**February 18, 2024**

**1st Sunday in Lent**

**“Temptation”**

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**Crescentville United Methodist Church**

**A Changing Church for Changing Times**

**Pastor Brendan Van Gorder**

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***Crescentville United Methodist Church***

***1st Sunday in lent February 18, 2024***

**Welcome and Prayer**

**Announcements**

*Please stand*

**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**

*Leader: During the weeks before Christmas we celebrate the anticipation of the coming*

*of the Christ child with candles. One by one during Advent, we light the candles of:*

**ALL: Peace, Hope, Joy, and love.**

*Leader: All in preparation for the beginning of Christ's life on earth. All this culminates on Christmas*

*Day, a holy day, when we light the Christ candle itself. It represents the light of Jesus Christ's -*

**ALL: Shining in the world; Living in our midst; Coming forth to save us;**

**inviting us to its warmth. That is a joyous season.**

*Leader:**Today we are in another season — the season of Lent. Lent is the season before Easter.*

*It is in some ways the opposite of Advent. It is a sober season.*

**ALL: It is the time of preparation for the coming of Christ's Passion Week**.

*Leader: During Lent, we tune in to the dark days that got darker, and even darker,*

*ending in Christ's death.*

**ALL: They were days of Rejection and suffering, Conflict and betrayal, that ended**

**with the extinguishing of the light of the Christ candle that was lit at Christmas.**

*Leader: That light would be rekindled and lit again in each of us, but in these coming weeks,*

*let us tune in to the darkening days of Lent, as we one by one extinguish the candles*

*set before us, until on Good Friday, the flame on the Christ candle dies.*

(extinguish the flame of one purple candle)

**Choral Response:** “More love to Thee, oh Christ”

More love to Thee, oh Christ, more love to Thee! Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee...

This is my earnest plea More love, oh Christ, to Thee More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Please be seated

**Prayer of Confession** *(seated and bowed)*

**We admit we are hesitant to walk to Jerusalem and beyond with you, God of Glory. In a world where we worry about tomorrow before enjoying today, we race by your moments of silence, of learning. In that flood of worries, which can overwhelm us, we may miss that assurance that you have not cut us off from your grace. In the deserts of our desires, we may ignore that feast of hope, of joy, of life you offer to us. Forgive us and have mercy on us, Gentle Guardian of our souls. In humility, may we offer our lives to others. In love, may we share your grace with everyone we meet. In hope, may we wait for you all our days, as you come to us in the life and joy of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

**Silent Meditation…………………….Words of Forgiveness**

**Opening Worship Song**  “Sanctuary (Lord Prepare Me)”

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary pure and holy, tried and true~

With thanksgiving, I'll be a li-ving, Sanctuary for You

It is you, Lord, who came to save the, heart and soul of, every man~

It is you Lord, who knows my weak-ness, You define me, with your own hands.

Lord Prepare me, to be a testimony, walking daily by Your side~

Telling others, of Your blood~, shed on Calvary, for all mankind

Lead me on Lord, from temptation, purify me deep within~

Fill my life with, Your Holy Spirit, cleanse me from~,all my sin

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary pure and holy, tried and true~

With thanksgiving, I'll be a li-ving, Sanctuary for You

Sanctuary for You

*Please Be Seated*

**Youth Message**

**Joys & Concerns …………….*Gathered Prayer***

***Singing of THE LORD'S PRAYER–***

*Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. 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**  *“I Surrender All” Please join in singing!*

*Please stand*

**The Doxology** *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”* [tune: HAMBURG}

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here belo w.

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

**The Offertory Prayer**

Dismissal of the Youth

**Hymn** “When Jesus Came to Jordan” # 252

When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John, he did not come for pardon but as the sinless one.

He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins, to speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.

He came to share temptation, our utmost woe and loss, for us and our salvation to die upon the cross.

So when the Dove descended on him, the Son of Man, the hidden years had ended, the age of grace began.

Come, Holy Spirit, aid us to keep the vows we make, this very day invade us, and every bondage break.

Come, give our lives direction, the gift we covet most: to share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost.

*Please be seated*

**Scripture Lesson** Mark 1:9-15

About that time, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. While he was coming up out of the water, Jesus saw heaven splitting open and the Spirit, like a dove, coming down on him. And there was a voice from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness.”

At once the Spirit forced Jesus out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among the wild animals, and the angels took care of him.

After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee announcing God’s good news, saying, “Now is the time! Here comes God’s kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!”

**Sermon** *“Temptation”*

*Please stand*

**\*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.

**Closing Hymn** *“Yield Not To Temptation”*

Yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin; each victory will help you some other to win;

Fight manfully onward, dark passions subdue, look ever to Jesus, He will carry you through.

Refrain: Ask the Savior to help you, comfort, strengthen and keep you;

He is willing to aid you, He will carry you through.

Shun evil companions, bad language disdain, God’s name hold in reverence, nor take it in vain;

Be thoughtful and earnest, kindhearted and true, look ever to Jesus, He will carry you through. (Refrain)

To him that o’ercometh, God giveth a crown; through faith we shall conquer, though often cast down;

He who is our Savior our strength will renew; look ever to Jesus, He will carry you through. (Refrain)

**Benediction**

**Choral Benediction “***Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days” vs 1,4*

Lord, who throughout these forty days, for us did fast and pray,

Teach us with you to mourn our sins, and close by you to stay.

And through these days of penitence, and through your Passion-tide,

Forevermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.

**A hand holding a book

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**Lectionary Scripture Readings**

Reading the bible solidifies your faith and builds your doctrine. We become firm in our faith when we know what we actually believe and why we believe it.

