

**Welcome to
Crestholme Presbyterian Church
3rd Sunday of Easter
May 1, 2022**

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

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

Gather for Worship

PRELUDE

“Kyrie”

Frescobaldi

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oFqtsKqUk0U>

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“Fill My Cup Lord”

Choir

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4l2yY2r95g>

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me. Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me. You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead; you spared me from going down to the pit.

All: Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name. For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

LEADER: When I felt secure, I said, “I will never be shaken.” Lord, when you favored me, you made my royal mountain stand firm; but when you hid your face, I was dismayed.

All: To you, Lord, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy: “What is gained if I am silenced, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it proclaim your faithfulness? Hear, Lord, and be merciful to me; Lord, be my help.”

LEADER: You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent. Lord my God, I will praise you forever. (Ps. 30, NIV)

OPENING PRAYER

We exalt you Lord and declare you to be our healer. You were pierced for our transgressions, you were crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on you, and by your wounds we are healed. We praise you, Lord. Thank you, amen.

*** OPENING HYMN "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" Blue Hymnal #464**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2yZVweZ2Cvg>

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, you turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals." We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. All our days pass away under your wrath; we finish our years with a moan. Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. If only we knew the power of your anger! Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due. Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Relent, LORD! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants. Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, for as many years as we have seen trouble. May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children. May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands. 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

Jesus Heals the Sick

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JsM64LHdPy8>

Hear the Word of God

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God of wonderful and glorious light. Shine your light of love into our hearts and our ears and eyes will be opened. Our hearts will be warmed and we will recognize your voice speaking to us, as sheep know the voice of their own shepherd. Thank you, and amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 61:1-3

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah%2061%3A1-3&version=NIV>

PSALTER READING**Psalm 90:13-17**<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=PS+90%3A13-17&version=NIV>**CHORAL ANTHEM****"Come, Share the Lord"****Choir**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FsiNP-K-fFM>**NEW TESTAMENT READING****Revelation 5:11-14**<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Rev+5%3A11-14&version=NIV>**GOSPEL READING****John 21:1-19**<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+21%3A1-19&version=NIV>**SERMON*****"Yaweh Ropheh-The Lord Our Healer"*****Dr. Carlos Baladez****Exodus 15:26**

He said, "If you listen carefully to the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you." (NIV)

I want you to close your eyes and feel this next word. Sense it. Touch it and allow it to touch you. God. Think it. Meditate on it. Contemplate it. Let it not only fill your mind but your heart and soul as well. Keep that word in your mind and feel it in your heart. Feel the power in that word. Sense the enormity of it. Experience its majesty, who it represents, and all that it encompasses. Yes, God. Now open your eyes. I hope you gave yourself permission and the time and space to encounter your creator within that word, God. The Creator of the cosmos with its galaxies, stars, suns, planets, moons, plants, animals, and you are God's. Your God. Your, loving, adoring, and faithful God.

The Israelites had experienced 400 years in Egypt bearing the yoke of Pharaoh. They were the "minorities," while the Egyptians were the privileged and dominant culture. Before Moses came on the scene, after having an encounter with God at the burning bush that burned but would not be consumed by the fire, the Israelites were slaves to Pharaoh and his kingdom. Under Egyptian rule, the Israelites were subject to their taskmasters' will and whim.

Yet, the day came when God heard their cry and sent Moses and Aaron to deliver a basic message to Pharaoh on behalf of God: Let my people go!

Pharaoh, in his arrogant prime, pride, and hubris said, "And who is God?" Underlying tone, "we have our own gods."

Well then, God puts on the ritz. God, through Moses and Aaron, sends Pharaoh ten messages. These messages were encoded in words and shortly after these words were delivered, the manifestations were seen. They were incarnated if you will. Exodus 7:14-

18 states, "Then the Lord said to Moses, "Pharaoh's heart is unyielding; he refuses to let the people go. Go to Pharaoh in the morning as he goes out to the river. Confront him on the bank of the Nile, and take in your hand the staff that was changed into a snake. Then say to him, 'The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to say to you: Let my people go, so that they may worship me in the wilderness. But until now you have not listened. This is what the Lord says: By this you will know that I am the Lord: With the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water of the Nile, and it will be changed into blood. The fish in the Nile will die, and the river will stink; the Egyptians will not be able to drink its water.'" And so it happened, just as it had been spoken.

Since Pharaoh continued in his stubbornness, the other nine messages followed; frogs, lice, flies, livestock pestilence, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, and finally, the one that broke the camel's back, the killing of each firstborn; both of human and cattle.

Under the heavy hand of God, Pharaoh relented and finally released the Israelites and they, the children of God, were freed to go and worship God as a liberated nation.

