*Today, our belief is challenged as Jesus talks about how highly we are to think of ourselves. Are we able to put others before us by taking the “least important place?” This is difficult for some as we like the best seats; we like to think highly of ourselves. But Jesus challenges us, that if we know Him and can commit to the life He calls us, to put others before us, thus honoring God who even (especially?) loves the least and the lost. – Pastor Randy*

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

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost *I believe…* August 28, 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** *Isaiah 43*

*God says……“I alone am the Lord, the only one who can save you. I predicted what would happen,*

 *and then I came to your aid. No foreign god has ever done this; you are my witnesses.*

 *I am God and always will be. No one can escape from my power; no one can change what I do.”*

**Opening Hymn** *“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”* # 133

 What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
 what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.

*Refrain:* Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
 leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

 O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms;
 O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*

 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms?
 I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*

 Leaning on the everlasting arms

 **Opening Prayer**

 **Almighty and everlasting God, who resists the proud and gives grace to the humble:**

 **Grant, we ask You, that we may not exalt ourselves and provoke You, but instead bow down**

 **and humbly receive the gifts of Your mercy; Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with You**

 **and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God in glory everlasting. 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

Offertory *“We Are An Offering”* 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** *“We Believe in One True God”* # 85

 We believe in one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, ever present help in need,
 praised by all the heavenly host; by whose mighty power alone all is made and wrought and done.

 We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son, who descended from his throne
 and for us salvation won; by whose cross and death are we rescued from sin's misery.

 We confess the Holy Ghost, who from both fore'er proceeds; who upholds and comforts us
 in all trials, fears, and needs. Blest and Holy Trinity, praise forever be to thee!

**Gospel Lesson**   St. Luke 14:1, 7-14

 One Sabbath, when Jesus went to share a meal in the home of one of the leaders of the Pharisees,

 they were watching him closely……**7**When Jesus noticed how the guests sought out the best seats

 at the table, he told them a parable. **8**“When someone invites you to a wedding celebration,

 don’t take your seat in the place of honor. Someone more highly regarded than you

 could have been invited by your host. **9**The host who invited both of you will come and say to you

 ‘Give your seat to this other person.’ Embarrassed, you will take your seat in the least important place.

 **10**Instead, when you receive an invitation, ***go and sit in the least important place.***

 When your host approaches you, he will say, ‘Friend, move up here to a better seat.’

 Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow guests. **11**All who lift themselves up

 will be brought low, and those who make themselves low will be lifted up.”

 **12**Then Jesus said to the person who had invited him, “When you host a lunch or dinner,

 don’t invite your friends, your brothers and sisters, your relatives, or rich neighbors. If you do,

 they will invite you in return and that will be your reward. **13**Instead, when you give a banquet,

 invite the poor, crippled, lame, and blind. **14**And you will be blessed because they can’t repay you.

 Instead, you will be repaid when the just are resurrected.”

 **Sermon** *“The Least Important Place”*

 ***“I believe…”*** Amelia “Cookie” Lewis - Sonja Browne

**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** *“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”* [VS. 1, 4, 6]# 427

 Where cross the crowded ways of life, where sound the cries of race and clan,
 above the noise of selfish strife, we hear Your voice, O Son of man.

 The cup of water given for You still holds the freshness of Your grace;
 yet long these multitudes to view the sweet compassion of Your face.

 Till all the world shall learn Your love and follow where Your feet have trod,
 till, glorious from your heaven above, shall come the city of our God!

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

**Choral Benediction** *“I Know Whom I Have Believed”* [VS. 2]# 714

 I know not how this saving faith to me He did impart,nor how believing in His word wrought peace within my heart. But I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I've committed unto Him against that day.

**For leading us in worship**

**Gene Saloky, John Combay,**

 **Sue Snyder, Sonja Browne**

**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 August 21st**

Safe Travel for Daniela and Marian as they visit family in Romania.

Theresa (Cocoa's stepdaughter) had a baby boy.

Marcus Sutton - had tests done at St Christophers, waiting for diagnosis of eye problem.

Marina's brother and his family all have covid.

For the safety of our youth as they return to school and college.

For an end to Sierra Leone's insurrection protests and unrest.

**Continuing Prayers:**

Pastor Randy & Family Sana Aman Hank Baumgartel Zilpha Browne Dorothy Buzzard Caroline (Burghaze’s Daughter) Rev. Khan Scott Meyer Ed Ingle Cass Quigley Betty Sauerwald & family Wondor Korto Sylvia Spotts Suzanne Turner Tony Petrucci

Prayers for the Ukraine and Russia - for world peace

Prayers for our city and end to violence

*Pastor Randy is on vacation from August 13th until Saturday, September 3th. In his absence, Pastor Jack Ross, Pastor of Redeemer UMC, will provide pastoral care for those who request it. If you have need for pastoral care, please contact Sue Creevey at (267) 847-6029 . Sue will put you in contact with Pastor Ross. Please know that Pastor has recorded sermons for the Sundays that he is away that will be shown to those who attend services in our buildings on Sundays as well as afterward via our church websites.*

**Next Sunday, September 4th**, Pastor Randy will be back from vacation, and we will have Holy Communion. The elements for Holy Communion will be bread & juice and will be served to you in your pew.

