***Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king.***

***In fact, for this reason I was born,***

***and for this reason I came into the world, to testify to the truth.***

***Everyone on the side of truth listens to me." John 18:37***

***Crescentville & Frankford Memorial United Methodist Churches***

**CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY November 20, 2022**

 *Christ the King is the last Sunday of the season of Pentecost and of the church year. This day completes the Christian journey through the life of Jesus Christ on earth and in heaven which began with the preparation for the birth of Jesus in Advent.*

 *Kings are absolute rulers: they attain power by raising and leading armies into war against other countries. Jesus' war was not against people or against a country, but against sin, death, and the power of the Devil. By his death, resurrection, and ascension, Jesus won the war against evil. Christians are asked to accept that Jesus fought and won the war for their sakes and to recognize him as King of Kings.*

 *On Christ the King Sunday, Christians recognize and worship Christ as king of heaven and earth for all time without challenge and without end. In today’s worship service we celebrate the Christ the King with scripture lessons and hymns that take us through one year of our Christian journey.*

**Welcome**

 Chorus of Welcome *“The Family of God”*

I’m so glad I’m a part of the family of God—I’ve been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood!

Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod; for I’m part of the family, the family of God.

**Call to Worship** *(inspired by Revelation 1: 4-8)*

***Grace and peace to you from the One who is, who always was, and who is still to come, the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. This is our God, the One who loves us, and who gave himself for us; who gathers us together in this place, and bids us seek his face. Let’s worship God together!***

**Opening Hymn “Rejoice the Lord Is King” # 715**

Rejoice, the Lord is King. Your Lord and King adore!

Rejoice, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus, the Savior, reigns, The God of truth and love;

When He had purged our stains, He took his seat above;

Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

**Opening Prayer**

**O Jesus, You are the King of Glory, You are the Lord of Lords, and King of Kings. And we pray that your Kingdom will reign forever in our hearts and in this world. Lord, we pray for your Kingdom to come here now, bringing a kingdom of justice, righteousness, hope, love, peace, mercy and grace for all. Lord, we ask that you rule in our hearts, lead in this world and govern over your kingdom. Your Kingdom is here, and it is coming, O God. Make us faithful heralds of its message and tireless practitioners of its ways. We lift our prayer to you in the name of Jesus, the King of all Kings. Amen**

**Children’s Message**

**Scripture Lesson Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14**

**9**“As I looked, “thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. **10**A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him;  ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. **13**“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Daniel+7%3A9-10%2C+13-14+++++++++++++++++++++++++&version=NIV#fen-NIV-21947a)] coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. **14**He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

**Hymn: "Majesty, Worship His Majesty” # 176**

Majesty, worship His Majesty. Unto Jesus be all glory, honor and praise

Majesty, Kingdom authority, flow from His throne, unto His own, His anthem raise

So exalt lift, up on high, the name of Jesus. Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King!

Majesty, worship His Majesty, Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all Kings.

Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all Kings.

**Joys & Concerns………………….……..*Gathered Prayer…………………………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 trespasses and debts as we forgive our debtors and those*

*who trespass**against us. And lead us not into temptation,**but deliver us from evil.*

*For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

**Gifts and Offerings**

**Offertory**  *“Christ Is Still The King”*

 The Doxology *“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below,

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

 **The Offertory Prayer**

**A Celebration of the Church Year**

**~Advent~ Luke 1:46-55 Mary’s Song**

And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me, holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors.”

**HYMN "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" # 196**

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;

from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;

dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,

born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

By Thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;

by Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne. Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

**~Christmas~ John 1:1-14 The Word Became Flesh**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**HYMN: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" # 224**

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today.

Ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now.

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!

He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

**~Epiphany~ Isaiah 60:1-6 The Glory of Zion**

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. “Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord**.**

**HYMN: "There's a Song in the Air" # 249**

There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!

There's a mother's deep prayer and a baby's low cry!

