*“’Are Ye able,’ said the Master, ‘to be crucified with me…?’” Have you ever found yourself singing this hymn and wondering, “But the disciples weren’t able; when Jesus was arrested, they all fled the scene…Peter even denied that he knew Jesus”? Certainly, in and of themselves, the disciples (and us) were (are) not able. But are we, at least,* ***willing*** *to hear what Jesus has to say? This is what He challenged those who heard Him in this Lesson for today, and this is what we are challenged to do—to at least be willing to hear what Jesus has to say. Willingness plus the power of God’s Spirit, does make us able! - Pastor Randy*

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

**7th Sunday after Epiphany February 20, 2022**

**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** *Psalm 37*

 *Don't be worried on account of the wicked; don't be jealous of those who do wrong.*

 *They will soon disappear like grass that dries up; they will die like plants that wither.*

 *Trust in the Lord and do good; live in the land and be safe. Seek your happiness in the Lord,*

 *and he will give you your heart's desire. Give yourself to the Lord; trust in him, and he will help you;*

 *he will make your righteousness shine like the noonday sun. Be patient and wait for the Lord to act;*

 *don't be worried about those who prosper or those who succeed in their evil plans……*

 *……The Lord saves the righteous and protects them in times of trouble. He helps them*

 *and rescues them; he saves them from the wicked, because they go to him for protection.*

 **Opening Hymn** *“Give to the Winds Thy Fears”* # 129

Give to the winds thy fears; hope and be undismayed.
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears, God shall lift up thy head.

Through waves and clouds and storms, God gently clears thy way;
wait patiently; so shall this night soon end in joyous day.

Leave to God's sovereign sway to choose and to command;
so shalt thou, wondering, own that way, how wise, how strong God’s hand.

Let us in life, in death, thy steadfast truth declare,
and publish with our final breath thy love and guardian care.

 **Opening Prayer**

 **O God of infinite mercy and love: Grant that we would trust in You with all our hearts.**

 **As You always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so do not forsake**

 **those who boast of Your mercy; Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with You**

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

**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.*

Gifts and Offerings 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.

**The Offertory Prayer**

**Hymn** *“My Hope is Built”* [VS. 1-3] # 368

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 My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.

 I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

 *Refrain:* On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand

 When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace.
 In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

 His oath, his covenant, his blood supports me in the whelming flood.
 When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

**Gospel Lesson** *St. Luke 6:27-38*

 [Jesus said] “But I say to ***you who are willing to hear***: Love your enemies. Do good to those

 who hate you. **28**Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. **29**If someone slaps you

 on the cheek, offer the other one as well. If someone takes your coat, don’t withhold your shirt either.

**30**Give to everyone who asks and don’t demand your things back from those who take them.

**31**Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you.

**32**“If you love those who love you, why should you be commended? Even sinners love those

 who love them. **33**If you do good to those who do good to you, why should you be commended?

 Even sinners do that. **34**If you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, why should you

 be commended? Even sinners lend to sinners expecting to be paid back in full. **35**Instead,

 love your enemies, do good, and lend expecting nothing in return. If you do, you will have

 a great reward. You will be acting the way children of the Most High act, for he is kind to ungrateful

 and wicked people. **36**Be compassionate just as your Father is compassionate.

**37**“Don’t judge, and you won’t be judged. Don’t condemn, and you won’t be condemned.

 Forgive, and you will be forgiven. **38**Give, and it will be given to you. A good portion—packed down,

 firmly shaken, and overflowing—will fall into your lap. The portion you give will determine the portion

 you receive in return.”

 **Sermon** *“Willing to Be Able”*

 **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**  *“Go Forth for God”* [VS. 1-3] # 670

 Go forth for God, go to the world in peace; be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace;

 in God’s good Spirit daily to increase, till in the kingdom we see face to face.

 Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.

 Go forth for God, go to the world in love; strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak;

 help the afflicted; richly from above God’s love supplies the grace and power we seek.

 Go forth for God, go to the world in love.

 Go forth for God, go to the world in strength; hold fast the good, be urgent for the right;

 render to no one evil; Christ at length shall overcome alL darkness with His light.

 Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.

**Benediction**

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

**Choral Benediction**  *“Go Forth for God”* [VS. 4] # 670

 Go forth for God, go to the world in joy, to serve God’s people every day and hour,

 and serving Christ, our every gift employ, rejoicing in the Holy Spirit’s power.

 Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.

**Lectionary Scripture Readings**

Reading the Bible teaches us how to treat each other as God intended. The world teaches a “me first” mindset. We exalt self over service and so find it difficult to treat others with respect or love. When we read the Bible, we learn how God wants us to treat each other. We also see the result of following His ways…and of disobedience.

**February 27, 2022 - Transfiguration Sunday**

Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a) - Exodus 34:29-35 - Psalm 99 - 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

**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 2/13/2022**

**Philip Lee** (Cocoa's Husband) will have surgery to remove the harware that was put in his leg after his accident 5 years ago. Prayers for successful surgery and recovery.

John Wilson Jr - his birthday is today

Andrew Wilson ( Wilson' grandson) is home from hopsital and feeling better.

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

Prayers for Marie Hutchinson (friend of Aretha)

**Continuing Prayers:**

Pastor Randy & Family Sana Aman Zilpha Browne Dorothy Buzzard

Caroline (Burghaze’s Daughter) Sheryl Duke Fred Frank Rev. Khan

Scott Meyer Cass Quigley Betty Sauerwald & family

Sylvia Spotts Suzanne Turner Ethel Graman

*Women’s fellowship meetings are postponed*

*until it is safe for us to meet together and share a meal.*

 **PLAN AHEAD TO PURCHASE DELICIOUS HOMEMADE SOUP!**

**Edward Paye will be making a spicy soup to please the palettes**

**of those who like it hot!**

**Another option will also be available for those who**

 **“don’t do spicy”**

**More information to follow soon!**

**The "Little Arms" of prayer**

During the season of Lent we remember the saving action of our Lord Jesus Christ in a variety of ways. Ashes help us to remember the cost of our redemption and our destiny as humans. Palms remind us of the divinity of Christ and his willingness to suffer for us. And pretzels remind us to pray every day.

Did I just say *pretzels*?

Yes, pretzels are a Lenten tradition in Christianity dating back to the early 600s. The first pretzel was an invention of an Italian monk who was looking for a simple reminder to his brother monks that Lent is a time for prayer. So, fashioning a Lenten bread with only flour, water and salt (in those days people cooked without butter or oil during Lent), he rolled out the dough in strips. Then he gave the world the distinc­tive pretzel shape by folding the strip of dough over itself, just as one would cross one's arms over the heart in a gesture of prayer. The bread was then baked as a soft bread, just like the big soft pretzels we have today.

In the shape of crossed arms, these little breads were called *bracellae,* the Latin word for "little arms." From this word came the German word *bretzel*, the root of our familiar word *pretzel*.

Today, we have pretzels as a reminder of the importance of prayer, of daily turning to our Lord this Lent so that we better prepare for the great events of Holy Week and the Easter celebration. Each pretzel is a delicious Lenten treat to remind us to turn to the Lord often and "taste and see that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8).

*Lord, may these pretzel snacks remind us to always turn to you in prayer.*