

*Welcome*

*September 14, 2025*

*“Transforming Initiatives, Part 2”*

*Matthew 5:33-48*

“When I refer to integrity, I have something very simple and very specific in mind. Integrity ... requires three steps: (1) *discerning* what is right and what is wrong; (2) *acting* on what you have discerned, even at personal cost; and (3) *saying openly* that you are acting on your understanding of right and wrong.”

--Stephen L. Carter, *Integrity*

*We Gather for Worship*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

**Prayers** For wellness in our community. For Sally Haverkamp, Carolyn Stribling, Howard Helton, Dianne Cole, Wendy Hall, Cheryl Spaldi, Tom Post, Paulette Booker, Karoline Berg, Lois Wolfe, and Mary Shelton. For those recovering from natural disasters, Gaza, Ukraine, all refugees, all elected officials, peacekeepers, change agents, the ICCC, and our fellowship community.

**Study Group** Study group will meet Tuesday September 16 at 1:30pm for a study of The Beatitudes led by Ginny Ireland. If you would like to participate call or email the church office so we will know how many to plan for.

**Bible Study** Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. Zoom info will be sent out the day of Bible Study.

**Ice Cream Social** September 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm we will have an Ice Cream Social in the Fellowship Hall. Break out the old ice cream machines for homemade ice cream. If you do not have an ice cream machine, you may bring your favorite ice cream and/or toppings. Lactose free ice cream will be available. We will also honor Church family who have achieved goals this year.

**Congregational Vote** The nominees for Executive Committee are Susan Bowling, Jake Mounger, Al Lesar, and Jocelyn Borgers (assistant treasurer). A Congregational Vote will be held today, Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> immediately following service.

The Lighting of the Peace Candle

Cora Rhew, Founder/Executive Director Crossroads Ministry

Call to Worship:

One: Let us enter the presence of our God with a renewed heart and a right spirit.

**Many: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love.**

One: Let us speak, hear, and embrace truth and the wisdom of God.

**Many: Strengthen and empower us, O God, according to your steadfast love.**

One: Let us hear joy and gladness. Restore our crushed spirits.

**Many: Revive us again, O God, according to your steadfast love.**

**\*Hymn: “Come, Christians Join to Sing” (Red Hymnal, p. 302)**

1 Come, Christians, join to sing  
Alleluia! Amen!  
loud praise to Christ our King;  
Alleluia! Amen!  
let all, with heart and voice,  
before his throne rejoice;  
praise is his gracious choice.  
Alleluia! Amen!

2 Come, lift your hearts on high,  
Alleluia! Amen!  
let praises fill the sky;  
Alleluia! Amen!  
he is our Guide and Friend;  
to us he'll condescend;  
his love shall never end.  
Alleluia! Amen!

3 Praise yet our Christ again,  
Alleluia! Amen!  
life shall not end the strain;  
Alleluia! Amen!  
on heaven's blissful shore,  
his goodness we'll adore,  
singing forevermore,  
"Alleluia! Amen!"

*We Offer Our Prayer and Praise*

Morning Psalm: 14

**Hymn: "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"**

1 I am weak but Thou art strong;  
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long  
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

Refrain:

Just a closer walk with Thee,  
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,  
Daily walking close to Thee,  
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

2 Thro' this world of toil and snares,  
If I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares?  
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.  
[Refrain]

3 When my feeble life is o'er,  
Time for me will be no more;  
Guide me gently, safely o'er  
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore.  
[Refrain]

The Norris and Children's Choir: I will Rise arr. By Jay Rouse

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

*We Attend to the Word*

**Sermon:** "Transforming Initiatives, Part 2" Dr. Bill Ireland  
Matthew 5:33-48

**\*Hymn: “Trusting Jesus”** (Red Hymnal, p. 678)

1 Simply trusting ev'ry day,  
trusting through a stormy way;  
even when my faith is small,  
trusting Jesus, that is all.

Refrain:

Trusting as the moments fly,  
trusting as the days go by;  
trusting him whate'er befall,  
trusting Jesus, that is all.

2 Brightly doth his Spirit shine  
into this poor heart of mine;  
while he leads I cannot fall;  
trusting Jesus, that is all. [Refrain]

3 Singing if my way is clear,  
praying if the path be drear;  
if in danger, for him call;  
trusting Jesus, that is all. [Refrain]

4 Trusting him while life shall last,  
trusting him till earth be past;  
till within the jasper wall,  
trusting Jesus, that is all. [Refrain]

## **\*Benediction**

### **\*The Irish Blessing**

**May the road rise to meet you,**

**May the wind blow at your back.**

**May the sun shine warmly on your face,**

**May the rain fall softly on your field.**

**And until we meet again, Til' we meet again,**

**May God hold you in the palm of his hand.**

Postlude