

**"Blessed Assurance , Jesus Is Mine!"**

**Blue Hymnal #341**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rDeiy9-t2GE>

**\* BENEDICTION**

*"I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to measure of all the fullness of God."*(Ephesians 3:16-19)

**The End of Today's Worship Service – The Beginning of Service**

**Announcements**

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

Next Sunday Dr. Carlos Baladez will lead the service.

## Weekly Calendar

TBD	TBD	Food Pantry
TBD	TBD	Clothes Closet
Sunday	10:00 AM	Sunday School
Sunday	11:00 Am	Worship Service

Holy Communion is observed the First Sunday of each month.

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## Crestholme Presbyterian Church Officers

### Session

<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Cathie Owen	Irene Thomas	Katie Lamb
Netsy Williamson	Steve Tovar	

Clerk of the Session: Dick Crist  
Church Treasurer: Fred Archer

### Trustees

<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Penny Christoff	Fred Archer	Tommy Rudwick

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## Crestholme Presbyterian Church Staff

Stated Supply Minister	Vacant
Pulpit Supply Preachers	Carlos Baladez
	Larry Sears
	Elder Fred Archer
Choir Director	Robin Bernhard
Organist	Cathie Owen
Secretary/Coordinator	Vacant

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Membership in the Presbyterian Church is open to those who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Every member and officer will be more than happy to visit with you about salvation by faith in Jesus and membership at Crestholme.

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