And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,

for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

We rejoice in the light, and we echo the song

that comes down through the night from the heavenly throng.

Ay! we shout to the lovely evangel they bring,

and we greet in his cradle our Savior and King!

**~Lent~ Mark 8:31-38 Jesus Predicts His Death**

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

**The Way of the Cross**

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

**HYMN: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" # 298**

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,

my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small.

Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

**~Holy Week~ Hebrews 10:16-25 A Call to Persevere in Faith**

“This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.” Then he adds: “Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.” And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary. Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

**HYMN: "What Wondrous Love Is This" # 292**

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;

to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing!

**~Easter~ Acts 10:34-43**

Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. “We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen, by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

**HYMN: "Because He Lives" # 364**

God sent His Son, they called him Jesus, He came to love, heal and forgive;

He lived and died, to buy my pardon, An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, Because He lives, all fear is gone;

Because I know He holds the future, And life is worth the living just because He lives.

And life is worth the living just because He lives.

**~Pentecost~ Acts 2:1-13 (14-21) The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost**

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.  Now there were staying in Jerusalem God fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?  Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome  (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs; we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!”  Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?”  Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.” Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.  These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning!  No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:  “‘In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.  I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.
And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

**HYMN: "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" # 334**

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;

There are sweet expressions on each face, And I know that I feel presence of the Lord

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove, Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love.

And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;

Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived, When we shall leave this place

**~Christ the King~ Revelation 1:4b-8**

John, To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

“Look, he is coming with the clouds,” and “every eye will see him, even those who pierced him”; and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.” So shall it be! Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

**HYMN: "Crown Him with Many Crowns" # 327**

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne.

Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.

Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,

and hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold His hands and side,

Those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified;

All hail, Redeemer, hail, for thou hast died for me;

Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

**Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles’ Creed*

 I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

 And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord: who was conceived

 by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,

 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

 the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven,

 and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

 from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead;

 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Hymn Our God Reigns**

How lovely on the mountains are the feet of Him Who brings good news, good news;

 Announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness: Our God reigns, our God reigns!

 It was our sin and guilt that bruised and wounded Him. It was our sin, that brought Him down.

 When we like sheep had gone astray our Shepherd came and on His shoulders bore our shame.

 Our God reigns! Our God reigns! Our God reigns! Our God reigns!

 Out from the tomb He came with grace and majesty; He is alive, He is alive.

 God loves us so, see here His hands, His feet, His side Yes we know, He is alive.

 Our God reigns! Our God reigns! Our God reigns! Our God reigns!

**Benediction**

**Choral Benediction Our God Reigns**

Our God reigns! Our God reigns! Our God reigns! Our God reigns!

And He shall reign forever and ever, and He shall reign forever and ever,

And He shall reign forever and ever, and He shall reign forever and ever,

Our God reigns! Our God reigns! Our God reigns! Our God reigns!

Yes Our God reigns!

**Lectionary Scripture Readings**

Advent is a season to look back and remember God’s faithfulness to His promises, and to build anticipation for what’s to come through the Messiah. It causes us to pause, dwell on and rejoice in God’s goodness, and remember the big picture story of redemption through Christ that we are a part of as God’s people.

**November 27, 2022 - First Sunday of Advent**

Matthew 24:36-44 - Isaiah 2:1-5 - Psalm 122 - Romans 13:11-14

**Joys & Concerns: Keep those prayers going and thank God for His answers! To add a prayer request or share a joy, *please call the church and leave a message.***

 ***(215) 745-7115.*** Praying for others is important because it fulfills a New Testament command. (1 Timothy 2:1-3) I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior.

**Prayer Requests from November 13th**

Debbie Thomas - Prayers for good health - having a lot of strokes and headaches

Families - Stefanescu, Mc Manus, Didirea, Salvadore

James Browne continued prayers for him as he goes for treatments

Sana Aman – prayers for her husband to be able to come to the USA.

