*As many of you who read these words are baptized, I would ask the question, when’s the last time you confessed your sins? It’s interesting to see in today’s Gospel Lesson how confession of sins is so closely a part of baptism, and our vows and promises to God. Simply, when you get down to it, baptism is an admission of our need for God—O come, O come, Emmanuel! - Pastor Randy*

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

**2nd Sunday of Advent *PEACE* December 4, 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 40*

 *“Comfort my people,” says our God. “Comfort them! Encourage the people of Jerusalem.*

 *Tell them they have suffered long enough and their sins are now forgiven. I have punished them*

 *in full for all their sins.” A voice cries out, “Prepare in the wilderness a road for the Lord!*

 *Clear the way in the desert for our God! Fill every valley; level every mountain. The hills will become*

 *a plain, and the rough country will be made smooth. Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed,*

 *and all people will see it. The Lord himself has promised this.”*

**Opening Hymn** *“Joy to the World”* [VS. 1,3-4] # 246

 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare Him room,
 and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

 No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of His righteousness,
and wonders of His love, and wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

 **Advent Candle Lighting**

 Reader One: “They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full

 of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse

 shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him,

 and his dwelling shall be glorious”

 Reader Two: We are the followers of that root of Jesse Isaiah spoke of. We are the ones

 who are now called to stand as a signal to the world, to all of creation, that peace

 is the will of the one who created us. Peace is the knowledge of the Lord

 that we proclaim from sea to shining sea.

 Reader One: “In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea proclaiming.

 “Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” And “bear fruit worthy of repentance.”

 Reader Two: We light these candles, the candle of joyful hope and the candle of proclaimed peace,

 in part to remind ourselves that we are a people rising toward God’s promise

 But we also light them as a sign to the world, an announcement there are some

 who hold on to hope and there are some who work the ways of peace.

 We stand as a sign that Emmanuel is still our fervent prayer.

 Response *“Kum Ba Yah”*

Come by here, my Lord, come by here. Come by here, my Lord, come by here.

Come by here, my Lord, come by here. Oh, Lord, come by here!

 **Opening Prayer**

 **Most holy God, who will come to judge the earth and all that dwells therein:**

 **Help us, so that in the day of Your coming our whole spirit, soul and body**

 **will be so refreshed that we may have eternal life; Through Jesus Christ our Lord,**

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

**Children’s Message**

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

**Gifts and Offerings**

**The Doxology** *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”* [TUNE: VENI EMMANUEL]

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;

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

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**The Offertory Prayer**

**Hymn** *“There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Crying”* [VS. 1-3]

 There’s a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod: Prepare in the desert a highway,

 a highway for our God! The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;

 make straight all the crooked places, where the Lord our God may go!

 O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up to the heights and sing! Proclaim to a desolate people

 the coming of their King. Like the flowers of the field they perish, the works of men decay,

 the power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.

 But the Word of our God endureth, the arm of the Lord is strong; He stands in the midst of nations,

 and He will right the wrong. He shall feed His flock like a shepherd, and fold the lambs to His breast;

 in pastures of peace He’ll lead them, and give to the weary rest.

**Gospel Lesson** *St. Matthew 3:1-12*

 In those days John the Baptist appeared in the desert of Judea announcing, **2**“***Change your hearts***

 ***and lives!*** Here comes the kingdom of heaven!” **3**He was the one of whom Isaiah the prophet spoke

 when he said:

*The voice of one shouting in the wilderness,* “*Prepare the way for the Lord;* *make his paths straight.*”

 **4**John wore clothes made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist.

 He ate locusts and wild honey. **5**People from Jerusalem, throughout Judea, and all around

 the Jordan River came to him. **6*As they confessed their sins, he baptized them*** *in the Jordan River.*

 **7**Many Pharisees and Sadducees came to be baptized by John. He said to them, “You children

 of snakes! Who warned you to escape from the angry judgment that is coming soon? **8**Produce fruit

 that shows you have changed your hearts and lives. **9**And don’t even think about saying to yourselves,

 Abraham is our father. I tell you that God is able to raise up Abraham’s children from these stones.

**10**The ax is already at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that doesn’t produce good fruit

 will be chopped down and tossed into the fire. **11**I baptize with water those of you who have changed

 your hearts and lives. The one who is coming after me is stronger than I am. I’m not worthy to carry

 his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. **12**The shovel he uses to sift the wheat

 from the husks is in his hands. He will clean out his threshing area and bring the wheat into his barn.

 But he will burn the husks with a fire that can’t be put out.”

