

**Welcome to
Crestholme Presbyterian Church
6th Sunday After Pentecost
July 17, 2022**

At the *, please stand, if you are able

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

Gather for Worship

PRELUDE: "Trio" Rheinberger
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tJR5tZz8_Q

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP "Jesus, We Just Want to Thank You" Choir
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1spFA4XFWW4>

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain?

All: The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart; whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others; who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the LORD; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind; who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

LEADER: Whoever does these things will never be shaken. (Ps. 15, NIV)

OPENING PRAYER

Lord of everlasting light, we thank you for the physical and the spiritual light that you give us. In your light, we are able to see by your mercy and grace and walk in the way of life. Amen.

*** OPENING HYMN "Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!" Blue Bk #430**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DsmeJ79Inm0>

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Are we not a disgrace in the eyes of God when we boast of evil? When we practice deceit and our tongues plot destruction? When we love evil rather than good, falsehood

rather than speaking the truth? Everlasting Light, you who see all darkness as if it was light, forgive us our sins and give new tongues which boast of you, which speak your truth in your love for all to hear. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Beloved, having confessed our sins to God Almighty who is faithful to forgive and cleanse us of all unrighteousness, 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

God is Light

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

HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God of Everlasting Light and Glory, create in us new hearts, new minds, and seeing eyes with hearing ears that we may believe by faith and be saved by your loving power and might. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 1

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians%201&version=NIV>

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Carry The Light"

Choir

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 2

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+2&version=NIV>

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

**"Or Olam, Everlasting Light"
Isaiah 60:19**

Dr. Carlos Baladez

"The sun will no more be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory."

Light is a wonderful sight. It is mysterious. Subject it to one set of experiments and the results indicate that light is made up of particles. Subject it to a different set of experiments and the results show that light is made up of waves. In a way it reflects the mysterious name of God in Genesis 1:1. "In the beginning, God made the heavens and the earth." Here, the name of God in the original language is Elohim. A plural ending on a singular pronoun, El. God is not explained, Elohim is only introduced. God is not understood but can be experienced. His name is beyond our full comprehension yet we can experience Elohim in all of our humanity. Mystery 101.

Light is also a theme that runs across scripture from Genesis through Revelation. In Genesis 1:3, we have, "And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light." (NIV) While, in Revelation 22:5 we have, "There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign forever and ever." (NIV). And in the gospel of John, speaking of Jesus, John writes, "In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (NIV)

In scripture, light is often contrasted with darkness. Metaphors about light abound in scripture. Their main purpose is to give us hints or insights into spiritual lessons which are couched in natural or physical terms. We have such metaphors in our English language such as, "She is a ray of sunshine." or "She lit up the room with her presence." Or "I was given the green light." It is obvious the person is not physically light. But metaphors are communication tools used to help illustrate or explain something by comparing it to something else.

Someone once defined darkness not by what it is but by what it is not. The definition was, "darkness is the absence of light." It has been said that darkness exists while the light does not show up.

In the Old Testament, we are presented with the Tabernacle of Moses in the wilderness. We see the Outer Court, the Inner Court, and the Holy of Holies. The Outer Court was illuminated by the sun above. The Inner Court was illuminated by the light coming from the burning Menorah, while the Holy of Holies was illuminated by the very presence of God manifested, the Shekinah Glory. One light illuminates our physical world, another illuminates our minds, while yet another one illuminates our spirits.

Every 24-hour day, our Earth experiences light in one hemisphere while at the same time the other half experiences darkness. Scripture often describes the acts of humankind in these terms. Sins, transgressions, and iniquities are often performed

whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Once we were alienated from God and were enemies in our minds because of our evil behavior. But now he has reconciled us by Christ's physical body through death to present us holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— if we continue in our faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that we heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. Amen. (Based on Col. 1:15-28, NIV)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE HYMN OF INTERCESSION

Lift up your hearts and prayers unto the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayers.**

***HYMN FOR OUR NATION "Heal Our Land" Red Hymnal #800**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTm_rA54EGw

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"

THE CHORAL AMEN

Choir

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9NnPRG9RZY>

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**

Father of lights, you provide us the sunlight to grow our crops and the spiritual lift in Jesus Christ to bring you our gifts of bounty which you bestow upon us. Please accept these gifts as a labor of love for your great Name and glory. Amen.

*** CLOSING HYMN "Great is thy Faithfulness" Blue Hymnal #276**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ErwiBz1QA4o>

*** BENEDICTION**

Crestholme, you are blessed by him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy— to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power, and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

*** POSTLUDE**

The End of this Worship Meeting — The Beginning of Service

Next Sunday, Dr. Baladez will continue with our sermon series, "Knowing God by Name."

