

Welcome To Worship



First
Presbyterian
CROOKSTON, MN.

Sunday, October 1st, 2023 18th Sunday After Pentecost

**Those who are able please stand*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITATION TO REST

***OPENING SENTENCES: (Responsive)**

This morning we will begin worship with our questions for God.
The big and small, serious and silly, all are welcome. In this way we open our selves to God just as Moses, Elijah and God's people have done from the beginning, with honest questions and open hearts.

Please write your questions for God on the piece of paper provided and hand them in instructed.

***GATHERING HYMN**

#175

Seek Ye First

Kyrie #627 I Love You Lord

(Confession does not need to be a somber affair. It can be a joyful and thankful moment 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" this morning with "I love you lord". A joyful song to express how our confessing is also our 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)

God of mystery,
We are constantly surprised and amazed by you.
Your grace, and your truth are more than we can ever imagine.

And yet, we still love to clamp down on our opinions about how it all works.

**When others disagree, we choose judgement instead of curiosity.
When confronted with new situations, we avoid rather than explore.
When uncomfortable facts arise, we defend rather than change.**

Infinite God, we so easily forget that to follow you is to be changed. To grow in your grace is to be open, unafraid and even thankful for all the truths that make prove us wrong and point us towards more beautiful ways of living.

Therefor, we confess we need your help putting down our pride and fear so that we can;

“Ask”, more honest questions.

“Seek”, the deeper answers

And

“Knock”, on the unfamiliar places.

Trusting in the promise that you are always waiting on the other side.

KYRIE

#627 I love you lord

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)

Christ Jesus invites us again and again to be loved and receive all the grace we want.

May you know it is yours and let it overflow to everyone around you.

Amen

Response Hymn

#519

You Are My All In All

***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..... Exodus 3:1-14, 4:1-13

READING 2 Matthew 21:23-32

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

SERMON: Questions: How Faith Stretches It's Legs and Turns The Gem.

(Silence for Reflection)

*HYMN OF THE DAY

#530

One Bread, One Body.

PRAYERS & GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

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

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

The Communion

- *Invitation*
- *Prayer of Thanksgiving*
- *Words of Institution*
- *Communion of the People*
- *Prayer*



*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

#738

O Master Let Me Walk With Thee

*DISMISSAL (Responsive)

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

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, October 1, 2023

10:45 am Worship

12:00 am Itasca Fellowship Trip Leaves

Ushers & Greeters..... Glen & Marlys Finkenbinder

Organist..... Caleb Mendez

Music Director..... Sandy Perkins

Reader..... Lynne Mullins

Communion Serving & (Prep).. Bill & Gloria Watro / Lori Folkers & (Jeri)

Thursday, October 5th

1:00 pm New Book

Next Sunday, October 8th

10:45 am Worship

11:45 am Coffee Fellowship

Ushers & Greeters..... Mario & Jill Schisano

Organist..... George French

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