

**Welcome to
Crestholme Presbyterian Church
24th Sunday after Pentecost
November 7, 2021**

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

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

Gather for Worship

PRELUDE **"Christ, Comforter of the World"** **J.S.Bach**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TPmcQqfO8R8>

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP **"Come to the Table"** **Choir**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vMa5pWwm3z0>

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, my soul.

All: We will praise the Lord all our life; we will sing praise to our God as long as we live. We do not put our trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.

LEADER: When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing

All: Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God.

LEADER: He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—he remains faithful forever. (Ps. 146: 1-6, NIV)

OPENING PRAYER

At your invitation, Gracious God, we come to adore thee, the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Amen

*** OPENING HYMN** **"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"** **Blue Hymnal #464**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eMY3ivdNzwE>

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all grace and wisdom, forgive us when we fail to uphold the cause of the oppressed and withhold food from the hungry. Forgive us, God of all mercy, when we

ignore the plight of the prisoner and place stumbling blocks before the blind, for you O Lord lift up those who are bowed down, and you O Lord love the righteous. You O Lord watch over the foreigner. You sustain the fatherless and the widow but frustrate the ways of the wicked. We confess our sin to you and repent of our wicked ways. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Hear the Good News, because God is love, beloved, in Christ Jesus 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).

CHILDREN'S TIME **Elijah and the Widow**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BNTIqy2YBo8>

Hear the Word of God

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Lord, as your forgiven people, open our hearts to hear you speak your words of life into our lives. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ruth%203%3A1-5%2CRuth%204%3A13-17&version=NIV>

PSALM READING

Psalm 127

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+127&version=NIV>

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Come Share the Lord"

Choir

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FsiNP-K-fFM>

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Hebrews 9:24-28

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+9%3A24-28&version=NIV>

GOSPEL READING**Mark 12:38-44**<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+12%3A38-44&version=NIV>**SERMON*****"In keeping with the word of the Lord"*****Dr. Carlos Baladez****1 Kings 17:16**

Don't you just love stories? They are engaging. They inform, entertain, encourage, and persuade all at the same time. Here before us we have just one of those stories. And like all good stories it stands the test of time. Imagine yourself in the presence of God per his invitation and you sitting at his feet as his huge robe and train of glory touches your feet. You feel the warmth of his heart emanating from him and warming your face and heart. Then he starts. "Once upon a time in a land far, far away called Rocky Region, there lived a man. Yes, a man whose name meant, 'my God is Jehovah.' This man was my mouthpiece. I not only spoke to him but I spoke through him. What I whispered in his ear he would echo out loud for all to hear. You see in the past, during the time of Moses and the Great Exodus, I spoke directly to my people from the top of a mountain. But, they were too afraid and asked that I no longer speak to them in such manner. Therefore I started to speak to them through chosen men, in this case Elijah."

As you read the rest of the story in 1 Kings 17:1-16 you see the faithfulness of the Word of God spoken through his Prophet Elijah. The story tells of a wicked king. It also details a draught. The Prophet is given survival instructions and sustenance to live on.

Because of the lack of rain, he needs to move on from his hiding place. Again, he moves on at the Word of the Lord. This time the Lord spoke to a widow woman to provide for the Prophet. When the Prophet arrives he takes notice of the woman and asks her for some food. She reports that she has only enough oil and flour to make one cake for her and her son. They will eat this as their last meal and then die. The Prophet, instead of panicking, remembers the Faithful Word of the Lord and tells her to first make him a cake and then make one for her and her son. She trusts and obeys, no doubt recalling the instructions the Lord previously had given her before the Prophet's arrival. Yes, the instructions to feed him. The Prophet told her that as long as the rain was held back by the word he had spoken, she and her household would not lack. And it happened just as he had said, "in keeping with the word of the Lord!"

This story engages with the familiar phrase, "then the word of the Lord came..." because you know when the word of the Lord comes, action and drama are not far behind.

It also informs. It lets us know that God has enemies and friends. His enemies oppose his truth, his love, his Grace, and his plans to bless.

His friends, on the other hand, facilitate his truth. They seek it out and allow his truth to be lived out through them. His friends embrace the love of God, for themselves, for

others, for God's creation, and ultimately for God himself. His friends live by grace in faith with God and his Word and promote his plans to bless the nations - obeying his word as a result and a by-product of this great love.

It also entertains us - where in the world is the widow woman supposed to draw water from in a drought? Even the rivers are running dry? The irony of the Prophet's request! God, after all, had only directed the widow woman to supply Elijah with food. No word mentioned of any water. Really, Elijah? By the way, the text does not address this request.

The story encourages us to trust God and persuades us to say, "Yes, Lord" to God. In trustful and loving obedience we reap God's blessings even in the midst of scarcity. God's word is as faithful in your story as it is in the story of Elijah. It's not that we want to be like Elijah, it's that we have and worship the same God as Elijah! He provided for him. God provides for us too. Trust him to do as much.

God has given us a lifetime of promises in his beloved, Jesus Christ. "For God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ." (Eph. 1:3) Do you see it? As it has been spoken so now let it be!

God continues to write his story weaving it together through the lives of his friends, the ones who have responded in the affirmative to his "come." In Keeping with the Word of the Lord there is GREAT BLESSING!

Thank be to God. To him be all the Glory and Praise. Amen

* **HYMN** **"O Master Let Me Walk with Thee"** **Blue Hymnal #357**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zNqEw1d3NHQ>

Respond in Love and Service

* **This we believe**

Jesus, you are the bread of life. Whoever comes to you will never go hungry, and whoever believes in you will never be thirsty. All those the Father gives you will come to you, and whoever comes to you, you will never drive away. In you we are secured for ever more. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pray and lift up the burdens that are on your heart. "Lord, hear our prayers. In Jesus' name, 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

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=Uyg6-htOthU>

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord of Abundance, we give because you first gave to us. We bring you ourselves and the fruit of our labor acknowledging that all good things come from you. Amen.

*COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

*Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father, who 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

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

* CLOSING HYMN "Jesus Thou Joy of Loving Hearts" **Blue Hymnal #510**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4QkOLQs44yo>

*** BENEDICTION**

Since you dwell in the shelter of the Most High and rest in the shadow of the Almighty you can say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked. Go in his peace which passes all understanding sharing his love with all you meet. Amen. (adapted from Ps. 91, NIV)

**The End of this Worship Meeting — The Beginning of Service
Next Sunday, Elder, Fred Archer will be leading worship. Welcome Fred!**

See Calendar Below

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.

Crestholme Presbyterian Church Officers

Session

Class of 2021

Class of 2022

Class of 2023

Cathie Owen

Irene Thomas

Katie Lamb

Netsy Williamson

Steve Tovar

Clerk of the Session: Dick Crist

Church Treasurer: Fred Archer

Trustees

Class of 2021

Class of 2022

Class of 2023

Penny Christoff

Fred Archer

Tommy Rudwick

Crestholme Presbyterian Church Staff

Stated Supply Minister

Vacant

Pulpit Supply Preachers

Dr. Carlos Baladez

CP Larry Sears

Elder, Fred Archer

Choir Director

Robin Bernhard

Organist

Cathie Owen

Secretary/Coordinator

Vacant

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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