The Israelites had been witness to all these plagues and had seen how the health and welfare of the Egyptians were affected. The Israelites left Egypt, but not before they had plundered the Egyptians as God instructed them to do. The Egyptians were more than glad to turn over the loot and rid themselves of the Israelites, lest God kill them all.

As they left Egypt, Pharaoh reversed his decision and pursued them. God put a final stop to the chase at the Red Sea. God parted the waters for his people and closed the sea upon their enemies.

Moses sings his song and Miriam dances her dance. And then the first test from the Lord comes. "Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea and they went into the Desert of Shur. For **three** days they traveled in the desert without finding water. When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. (That is why the place is called Marah). So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "What are we to drink?" Then Moses cried out to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became fit to drink. There the Lord issued a ruling and instruction for them and put them to the test. He said, "If you **listen** carefully to the Lord your God **and do** what is right in his eyes, if you **pay attention** to his commands **and keep** all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for **I am the Lord, who heals you.**" (I.e. who protects you and keeps these diseases off of you)

It was within this context that we find today's verse.

They are now free from bondage and out in the wilderness.

We've all been in this desert, metaphorically. We too have spent our three days in this wilderness. The waters there are bitter. Perhaps we too have asked, "Did God deliver us only to let us die? Is this our punishment for being enslaved to sin?"

Surely not! He delivered us to worship him. To love and know him. We have seen his great hand of deliverance. We too have plundered the Egyptians of our lives. As the Israelites saw the judgment of God on the gods of the Egyptians reducing them to nothing and revealing them as false, we too have seen this same God do the same to the false gods in our lives.

Yes, our God is not only able to free us, and he has, he is also able to feed us. To quench our thirst and make our bitter waters drinkable by the wood of the Cross of Jesus and lead us to Elim, the place of abundant sweet water.

Let us call out to our God and allow him to continue proving himself as the One True God who is able to do whatever the occasion calls for to meet our needs. Our God loves and values us. Because of his love for us, we willing and lovingly reciprocate his love for him. This love creates an immense love and gratitude for him and gives birth to loving and willing obedience flowing from our hearts. He is the one who knits us to wholeness because he IS our healer. He stitches us back together into whole and complete units. His initial blessing in Genesis is restored and in Christ is expanded.

Dear God, we turn to you this morning. We look up to you and see you by faith and look within us and receive your loving and gracious touch by your faith. You have placed the faith of Jesus within us by grace, love, and mercy.

You Lord Jesus are our hope. In you, we have been forgiven.

Friends, we no longer have to live in bondage to sin. At Calvary's Cross guilt, sin, shame, doubt, fear, and unbelief were dealt with and removed. Therefore, let us declare that we have been forgiven, accepted, cleansed, received back home, and restored to new glory in Christ Jesus. A home full of forgiveness. A home to a new life in Christ Jesus for evermore. The doors home have been open tall and wide for the King of Glory to walk in carrying us on the coattails of his glory, the train of his garments that fills the temple. In Christ Jesus, we revere the name of God. Therefore, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays and we will go out and frolic like well-fed calves.

Come, Lord, we invite you to once again put on your ritz and manifest your victory over our internal and external enemies, diseases, and the like. We, by grace and love, give you glory, honor, and praise now and forever. Alleluia! Amen!

To God be the glory, honor and praise now and forever more!

* HYMN

"More Love to Thee, O Christ"

Blue Hymnal #359

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zl1nL6M7ogc>

Respond in Love and Service

* **This we believe**

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By oppression^[a] and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished. He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes^[c] his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. (Isaiah 53:4-10, NIV)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord Healer, we ask you to heal our land. Heal our sick bodies, minds, hearts, attitudes, dispositions, and natures. Form Christ in us until he is fully formed and your glory shines within and through us for the whole world to see. We thank you, in the name of Him who took our sicknesses upon the tree, Christ Jesus. 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!

* **DOXOLOGY**

Blue Hymnal # 592

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

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Lord, because you have healed our understanding with the happiness to know that it is better to give than to receive, we gladly bring you ourselves and these tithes and offerings. Please receive them in love. Bless them abundantly and use them for your glorious kingdom here on earth. 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 and Choral Amen

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

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Sharing of the Elements

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen (Take the bread and eat)

The blood of Christ, given for you. Amen (Drink the cup)

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*** CLOSING HYMN "For the Bread Which You Have Broken" Blue #508**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3r4tOJuuaV4>

*** BENEDICTION**

Saints of God, go in the grace of the Son, the love of the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit and share the good news of Jesus Christ tell all you meet that the Lord who Heals is alive and well and willing to hear all who come to Him in faith. Amen.

The End of this Worship Meeting — The Beginning of Service

Next Sunday, Elder, Fred Archer will be leading worship. Welcome Fred!

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 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

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

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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