**Second Sunday in Lent - February 25, 2024**

Mark 8:31-38 - Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 - Psalm 22:23-31 - Romans 4:13-25



A black and white sign with text

Description automatically generated**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.*** People who dedicate part of their time to others have been found to have higher self-esteem and overall well being. The benefits of taking care of someone also depend on your consistency. So, the more regularly you pray for someone, the more confidence you’ll gain. Pray for others and improve your self-esteem.

**Prayer Requests from February 11th**

Prayers for Kass Greenlaw. She was on a cruise and was taken to a hospital in St. Thomas. The main concern was that her blood pressure was very low. She was in ICU for a few days until they were able to regulate her blood pressure. She also had some fluid in her lung and they were being overly cautious that it did not become pnemonia. She is now in a regular room and should be coming home early this week. Her son Dan has met with her via "facetime" and she is looking and feeling well.

Prayers for those not able to be in worship today, especially Val Hobson and the Sutton Family.

Maurice Sutton has Covid.

Continued prayers for the Keyser family, as they await results of Dale Keyser's biopsy.

Suzanne Turner broke a bone in her ankle.

John Wilson Jr will be 58 this week - happy birthday!

Prayers for Sheryl Duke (Carol's sister) hope that change in medication works for her.

Ron Smith (Cocoa's Dad) is having prostate surgery on the 14th.

Prayers for family of Eric Bonner, who took his own life last week.

Joy to have Eva in worship with us today. Good that she is feeling better.

Jason's friend who has a brain tumor has finished treatment and is back in school.

Welcome to Pastor Mike Nelson from EPA Conference

**Continuing Prayers for:**

Eva Baumgartel Dorothy Buzzard Martha & Wondor Korto Scott Meyer

Cass Quigley Marva

**For families, especially:**

Betty Sauerwald & family The Stefanescu & Mc Manus Families Jiselle & Family

Zilpha and James Browne Jean Bernard and family The Spotts Family

Pastor Brendan Van Gorder & family

**For an end to violence, for peace** **and stability**

Philadelphia, especially our community - Sierra Leone, Africa

Haiti - Israel and Hamas - Ukraine and Russia

**Please praise and pray for our youth – they are the future of our church!**

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| Sunday, February 18th | **YOUTH FELLOWSHIP SWIM PARTY**  at the Philadelphia Protestant Home  1:00 – 3:00 PM $ 5.00 per person.  All youth under the age of 12 must be  accompanied by an adult |
| Sundays February 18th thru March 17th | Sundays in Lent Worship - 10:30 AM |
| Tuesdays evenings during Lent  Feb 20th thru March 19th | Lenten Bible Study on Zoom  With Pastor Brendan 7:30 – 8:30 PM |
| Wednesday evenings during Lent  Feb 21st thru Mar 20th | Lenten Vesper Services at PPH  6:30 PM |
| Wednesday Feb 21st (noon)  and Sunday Feb 25th (after worship) | Women’s Fellowship Meetings  ALL women are invited! |
| Sunday March 24th | Palm Sunday Worship 10:30 AM |
| Thursday, March 28th | Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 PM  Holy Communion |
| Friday, March 29th | Good Friday Worship 7:00 PM  Tenebrae Service |
| Sunday, March 31st | Easter Sunday Worship 10:30 AM |
| A close-up of a logo  Description automatically generatedSunday, April 7th | The Snyders’ invite you to join them  for a **bowling party celebration**  on Sunday, April 7th 1:30 – 4:30 PM  at Pike Lanes,121 Second Street Pike, Southampton, PA 18966  Please let the Snyder’s know if you plan to attend. |
| Sunday, April 28th | “**Down The Aisle, Now & Then”**  1:30 – 3:30 PM Admission $ 10.00  **A wedding fashion show fundraiser**  All are welcome to attend.  Wedding fashion will include  styles from 1880 to 2024  Refreshments will be served  after the show. |

On **Tuesday evenings during lent** starting on **February 20th** please Join Crescentville United Methodist Church as we "Struggle to the Cross". We will be meeting every Tuesday night **on Zoom** from **7:30-8:30pm** to discuss a selection from the book by UMC Bishop Sharma Lewis *"Struggle to the Cross"*. You can show up on zoom without a book and we will read and discuss a passage together. If you'd prefer to purchase a book you can do so and follow along and make it a daily practice. This is going to be a journey where we really get to know each other, our inside selves, and God. All ages are welcome! The zoom link will be sent out by text and email, and the link is also available on our website. The study will be recorded and the video posted afterwards.



On **Wednesday Evenings** **starting on February** 21st you are invited to attend

**Lenten Vesper Services at The Philadelphia Protestant Home.**

(6401 Martins Mill Road) The service lasts about 45 minutes and includes songs, readings, prayer, and a brief meditation. The services will begin at 6:30 PM. Please enter through the chapel doors. Pastor Randy and Sue Creevey will be participating in these services. The services will be recorded and posted later.



**A heart and text on a white background

Description automatically generated**Our women’s fellowship is expanding to two meetings in the month of February. The meeting that was held after worship on Jan 21st had wonderful attendance from women who are not able to meet on a weekday afternoon.

As it is very important to include all, Sue Snyder will lead meetings on

**Wednesday Feb 21st at noon and on Sunday February 25th after worship**.

**All women are invited to attend one or both meetings.**

Our Women’s Fellowship is a strong group of wonderful women sharing ideas, planning events,

and having fun together in fellowship.

If you have any questions, please talk with Sue Snyder.