**March 03, 2024**

**Third Sunday In Lent**

**Holy Communion Sunday**

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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***

**3rd Sunday In Lent March 03, 2024**

**Communion Sunday**

**Welcome & 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** **Light of the World**

*Leader: Light. Without it, we stumble blindly in the darkness. With it, everything is illumined and clear.*

*Sometimes the light is dim. Sometimes it flickers, ready to die.*

**People: But as long as we have it to guide our path, We are safe.**

*Leader: Christ is called the Light of the World, and we, as his followers, are instructed to walk in the light,*

*as he is in the light. You are the light of the world!*

**People: Let your light shine before men.**

*Leader: Jesus was living out his last days, yet his light never wavered.*

**People: If we were in his place, knowing death awaited us soon, would we still reflect our light?**

**Would our brightness shine against the darkness of the world?**

*Leader: And what about now? Does our faith—our light — burn brightly? Or does it flicker uncertainly in*

*the tumult of our daily lives?*

**People: Would we rather stay in the darkness after the candles are extinguished, or do we yearn**

**for the light?**

*Leader: For it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said:*

*"Wake up, 0 sleeper, Rise from the dead, And Christ will shine on you."*

**People: Let us gather strength from the example of Jesus as he faced the darkness of his own death.**

*(extinguish* *the* *flame* *on* *another* *purple* *candle.)*

**Choral Response:** “More love to Thee, Oh Christ” (Vs 1) # 453

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)*

**Jesus we confess that we have not always kept our body as a temple for the Holy Spirit. We have let the distractions of the marketplace enter our minds. We have mixed the world with the sacred time we try and set aside for you. Lord, we are asking that you help us restore our focus. Jesus help our focus to be on you again. Help us not to be so changed by this world. Help us to set aside our minds and our hearts and place them again and again in your presence. We want to be led by you. Help us Jesus. In your name we pray, Amen.**

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

*Please stand*

**Opening Worship Song** *“At Calvary”*

Years I spent in vanity and pride, caring not my Lord was crucified,

Knowing not it was for me He died On Calvary.

Refrain: Mercy there was great, and grace was free;

Pardon there was multiplied to me;

There my burdened soul found liberty, At Calvary.

By God’s Word at last my sin I learned; Then I trembled at the law I’d spurned,

Till my guilty soul imploring turned To Calvary. [Refrain]

Now I’ve given to Jesus everything, Now I gladly own Him as my King,

Now my raptured soul can only sing Of Calvary.

Oh, the love that drew salvation’s plan! Oh the grace that brought it down to man!

Oh the mighty gulf that God did span At Calvary! [Refrain]

*Please be seated*

**Youth Message**

**Joys & Concern…..*Gathered Prayer***

**Gifts and Offerings**

**The Offertory** Goodness of God” (CeCe Winans) SOLO BY EDWINA PAYE

*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 below.

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

**The Offertory Prayer**

**Hymn** “*O Young And Fearless Prophet*” (Vs 1, 2, 5) # 444

O young and fearless Prophet of ancient Galilee,

thy life is still a summons to serve humanity;

to make our thoughts and actions less prone to please the crowd,

to stand with humble courage for truth with hearts uncowed.

We marvel at the purpose that held thee to thy course

while ever on the hilltop before thee loomed the cross;

thy steadfast face set forward where love and duty shone,

while we betray so quickly and leave thee there alone.

O young and fearless Prophet, we need thy presence here,

amid our pride and glory to see thy face appear;

once more to hear thy challenge above our noisy day,

again to lead us forward along God's holy way.

*Please Be Seated*

**Gospel Lesson John 2:13-22**

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?"

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

**Sermon “***Destroying and Raising the Body****”***

*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.

*Interlude: Be Present At Our Table Lord*

**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.**

*Please be seated*

...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.**

***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*

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

Communion Hymns: “Table of Plenty” & “Fill My Cup, Lord”

*Please Stand*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Jesus thank you for offering us your body. Lord, we did destroy it. Our sin and our hatred, and our violence destroyed it. But Jesus, you healed all of this. You raised yourself up again. You made for us a body that could not be broken anymore. Lord, help us to be a part of the body of the risen Christ. Help us to find community and health in being a member of Christ’s body. Help us to remember that your body is more than just a building. It is more than just our physical limbs. Jesus, your body is a family, and nothing can take us away from this family now. Thank you for choosing us. Thank you for dying and raising from the dead. Help us to follow you and act like you this week. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.**

**Hymn** “Lord Of The Dance” # 261

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,

And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,

And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,

At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain: Dance, then, wherever you may be,

I am the Lord of the Dance, said He,

And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be;

And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said He

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,

But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.

I danced for the fishermen, for James and John

They came with me and the Dance went on. (Refrain)

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;

The holy people said it was a shame.

They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high;

And they left me there on a Cross to die. (Refrain)

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;

It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.

They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;

But I am the Dance, and I still go on. (Refrain)

They cut me down and I leapt up high;

I am the life that'll never, never die;

I'll live in you If you'll live in me

I am the Lord of the Dance, said He. (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 logo with text and wings

Description automatically generated with medium confidence**Lectionary Scripture Readings**

Reading the bible corrects us when we sin. The Bible shows us sin in our lives and helps keep us from sin in the first place.

**Fourth Sunday in Lent - March 10, 2024**

John 3:14-21 - Numbers 21:4-9 - Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 - Ephesians 2:1-10



**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.***

When praying for others you kind of create a stronger relationship with the other person to whom you want to address your prayers. When someone knows you are praying for him/her, that person will surely appreciate your effort and dedication for his/her life. This is one of the demonstrations of your true love and care for your friends and loved ones… and stronger relationships are exactly what we all need everyday in our lives.

**Prayer Requests From February 25th**

Prayers for Pastor Brendan as he recovers from Covid

Prayers for the Sutton Family

Prayers for the Jean family as they mourn the death of Charlie

Prayers for Mariah Jean & her team as they compete in a cheerleading competition

Prayers for Jean Bernard and Haiti

Prayers for Marina Macauley as she celebrates her 60th birthday

Prayers for Marina Jean as she is learning to drive

Prayers for Palestine that they don't get bombed anymore

Prayers for Ukraine so they don't get bombed and have peace

Prayers for a friend that is having surgery this week, prayers for rest & recovery

Healing prayers for the Potts family & for Gerry's friend, Sherman

Prayers for Peter Hanson who is not feeling well

Joy - Cass Cassiano had successful eye surgery this week

Traveling mercies for Paul Wilson

Prayers for Sheryl Duke who has dementia

Prayers for Cocoa & Family as her father, Ron Smith is still in the hospital

Birthday prayers for Alton Crowther

Gene Saloky - thanks for prayers for daughters, dental surgeries went well

**Continuing Prayers for:**

Eva Baumgartel Dorothy Buzzard Martha & Wondor Korto Scott Meyer

Cass Quigley Marva Meghan Riley

**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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| 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 |
| Sunday March 24th | Palm Sunday Worship 10:30 AM |
| Tuesday, March 26th | Women’s Fellowship 12:00 Noon |
| 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. |