Brent James - having tests done on his brain

Cocoa - recovering from covid

Garland Smith - diagnosed with a brain tumor

Traveling mercies for Manjoe as he goes to Sierra Leone this week

Prayers for Agnes as she is having health problems (Collingwoode's sister)

JOY - The Wilson's now have a third great grandson! Lucas John

JOY - to see familiar faces in church that we have not seen for awhile. 49 people in church today!

JOY - Kass Greenlaw's grandsons received trophies at a banquet this week.

**Continuing Prayers:**

Pastor Randy & Family Sana Aman Zilpha Browne Dorothy Buzzard

Caroline (Burghaze’s Daughter) Rev. Khan Scott Meyer Ed Ingle Marva

Cass Quigley Betty Sauerwald & family Wondor Korto

Sylvia Spotts Suzanne Turner Hank & Eva Baumgartel

Prayers for the Ukraine and Russia - for world peace

Prayers for our city and end to violence

Prayers for peace and stability in Sierra Leone.

**Mark your calendar**

**Don’t it on the sidelines – get involved!**

**November 23rd - Thanksgiving Eve Community Worship Service**

Philadelphia Protestant Home 6401 Martins Mill Road, Phila PA

Salvation Army Band 7:00 PM, Service begins at 7:30 PM

**November 27th - PLEASE HELP to PREPARE OUR CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS**

We will join together **after worship on November 27th**

to put up our Christmas decorations.

**Wednesdays during Advent – Nov 30, Dec 7, 14, 21**

Advent Vesper Service – 7:00 PM at PPH

**December 11th after worship** – YOUTH - Practice for Christmas Presentation.

**December 18th – during worship**

**Our youth will present “Merry Christmas”**

Light refreshments after worship.

**December 24th - CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

 **Crescentville UMC 8:00 PM**  (Frankford Memorial UMC 6:30 PM)

Crescentville will have light refreshments after our service.

**December 25th – Christmas Day**

Crescentville and Frankford Memorial will worship together

at Frankford Memorial UMC Church – Time TBD

**January 1st – New Year’s Day**

Crescentville and Frankford Memorial will worship together

at Crescentville UMC Church – Time TBD

 November 15, 2022

Dear Members and Friends of Crescentville UMC,

This past Sunday (November 13th), I announced the following to those who were in worship that day:

“I am thankful to be able to tell you that I had my 3 month check-up with one of my oncologists a couple of weeks ago. And as blood work is a part of these 3 month check-ups, I am glad to tell you that the level of my cancer is still quite low. Thanks be to God, and thank you for your prayers on my behalf.

 “And now comes the hard part. I want to let you know that I plan to retire at the end of June of next year (2023). At that time I will have served under appointment in The United Methodist Church for 37 years.

“I will always remember when I first met members of the Staff Parish Relations Committee in the spring of 2002. I was asked if I was aware of what had happened in the life of Crescentville Church (that 2 pastors, Rev. Derr and Rev. Paul had recently died while serving here). I was aware, but little did I know of the love and care that you had for your pastors, and I am glad that I was here long enough to realize that love and care first hand. Though I especially thank you for the times that your love and care were extended to me personally through 2 episodes of ill health as well as your support of our family that continues to show itself in many ways, I am also grateful to be witness to how you have shown and continue to show the same love of God toward one another. Before I came here, you had begun a shift in the life of this congregation to better reflect the changing neighborhood outside of these walls. I remember thinking, as I came in June of 2002, that “the bus” was already moving; and moving in the right direction. All I needed to do was get on and join you. Thankfully I did, and it’s been quite a ride and privilege to share the journey with you. As I look to get off the bus in retirement, I pray that you will continue to stay the course; to continue to be a church that is open and welcoming to all of God’s children.”

 Please know that I am grateful for the years we have spent together in service to God’s Kingdom. In the months to come, I will do all I can to aid in your transition to life with a new pastor. Thank you again.

Peace,

Pastor Randy