 **Sermon** *“****As*** *They Confessed, John Baptized”*

 **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.

**Service of Holy Communion**

The Lord be with you…………………...…**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts……………………...…..**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God….**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven

 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD, GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT, HEAVEN**

 **AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY, HOSANNA IN THE**

 **HIGHEST. BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE**

 **LORD. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST.**

...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,

 we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,

 in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

 **CHRIST HAS DIED; CHRIST IS RISEN, CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN.**

...Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,

 all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

*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.*

*BREAKING THE BREAD………………………………….GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP*

Communion Hymn: *“Christmas Communion Hymn”*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

 **Loving God, who sent Your Son to save the world and will send Him again to be our Judge:**

 **give us grace so to imitate Jesus in the humility and purity of His first coming that,**

 **when He comes again, we will be ready to greet Him with joyful love and firm faith;**

 **through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Hymn**  *“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”* [VS. 1-2,4]# 626

 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly-minded,

 for with blessing in His hand, Christ our God to earth descending comes our homage to demand.

 King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture,

 in the body and the blood; He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food.

 At His feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, and sleepless eye, veil their faces to the Presence,
 as with ceaseless voice they cry: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!

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

**Choral Benediction** *“Prepare the Way of the Lord”* # 207

Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see the salvation of our God.

**Lectionary Scripture Readings**

These readings are built to give you a longing, anticipation, and excitement that leads to the birth of Jesus, the One who will save His people from their sins.

**December 11, 2022 - Third Sunday of Advent**

Matthew 11:2-11 - Isaiah 35:1-10 - Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55 - James 5:7-10

**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 gets our focus off of ourselves and onto the needs around us. As we “carry each other’s burdens,” we “will fulfill the law of Christ”. Begin praying for others today and help to

 build up the body of Christ.

**Prayer Requests from November 27th**

John Wilson - He is having a procedure this week to replace the battery in his defibrillator.

Continued prayers for Collingwoode's sister, Agnes

JOY - Praise for family & grandchildren.

Shawn & Rachel Holland (neighbors of Cocoa) - their car was hit and then Shawn was shot in the ear.

Betty Brzoza - continued prayers for Sue Creevey's sister as she recovers from Covid.

Prayers for Eva and for our entire church family as we grieve the death of Hank.

Prayers for the Ingle Family - Ed died on November 21st.

**Continuing Prayers:**

Pastor Randy & Family Sana Aman Zilpha Browne Dorothy Buzzard

Caroline (Burghaze’s Daughter) Rev. Khan Scott Meyer Marva Cass Quigley Betty Sauerwald & family Wondor Korto

Sylvia Spotts Suzanne TurnerEva Baumgartel

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.

 **Mark your calendar**

**Don’t sit on the sidelines – get involved!**

**Wednesdays during Advent – Dec 7, 14, 21**

Advent Vesper Service – 7:00 PM at PPH

Please enter through the chapel doors (side of building)

**December 11th after worship** – YOUTH - Practice for Christmas Presentation.

**December 13th – Women’s Fellowship Christmas Luncheon**

 Time: 12 Noon - Please see Sue Snyder for more details.

**December 18th – during worship – Our youth will present “Merry Christmas”**

Light refreshments after worship.

**December 24th - CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

 **Crescentville UMC 8:00 PM**  (Frankford Memorial UMC 6:30 PM)

Crescentville will have light refreshments after our service.

**December 25th – Christmas Day 10:00 AM**

Crescentville and Frankford Memorial will worship together

at Frankford Memorial UMC Church

**January 1st – New Year’s Day 10:00 AM**

Crescentville and Frankford Memorial will worship together

at Crescentville UMC Church

*There was an amazing turnout for Hank’s funeral – easily 100 people in worship and many more that only attended visitation.* *Thank you to all who helped with the service!*

 *I spoke with some who were in Crescentville’s Youth Group when Hank & Eva were our youth group leaders. We also saw some church members we haven’t seen for a while! Even State Representative Jared Solomon was in attendance****. What a glorious tribute to Hank & Eva –*** *so many had funny stories about Hank and all spoke of his great faith. Everyone will miss his laugh. Many spoke of what a great couple Hank and Eva are. Please continue to keep Eva in your prayers through this difficult time. The family has requested donations in his memory be made to Crescentville UMC. – Sue Creevey*

3/30/41-11/17/22

*A former member and Administrative Council Chairman here at Crescentville UMC, Ed Ingle, died on November 21st. Ed had a fall in May that caused a severe spinal cord injury and that started the deterioration of his health. Please keep Ed’s wife Kristen Ingle; children, Luke Ingle (Kalah) and Amanda in your prayers. Ed’s services will be on December 3rd at Addsville Church in Richboro.*

10/12/48-11/21/22

*Betty Dawson, who is a friend of both Crescentville and Frankford Memorial, died on Sunday Nov 27th. Betty was a fine organist and pianist and often helped us out when she was available. She was currently living at PPH. There will be a Graveside Committal Service on Tuesday, Dec 6th at noon, the location is Sunset Memorial Park, 333 West County Road, Feasterville, PA 19053. A memorial service will be held at PPH after their Covid Restrictions have changed. Donations may be made in her memory to Philadelphia Protestant Home Benevolent Fund, 6500 Tabor Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111. Her obituary can be found at Wetzel & Sons Rockledge PA.*