**January 28, 2024**

**4th Sunday after Epiphany**

**“The Authority of Jesus”**

A person holding a harp and a person holding a guitar

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**Crescentville United Methodist Church**

**A Changing Church for Changing Times**

**Pastor Brendan Van Gorder**

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[**https://www.youtube.com/@crescentvilleunitedmethodi7688**](about:blank)

***Crescentville United Methodist Church***

**4th Sunday after Epiphany January 28, 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 Psalm 111**

L: Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,

in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**P: Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.**

L: Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

**P: He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

L: He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

**P: He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.**

**Opening Worship Song** “Break Every Chain” Tasha Cobbs

**Chorus** There is power in the name of Jesus [ 3 times ] To break every chain [ 6 times ]

**Verse 1** All Sufficient Sacrifice - So freely given, such a price

Bought our redemption, Heaven’s gates Swing Wide [Repeat Chorus]

**Verse 2**

There’s an army rising up [ 3 times ] To break every chain [ 6 times ]

There’s an army rising up [ 3 times ] To break every chain [ 6 times ] [Repeat Chorus]

**Opening Prayer**

**Jesus, you have all authority in the whole world. You speak healing and we are healed. You speak deliverance and we are freed. You have put your Holy Spirit in us, and we ask for the confidence to use this authority. Jesus, help me to say to the storm around me, be quiet! Jesus thank you that inside of me is your power to heal and free. Help me Jesus to be a healer in my life. Help me to carry the responsibility and joy of letting Jesus be known. I love you God. Thank you. In Jesus name, Amen.**

*Please Be Seated*

**Youth Message**

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

*Please stand*

***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*

*Please be seated*

**Gifts and Offerings**

**Offertory**  *“All That We Have” Please join in singing!*

*Please stand*

**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**

Dismissal of the Youth

**Hymn** “*O Christ, The Healer*” [Tune: Lord Speak To Me} vs 1,2,3,4 # 265

O Christ, the healer, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.

How can we fail to be restored when reached by love that never ends?

From every ailment flesh endures our bodies clamor to be freed;

yet in our hearts we would confess that wholeness is our deepest need.

How strong, O Lord, are our desires, how weak our knowledge of ourselves!

Release in us those healing truths unconscious pride resists or shelves.

In conflicts that destroy our health we recognize the world's disease;

our common life declares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?

*Please be seated*

**Scripture Lesson** Mark 1:21-28

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.

They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God."

But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching--with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."

At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

**Sermon** *The Authority of Jesus*

*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 “***Silence! Frenzied, Unclean Spirit”* [tune Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service] # 264

“Silence! Frenzied, unclean spirit, cried God's healing, holy One.

Cease your ranting! Flesh can't bear it. Flee as night before the sun."

At Christ's voice the demon trembled, from its victim madly rushed,

while the crowd that was assembled stood in wonder, stunned and hushed.

Lord, the demons still are thriving in the grey cells of the mind:

Tyrant voices shrill and driving, twisted thoughts that grip and bind,

Doubts that stir the heart to panic, fears distorting reason's sight,

Guilt that makes our loving frantic, dreams that cloud the soul with fright.

Silence, Lord, the unclean spirit, in our mind and in our heart.

Speak your word that when we hear it, all our demons shall depart.

Clear our thought and calm our feeling, still the fractured, warring soul.

By the power of Your healing make us faithful, true, and whole.

**Benediction**

**Choral Benediction “***O Christ The Healer”*  [Tune: Lord Speak To Me] vs 5 # 265

Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your community may find

the wholeness that, enriching us, shall reach the whole of humankind.

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**Lectionary Scripture Readings**

When you read the bible God becomes more real in your life. As we spend time in the Bible daily, we see the difference that God is making in our lives. Our thoughts become more godly, our actions more loving, and we become more others-focused instead of selfish as God transforms us. Wow!

**Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany - February 4, 2024**

Mark 1:29–39 - Isaiah 40:21–31 - Psalm 147:1–11, 20c - 1 Corinthians 9:16–23

A close-up of hands folded together

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**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.***

Studies are showing the positive effects of prayer – both for the individual who prays, and for the recipient of the prayers. Why are our prayers powerful? Because of Jesus!

**Prayer Requests from January 26th**

Ron Smith (Cocoa’s Dad) prayers for an upcoming surgery and for his well being

Prayers for Cocoa’s friend Tommy as she prepares for an upcoming surgery.

**Prayer Requests from January 21st**

Norah Saloky (Gene's daughter) has a minor surgery coming up

Traveling mercies for Paul Wilson

Prayers for those not able to be in worship today

Cocoa prayers for relief from a migraine headache

Prayers for Flossie's family and friends as she died this past week

Enid is grateful for another year, will be 45 yrs old this week

Prayers for the VanGorder family as they all have a cough.

**Continuing Prayers for:**

Eva Baumgartel Dorothy Buzzard Martha & Wondor Korto Scott Meyer

Cass Quigley Marva Dale and Marilyn Keyser

**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 Didirea and Salvadore Families

**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!**

**IN CASE OF SNOW………….**

***If the weather outside is frightful, zoom will be delightful!***

When snow or poor travel conditions are in the forecast,

and it will affect travel on a Sunday, Pastor Brendan

will make the decision to go to Zoom instead of

worshipping in our sanctuary.

Zoom worship would begin at 10:30 AM.

As soon as the decision to go to zoom is made, you will receive a text,

an email, or a phone call. It will also be noted on our websites.

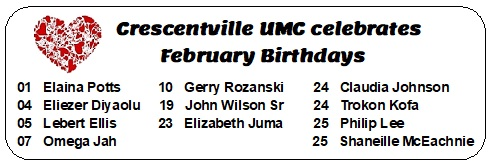
You will be given a link to join worship on zoom.

It will be your responsibility to check for these messages.

You may also call Sue Creevey at 267-847-6029

These directions also include any gatherings

scheduled to be held at the church.



**BIRTHDAY RESPONSIVE READING**

**Celebrants: We thank God for the gift of life.**

People: We thank God for you whose birthdays we celebrate in February

**Celebrants: Life is precious.**

People: We are grateful for all of you. May God bless you in this time and throughout all your days.

**All: We are glad that God has brought us together in this world. We are enriched by those who come into our lives, our families, our church, and our community. May we always be open to seeing God in others. May we always follow God’s leading into the future.**

**Celebrants: Thanks be To God for the gift of life.**

People: Thanks be to God for the gift of life. Amen.



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| Sunday, February 11th | **Pretzel Sunday** |
| Wednesday, February 14th | **Ash Wednesday** Worship 7:00 PM |
| 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 |
| Sunday, March 24th | Palm Sunday |
| Thursday, March 28th | Maundy Thursday [Worship time TBD] |
| Friday, March 29th | Good Friday [Worship time TBD] |
| Sunday, March 31st | Easter Sunday |
| 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 Admission $ 10.00  **A wedding fashion show fundraiser**  All are welcome to attend.  Wedding fashions will include  styles from 1880 to 2024  Refreshments will be served  after the show. |