

Welcome To Worship



Sunday, Sep. 17th, 2023/ 16th Sunday After Pentecost

****Those who are able may stand***

**PREWORSHIP FELLOWSHIP
PRELUDE MUSIC
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
AN INVITATION TO REST**

***OPENING SENTENCES (Responsive)**

This day is the Lord's Day.
Giving thanks to God,
Who gives justice to the oppressed.
Who forgives us and redeems us,
And crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.
Let us worship the One who is worthy of our praise!



"Forgiveness" by Mario Nevado

***GATHERING HYMN**

#401

Here In This Place

KYRIE #627

I Love You Lord

(Confession need not be a somber affair. It can be a joyful and thankful moment, like dropping a heavy load from tired hips. God's grace means confession can sound as much like "hallelujah" as "I'm sorry". For this reason, we begin and end our "Confession" with "I love you lord". A joyful song expressing how our confession is an act of love for the God who already covers us in grace.)

I love you lord

To worship you

And I lift my voice

oh my soul, rejoice...

CONFESSION OF NEED (Responsive) Adapted from Ted Loader's *"Loosen My Grip"*

O God, it's hard for us to let go, most times, and our squeezing hold
Garbles me and others.

So, we confess, we need you to loosen our grip a bit.

On the good times, the moments of sunlight and joy,

That the blessings they leave may nurture growth

Rather than brittle memories.

Loosen our grip, on those grudges and grievances we hold so close,
**That we may risk exposing ourselves to your spirit of forgiveness that
changes things and resurrects courageous dreams.**

Loosen our grip, on our fears,
That we may be released into humility and accepting our humanity.

Loosen our grip, on ourselves,
**That we may experience the freedom of a fool, knowing that to
believe is to reach out to you, and to laugh at ourselves is to be in on
your grace.**

Loosen our grip, on all the judgmental “should haves” and “could haves” we
hold on others,
That we may realize we are held by you all along.

KYRIE

***Take joy my king In what you hear.
May it be a sweat sweat sound In Your ears.***

SILENCE for confession and resting In God’s grace.

DECLARATION OF GRACE (Responsive)

Hear the good news. Like a mother pulls her child close to whisper, “I love you”.
God pulls us closer on every breath to says the same.

Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE HYMN**

#616

Our God Is An Awesome God

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (Responsive)**

The Peace of Christ be with you! **And Also, with you!**

Let us share a sign of God's peace with one another.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

Holy Spirit, help us hear your voice beyond our inability to hear and understand your word beyond any speaker's ability to explain. Through your word, speak to our hearts even if our heads are not ready to listen.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING 1.....Genesis 50: 15-21

READING 2.....Matthew 18:21-35

Leader: The word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God!

**SERMON.....The Cycle Dies Here: Why
Taking what you want can't make
you free.**

SONG OF CONTEMPLATION #435 There's A Wideness In God's Mercy

PRAYERS & GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your Mercy. **Hear our Prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (forgive us our "sins")

***BLESSING AND CHARGE (Responsive)**

Beloved children of God receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the blessing of the Lord forever.

Alleluia! Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN #80 You Shall Go Out With Joy**

***DISMISSAL (Responsive)**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

***POSTLUDE**

A Warm Welcome to our Guests and Visitors!

Our church has a wonderful array of ministries that seek to spread the gospel into the world. If you are interested in finding out more about the church community or are interested in becoming a member, please contact us at:

Pastor – Rev. Michael Ozaki
Cell: 951.532.5105
PastorOzaki@gmail.com

Office: 218-281-4853 e-mail: crxpres@midconetwork.com
Check out our Website: crookstonfirstpres.org

Calendar for this week: Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023

10:45 am **Worship**
11:45 am **Coffee Fellowship**

Ushers & Greeters..... Bill & Gloria Watro
Organist..... Caleb Mendez
Music Director..... Sandy Perkins
Reader..... Mary Pulkrabek

Wednesday 20th

6:00 – Bells

Thursday 21st

1:00 – Book Study
3:45 – PW Circle
6:00 – Session Meeting

Next Sunday, Sept. 24th

10:45 am **Worship**
11:45 am **Coffee Fellowship**

Ushers & Greeters..... Ralph Pester & Marlys Mjoen
Organist..... Hannah Kruger
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