

### ***Prayer of Augustine***

O Thou, from whom to be turned is to fall,  
to whom to be turned is to rise, and in whom  
to stand is to abide for ever: Grant us in all  
our duties thy help, in all our perplexities  
thy guidance, in all our dangers thy protection,  
and in all our sorrows thy peace; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



\* \* \*

#### *Groome Church*

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Reverend, Dr. S. Willard Crossan, III, (302)313-5169  
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*Founded in 1904*

*"...if we walk in the light, as He is in the light,  
we have fellowship with one another..."*

*I John I: 7*

GROOME CHURCH  
September 17, 2023, 10:00 a.m.  
Reverend, Dr. S. Willard Crossan, III  
Associate Pastor: Reverend Rich Evans

***Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost***

Parish Calendar and Greeting *Dr. Crossan*  
Organ Prelude

GATHERING AND REFLECTION

\* Call to Worship

Leader: Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever.

**People: God gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those with understanding.**

Leader: Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

**People: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.**

\* Hymn of Praise "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" 384

Prayer of Confession

**Most merciful Father, we have done little to forward your kingdom in this world, to foster the brotherhood of all people, and to establish love as the law of life. We have allowed self to blind us, pains to embitter us. We have forgotten that whatsoever is done to one of the least of your children is done unto you. Pardon our shortcomings; forgive our neglect; give us a pure heart intent on pleasing you. Help us in all our seeking to seek first your kingdom and your righteousness. And make us to come, as came your Son Jesus Christ, not to be ministered unto, but to minister. All which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Silent Meditation

Words of Assurance

The Lord's Prayer

PROCLAMATION AND PRAISE

Leader: O Lord, open our hearts and our minds;

**People: that we may behold wonderful things out of your word.**

Old Testament Lesson	Exodus 14:19-31	<i>Debbie Foxx</i>
Epistle Lesson	Romans 14:1-12	<i>Susan Lehman</i>
* Gospel Lesson	Matthew 18:21-35	
* Affirmation of Faith	"1 Corinthians & Colossians"	888
* Gloria Patri		70

PETITIONS, INTERCESSIONS, AND OFFERING

Collect

**Lord, you have shown us what is good and pleasing in your sight: enable us, we most humbly ask, to perform what you earnestly require of us, even to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly in the footsteps of your Son. Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

*-Voicing of our Petitions-*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Words of Presentation

Offering *Organist/Pianist*

The Presentation Prayer

\* Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" 95

THE VOICE OF SCRIPTURE

\* Hymn of Preparation "O Master We Walk with Thee" 430

\* Sermon *Reverend. Crossan*  
"Gifts of Choice or Choice Gifts"

SENDING FORTH

\* Hymn of Dedication "Are You Able" 530

\* Benediction

\* Benediction Response "He Is Lord" 177

\* Postlude

\* *Please Stand*