

July 26, 2020

Welcome!

We believe God brought you all here today! May you be blessed, strengthened and uplifted by your time of worship.

GUESTS! – A special welcome to you! We are glad you have joined us online and in person! Let us know you are worshipping with us by putting a comment in the Facebook LIVE comments or fill out the “Online Guestbook” on our Live Stream web page.

Communion: When we get together, every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month we celebrate the Lord’s Supper in both services. If you are interested in joining us, please speak to Pastor prior to communing.

Offerings are part of our worship life and heartfelt expression of gratitude to the Lord who has given all we have. Three ways to give...

- Share a gift in the offering plate at the back of the Church
- Text \$(amount) to 512-582-2389
- Click “GIVE” on our website: www.crossandcrowntx.com

Restrooms – Restrooms are located through the entry way, to the left as you exit the worship area.

Nursery/Cry Room - We love worshipping with children. If you need a place to go with small children, there is a nursery/cry room on the right of the entryway as you leave the church. The room is equipped with a viewing window and speakers so you can continue to participate in the worship service.

PENTECOST 9 – July 26, 2020

SERVING US IN WORSHIP TODAY...

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR MICHAEL GEIGER

ORGANIST: DAVID WIDIGER

♪ OPENING HYMN

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

Red Hymnal 255 (vs 1-4)

1 Open now thy gates of beauty; Zion, let me enter there,
Where my soul in joyful duty Waits for him who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place, Filled with solace, light, and grace!

2 Gracious God, I come before thee; Come thou also unto me.
Where we find thee and adore thee, There a heav'n on earth must be.
To my heart, oh, enter thou; Let it be thy temple now!

3 Here thy praise is gladly chanted; Here thy seed is duly sown.
Let my soul, where it is planted, Bring forth precious sheaves alone,
So that all I hear may be Fruitful unto life in me.

4 Thou my faith increase and quicken; Let me keep thy gift divine,
Howsoe'er temptations thicken; May thy Word still o'er me shine
As my guiding star through life, As my comfort in all strife.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS & FORGIVENESS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues forever. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy and to bring forth fruits in faith and hope and love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON: *Isaiah 55:8-11* (NIV84)

⁸"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord . ⁹"As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, ¹¹so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

PSALM

M: Praise awaits you, O God, in Zion;
to you our vows will be fulfilled.

C: O you who hear prayer, to you all men will come.

M: When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.

**C: Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts!
We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.**

M: You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness,
O God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas,

**C: who formed the mountains by your power,
having armed yourself with strength,**

M: who stilled the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.

**C: Those living far away fear your wonders;
where morning dawns and evening fades
you call forth songs of joy.**

SECOND LESSON: Acts 18:1-11 (NIV84)

¹After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ²There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, ³and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. ⁴Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

⁵When Silas and Timothy came from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ.

⁶But when the Jews opposed Paul and became abusive, he shook out his clothes in protest and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am clear of my responsibility. From now on I will go to the Gentiles." ⁷Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. ⁸Crispus, the synagogue ruler, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptized.

⁹One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "*Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent.*" ¹⁰*For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city.*"

¹¹So Paul stayed for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God.

♪ SERMON HYMN

"Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast"

Red Hymnal 324

1 Almighty God, your Word is cast Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend And righteous fruits abound.

2 Let not the foe of Christ and man This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.

3 Let not the world's deceitful cares The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundredfold The fruits of peace and joy.

4 Whene'er the precious seed is sown, Life-giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive Its saving pow'r may know.

SERMON

MESSAGE: *"It's not the Seed...It's the Soil!"*

TEXT: *Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23 (NIV84)*

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ²Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop--a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear."

¹⁸"Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. ²²The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. ²³But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

STATEMENT OF FAITH – APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty.**

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THANK-OFFERING

Offerings are part of our worship life and heartfelt expression of gratitude to the Lord who has given all we have. Three ways to give...

- *Share a gift in the offering plate at the back of the Church*
- *Text \$(amount) to 512-582-2389*
- *Click "GIVE" on our website: www.crossandcrowntx.com*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

C: **We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

M: You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

C: **We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**

M: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

C: **Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

M: Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

C: **Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and

minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

C: We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER:

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 trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom

and the power and the glory

forever and ever. Amen.

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

♪ CLOSING HYMN

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

Red Hymnal 329

1 Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
Fill our hearts with joy and peace.
Let us each, your love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
Oh, refresh us, oh, refresh us,
Trav'ling through this wilderness.

2 Thanks we give and adoration
For the gospel's joyful sound;
May the fruits of your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound!
Ever faithful, ever faithful
To your truth may we be found.

3 So whene'er the signal's given
Us from earth to call away,
Borne on angels' wings to heaven,
Glad the summons to obey,
May we ever, may we ever
Reign with Christ in endless day.

KEEP GROWING IN FAITH...

WORSHIP every Sunday

- 9:00 AM Traditional
- 11:00 AM Contemporary

GROW GROUPS each week

- 7:00 PM Mondays (Zoom)
- 7:00 PM Wednesdays (Zoom)

STAY CONNECTED...

Cross and Crown App - *STAY CONNECTED, FIND INFORMATION OR LISTEN TO PAST SERMONS WITH OUR CHURCH APP. SEARCH "CHURCH APP TITHE.LY" IN YOUR APP STORE. ENTER THE ZIP CODE '78628. SELECT 'CROSS AND CROWN'. THE CALENDAR, BLOG UPDATES, SERMONS AND OTHER LINKS ARE ACCESSIBLE. INFORMATION CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT: WWW.CROSSANDCROWNTX.COM.*



3800 SHELL ROAD, GEORGETOWN, TEXAS 78628

WWW.CROSSANDCROWNTX.COM

CHURCH: 512.869.7729

PASTOR (CELL): 612.381.4334

EMAIL: PASTOR@CROSSANDCROWNTX.COM

CROSS & CROWN IS A MEMBER OF THE

WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD (WELS.NET)

