**January 29, 2023**

**4TH Sunday After Epiphany**



**Crescentville United Methodist Church**

**A Changing Church for Changing Times**

**Rev. Randy M. Brubaker, Pastor**

**412 Sentner Street**

**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19120**

**215-745-7115**

***E-Mail: crescentvilleumc@gmail.com***

**Web Site:** **https://www.crescentvilleumc.com/**

**Facebook:** **https://www.facebook.com/crescentvilleumc**

**YouTube Channel:**

**https://www.youtube.com/@crescentvilleunitedmethodi7688**

*“Why” we might ask when we want to know the reasons instructions are given. Today, in the portion of the “Sermon on the Mount,” Jesus gives us reasons to be happy or blessed. Thanks be to God!!!*

*- Pastor Randy*

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

**4th Sunday after Epiphany January 29, 2023**

**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.

***MAURICE* Call to Worship** *1 Corinthians 1*

*For the message about Christ's death on the cross is nonsense to those who are being lost;*

*but for us who are being saved it is God's power.****19****The scripture says, “I will destroy the wisdom*

*of the wise and set aside the understanding of the scholars.”* ***20****So then, where does that leave*

*the wise? or the scholars? or the skillful debaters of this world? God has shown that this world's wisdom*

*is foolishness!* ***21****For God in his wisdom made it impossible for people to know him by means*

*of their own wisdom. Instead, by means of the so-called “foolish” message we preach,*

*God decided to save those who believe.*

**Opening Hymn** *“The Old Rugged Cross”* [VS. 1-3]# 504

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame;  
 and I love that old cross where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners was slain.

*Refrain:* So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;  
 I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world, has a wondrous attraction for me;  
 for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above to bear it to dark Calvary. *Refrain*

In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, a wondrous beauty I see,  
 for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died, to pardon and sanctify me. *Refrain*

***MARIAH* Opening Prayer**

**Almighty God, who by the light of Your Word has turned the foolishness of the cross**

**into saving wisdom: Increase in our hearts the power of faith, that no temptation can quench**

**the fires which You have kindled in our hearts; Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with You**

**and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God for ever and ever. Amen.**

***NAIIMA*  Children’s Message**

**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.*

*DARRYL TO GIVE OUT PLATES* Gifts and Offerings

The Offertory *“We Are The Light Of The World”*  The Doxology *“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” # 95*

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.

***MARINA* The Offertory Prayer**

**Chorus** *“What Does the Lord Require of You?”*

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Part 1—What does the Lord require of you? What does the Lord require of you?

Part 2—Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.

**Gospel Lesson** *St. Matthew 5:1-12*

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up a mountain.

He sat down and his disciples came to him. **2**He taught them, saying:

**3**“Happy are people who are hopeless***, because*** the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

**4**“Happy are people who grieve, ***because*** they will be made glad.

**5**“Happy are people who are humble, ***because*** they will inherit the earth.

**6**“Happy are people who are hungry and thirsty for righteousness,

***because*** they will be fed until they are full.

**7**“Happy are people who show mercy, ***because*** they will receive mercy.

**8**“Happy are people who have pure hearts, ***because*** they will see God.

**9**“Happy are people who make peace, ***because*** they will be called God’s children.

**10**“Happy are people whose lives are harassed ***because*** they are righteous,

***because*** the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

**11**“Happy are you when people insult you and harass you and speak all kinds of bad

and false things about you, all ***because*** of me. **12**Be full of joy and be glad, ***because*** you have

a great reward in heaven. In the same way, people harassed the prophets who came before you.

**Sermon** *“… Because”*

***MARCUS* 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**  *“I Need Thee Every Hour”* [VS. 1-3] # 397

I need Thee every hour, most gracious Lord; no tender voice like Thine can peace afford.

*Refrain:* I need Thee, O I need Thee; every hour I need Thee;

O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.

I need Thee every hour; stay Thou nearby; temptations lose their power when Thou art nigh. *Refrain*

I need Thee every hour, in joy or pain; come quickly and abide, or life is vain. *Refrain*

**Benediction**

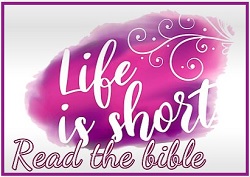
***Quiet Meditation, Reflection, and Prayer***

**Choral Benediction**  *“I Need Thee Every Hour”* [VS. 5] # 397

I need Thee every hour, most Holy One; O make me Thine indeed, Thou blessed Son.

I need Thee, O I need Thee; every hour I need Thee; O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.

**Lectionary Scripture Readings**



When we read the bible we learn who God is. The Bible isn’t about us and how we can apply it to our life. It is about God, His character, His plan, and how we are to glorify Him.

**February 5, 2023 - Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**

Matthew 5:13-20 - Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)

- Psalm 112:1-9 (10) - 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)



**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 helps us actively focus on the needs of others instead of ourselves. Praying for others forces us to think about what they need. That process can lead to us being more outwardly focused in all of our relationships.

**Prayer Requests from January 22nd**

Robert Hart (Kass Greenlaw Son-in-law) has heart issues and has been hospitalized several times

recently.

John Wilson - fell and injured his ribs, also has covid.

Cocoa - continued prayers for her eye to heal.

Dot Gallagher is having eye problems

Dende Korpoi - Healing in her shoulder, help to make the right choice about surgery.

Marina - prayers for peace in our country - mass shootings to stop.

**Continuing Prayers:**

Pastor Randy & Family Sana Aman Eva Baumgartel

Zilpha & James Browne Dorothy Buzzard Caroline (Burghaze’s Daughter) Patsy Coyne Rev. Khan Wondor Korto Marva Scott Meyer Bob Patterson Cass Quigley Betty Sauerwald & family Sylvia Spotts Suzanne Turner

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.



As Pastor Randy will be retiring in July, we await the announcement of a new pastor to be assigned to our church.

The Eastern PA Cabinet will be in a retreat to review all current appointments in preparation to appoint clergy. They anticipate that this season’s appointments will be completed between February 1 and April 30. They ask for your prayers.

Please pray for the discernment of the cabinet as they select our new Pastor. Please also pray for our congregation that we move forward with joyful anticipation of these new beginnings.



**CONFIRMATION CLASS**

**Next session is Sunday, February 5th after worship.**



**Meeting on Tuesday, February 14th at Noon.**

Please bring your lunch, beverages and deserts will be provided.

