

Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church

August 17, 2025

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS, SHARED JOYS AND CONCERNS

INTROIT AND REKINDLING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 80)

Give ear, O Shepherd, you who lead us like a flock!

Stir up your might and come to save us!

You brought a vine out of Egypt and planted it

You created room for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven and see.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we might be saved.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN #65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Try as we might to follow Jesus, at some point we always fail. But our failure does not have the power to separate us from God. Trusting Christ's grace, let us confess our sin together:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-loving God, we confess that we are not always ready to trust your love. You call us to step forward in radical faith, but we cling to what is familiar, comfortable and non-controversial. You are eternally at work in the world, but we struggle to discern your presence in the signs of the times. Forgive us, O God. By your grace, give us courage to stand for what is right and good and to risk love and justice even when it is unpopular. Teach us faithfulness and perseverance for the journey ahead. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, look around! We are indeed surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. We are the body of Christ, the family of faith, all of us both saints and sinners. The grace we receive in baptism washes away our shame and brokenness and unites us with one another in bonds of love and kinship. Proclaim the good news with me:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

* GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning it is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord Jesus, who brought the fire of the Holy Spirit, may that fire burn within our hearts as we read the Scriptures today. Teach us to choose your Way. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

GOSPEL READING - Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!



One: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us,

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

What Will I Do To My Vineyard?

Rev. David Annett

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

*HYMN #372

O For A World

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 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.



SENDING

*HYMN #354

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE AND CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD (please be seated for a moment of quiet as we contemplate the God we met today and the light that dwells within us)

WE WELCOME Margaret Heidenreich to Cranston this morning as our guest preacher! Margaret is a recent graduate of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Thank you for preaching God's Word to us this morning, Margaret!

WELCOME TO CRANSTON! We send two emails each week to those interested: an invitation to worship and a summary of prayer concerns and announcements. If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact Pastor David Annett, by phone or at pastor@cranstonchurch.org. Considering Membership? Contact Pastor David Annett.

Session Members:

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