



Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church

Proper 24

October 19, 2025

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS, SHARED JOYS AND CONCERNS

INTROIT AND REKINDLING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

(from Psalm 121 and 2 Timothy 4)

One: We lift up our eyes to the hills – from where will our help come?

ALL: Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

One: Proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or not;

ALL: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in forevermore.

One: With endurance, expectation, and joy, let us worship the living God!

* HYMN # 45

I To the Hills Will Lift My Eyes

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

If we say we have no sin, the truth is not in us. And yet, we want to be people of truth and love. So we come to the baptismal font seeking a new start; a new day; an opportunity to join God's work of building and planting. With confidence that God hears our prayers and loves us unconditionally, let us confess our sins:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the covenant, you promise to write your law in our hearts, that we might be faithful people who know you and your will for us. Still we stray from your ways, we fail to tell the truth, we mirror the world around us more than the good news of the gospel, and we fail to acknowledge that you are our God. Forgive us, and by your Spirit renew us. Engrave your covenant upon us once more. Grant us courage and faith that we might begin again to live what it is we say we believe.

KYRIE (Hymn # 551)

TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(from Jeremiah 31:34)

No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

Hear and believe this good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

* 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

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pray Always and Don't Lose Heart

Rev. David Annett

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from The Confession of 1967, Inclusive Language Edition)

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.



The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace. The new life does not release people from conflict with unbelief, pride, lust, and fear. They still have to struggle with disheartening difficulties and problems. Nevertheless, as they mature in love and faithfulness in their life with Christ, they live in freedom and good cheer, bearing witness on good days and evil days, confident that the new life is pleasing to God and helpful to others.

HYMN # 469

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying (repeat 3 times)

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

PRESENTATION OF OUR 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

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

Down to the River to Pray

As I went down in the river to pray studyin' about that good ole way

And who shall wear the starry crown Good Lord show me the way

Oh sisters let's go down, let's go down come on down

Oh sisters let's go down, down in the river to pray

Oh brothers let's go down...

Oh children let's go down...



* 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)

* Please stand in body or in spirit

WELCOME TO CRANSTON! More information about Cranston is available at cranstonchurch.org. 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.

The Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church directory is available now. Printed copies are here in the Sanctuary; a pdf copy will be sent to you if you request one from communications@cranstonchurch.org

Please bring candy for our Halloween party, Friday, October 31 from 6 pm to 8 pm! Keeping Mary Campbell's vision alive we plan to welcome the Village into our Church on Halloween and we need your help! You can help by bringing candy that we can share. You can help by being here and greeting the children and their families as they come "Trick or Treating"! You can help by engaging those who do come in a brief moment of Loving the Neighbor!

Session Members:

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