

**Welcome to  
Crestholme Presbyterian Church  
3rd Sunday after Epiphany  
January 23, 2022**

**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:** "Adagio" Mendelssohn  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BhAh7Rr9s0s>

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE BELLS**

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP "Stand Up and Bless the Lord"** Choir  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MqyMsNWfqO8>

**RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

LEADER: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.  
**All:** They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.

LEADER: It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

**All:** It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth. Therefore, we come to worship you O God. (Based on Ps. 19:1-6, NIV)

**OPENING PRAYER**

Adonai, we gather in your love and mercy to worship thee alone. Amen.

**\* OPENING HYMN "O Christ, the Great Foundation" Blue Bk #443**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Nhpr34tK2c>

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Lord, forgive us when we fail to remember that your joy is our strength. Forgive us when we get too caught up in our own heads and do not call out to you. Forgive us when we forget to enjoy life, food, friend, family and fellowship and all we do is mourn and weep for what could have been or what was. We turn our hearts to you and rejoice in your love and grace and forgiveness. 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=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** **Names of God in the Bible**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLowDvsdr34>

## **Hear the Word of God**

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Adonai, you are ruler over all. Rule this day and every day, shedding your light upon our hearts and minds, reaching our hearts to lovingly obey you and you alone. We ask in the NAME, amen.

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** **Revelation 5**  
<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation%205&version=NIV>

**CHORAL ANTHEM** **"Carry the Light"** **Choir**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E8snH9NMBE8>

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** **Revelation 6**  
<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation%206&version=NIV>

**SERMON**

**"Adonai, Lord"  
Deuteronomy 10:17**

**Dr. Carlos Baladez**

"For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes."

Throughout history, one can see the trail of tears left behind in the wake of the atrocities committed by the image-bearers of God when they wrongfully assume titles, verbs, nouns, and adjectives belonging solely to God. When these men and women usurp what rightfully belongs to God alone, we witness wars, pillaging, rapes, murders, robbing, slavery, torture, and savagery.

Words are invented to justify such behaviors. Words like "they," "them," "am I my brother's keeper," "raca," "alternative truths," and derogatory terms referring to Haiti, El Salvador, and African countries. All these words and behaviors are justified under the umbrella term "enemies," to justify "collateral damage," making nationalistic führer or furor acceptable.

These sub-reptilian results are the zenith of our hubris in wanting to become like God.

Samuel warned the people of God this would happen when they clamored for a king like the other nations. Samuel said, "This is what the king who will reign over you will claim as his rights: **He will take** your sons and make them serve with his chariots and horses, and they will run in front of his chariots. Some he will assign to be commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and others to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and still others to make weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. **He will take** your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. **He will take** the best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves and give them to his attendants. **He will take** a tenth of your grain and of your vintage and give it to his officials and attendants. Your menservants and maidservants and the best of your cattle and donkeys **he will take** for his own use. **He will take** a tenth of your flocks, and you yourselves will become his slaves. When that day comes, you will cry out for relief from the king you have chosen, and the LORD will not answer you in that day." But the people refused to listen to Samuel. "No!" they said. "We want a king over us. Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles." (1 Sam. 8:11-20, NIV) Did you notice the recurrent theme of, "**he will take?**" This has been our human -experience – take, take, take, take - as we continue to clamor for a human master, lord and king instead of God.

Why mention all this darkness when we are on a journey to know God by name? To show a contrast between the false wearers of titles like lord, master, and ruler. You see, the name of God we are observing today is Adonai meaning Lord, Master, Ruler. Within the USA context, the Old Antebellum South usurped the term "master," and left a sullied stain on this term.

Yet, by looking to its rightful owner we can redeem it and see that it fits God perfectly. Yes, "master" is worthy only of ONE, our loving creator. In the historical cases mention above the relationship and expectations between the two parties were what the slave or servant could do for his/her master. In the case of our relationship with God as our master, the relationship and its expectations are inverted. In this godly and righteous relationship, it is what God, as master, does for us enslaved by sin.

Turning to the Psalmist and to Isaiah for insight, instruction, redemption, and restoration of this term and image - to its rightful owner - we see God, the Master/Ruler/King over all living and created things (which includes you and me). In looking to Adonai, we view each other no longer as "you," against "me" or "us," against "them" but as "we," and "us," together as one under one lordship and Lord. Adonai is master/ruler of us all.

And as master/ruler Adonai advocates for and blesses (makes happy) creation. Adonai gives his best to his image-bearers. Adonai loosens our bonds, bears our daily burdens, is good to us and forgives us. He is merciful and gracious to us, in love and faithfulness he acts towards us. He gives us strength, accomplishes for us, is our helper and upholds us. And he makes us glad to boot!\*

Crestholme, behold Adonai! Our Master/Lord//Ruler/and King. There is no other One.

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

\*Knowing God by name by Mary A. Kassian

\* **HYMN**            **"Great God, We Sing That Mighty Hand"**        **Blue Hymnal #265**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R8AYedWcZ3A>

### **Respond in Love and Service**

\* **This we believe**

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many... God has put the body together, every one of us, just as he wanted us to be...giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. Now we are the body of Christ, and each one of us is a part of it. Amen. (based on 1 Cor. 12:12-14, 18, 24b-25, 27, NIV)

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

Offer up to the Lord, in your own words, your celebrations, concerns, petitions and then follow it up with the Lord's Prayer: "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 “Heal Our Land” Red Hymnal #800**

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

Adonai, you are Lord over all. It is to you we bring ourselves and these our gifts to you acknowledging that we first received them from you. Thank you. Amen.

**\* CLOSING HYMN “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service” Blue #343**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5SqaZEjJtbq>

### **\* BENEDICTION**

Crestholme, go in the blessing of our Lord. May the love of the Father, the grace of the Son, and the communion of the Holy Spirit accompany you wherever you go. Amen.

### **\* POSTLUDE**

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

**In-person worship, the Food Pantry and Clothes Closet are temporarily closed due to Co-vid 19 numbers. We will notify you when they reopen. Thank you!**

**Weekly Calendar**

TBD  
TBD  
Sunday  
Sunday  
TBD  
TBD  
10:00 AM  
11:00 Am  
Food Pantry  
Clothes Closet  
Sunday School  
Worship Service  
Holy Communion is observed the First Sunday of each month.

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**Crestholme Presbyterian Church Officers**  
Session

Class of 2022                      Class of 2023                      Class of 2024  
Irene Thomas                      Katie Lamb                      Netsy Williamson

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

Trustees

Class of 2022                      Class of 2023                      Class of 2024  
Fred Archer                      Tommy Rudwick                      Penny Christoff

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**Crestholme Presbyterian Church Staff**

Stated Supply Minister                      Vacant  
Pulpit Supply Preachers                      Dr. Carlos Baladez  
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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