**March 02, 2025**

**Transfiguration Sunday**

**Pretzel Sunday**

**Holy Communion**

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**Crescentville United Methodist Church**

**A Changing Church for Changing Times**

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***Crescentville United Methodist Church***

**Transfiguration Sunday *Pretzel Sunday* - Holy Communion March 2, 2025**

**Prelude**

**Preparing for Worship “Sweet, Sweet Spirit” – please join in singing**

**Welcome & 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.

For I’m part of the family, the family of God.

**\*Call to Worship** *Psalm 99*

 L: The Lord is King and the people tremble.

 **P: God sits on His throne above the winged creatures, and the earth shakes.**

 L: The Lord is mighty in Zion; God is supreme over all the nations.

 **P: Everyone will praise God’s great and majestic name. Holy is He!**

 **Opening Worship Song** *“How Great Thou Art”* [VS. 1, 3-4] # 77

 O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder consider all the \*worlds thy hand have made,
 I see the stars, I hear the \*rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed.

*Refrain:* Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!

 And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;
 that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain*

 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
 Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art! *Refrain*

**Opening Prayer (in unison)**

 **Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty before He suffered death upon the cross:**

 **give us grace to see and know His glory, that we would be changed into His likeness,**

 **from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

 **one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Please be seated

**Youth Message**

**Joys & Concerns…..Gathered prayer**

**Gifts and Offerings**

 **Offertory** “Transfigure Us O Lord*”*

*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**

**\*Hymn** *“O Wondrous Sight! O Vision Fair”* # 258

 O wondrous sight! O vision fair of glory that the church shall share,
 which Christ upon the mountain shows, where brighter than the sun he glows!

 From age to age the tale declares how with the three disciples there
 where Moses and Elijah meet, the Lord holds converse high and sweet.

 The law and prophets there have place, two chosen witnesses of grace;
 the Father's voice from out the cloud proclaims his only Son aloud.

 With shining face and bright array, Christ deigns to manifest that day
 what glory shall be theirs above who joy in God with perfect love.

 And faithful hearts are raised on high by this great vision's mystery;
 for which in joyful strains we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

*Please Be Seated*

**Gospel Lesson** St. Luke 9:28-36 (Common English Bible)

 About eight days after Jesus said these things, he took Peter, John, and James, and went up

 on a mountain to pray. **29**As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed

 and his clothes flashed white like lightning. **30**Two men, Moses and Elijah, were talking with him.

 **31**They were clothed with heavenly splendor and spoke about Jesus’ departure, which he would achieve

 in Jerusalem. **32**Peter and those with him were almost overcome by sleep, but they managed

 to stay awake and saw his glory as well as the two men with him. **33**As the two men were about

 to leave Jesus, Peter said to him, “Master, it’s good that we’re here. We should construct three shrines:

 one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—but he didn’t know what he was saying.

 **34**Peter was still speaking when a cloud overshadowed them. As they entered the cloud,

 they were overcome with awe. **35**Then a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, my chosen one.

 Listen to him!” **36**Even as the voice spoke, Jesus was found alone. ***They were speechless***

 and at the time told no one what they had seen.

**Sermon** *“Speechless…”*

*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 forever. **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: “As We Gather at Your Table” – “This is My Body”*

*Please Stand*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (in Unison)**

 **Holy God, we see Your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at His table**

 **reflect His life in word and deed, that all the world may know His power to change and save.**

 **This we ask through this same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn** *“Canticle of God’s Glory”* (Gloria in Excelsis) # 82

 Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will to all.
 We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory:
 O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
 Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
 For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;

 thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen

**Benediction**

**Choral Benediction** *“He Is Lord”*  # 177

He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

 **PRETZEL SUNDAY** Pretzels are a Lenten tradition in Christianity dating back to the early 600s. The first pretzel was an invention of an Italian Monk who was looking for a simple reminder to his brother monks that Lent is a time for prayer. So, fashioning a Lenten bread with only flour, water and salt (in those days people cooked without butter or oil during Lent), he rolled out the dough in strips. Then he gave the world the distinc¬tive pretzel shape by folding the strip of dough over itself, just as one would cross one's arms over the heart in a gesture of prayer. The bread was then baked as a soft bread, just like the big soft pretzels we have today.

In the shape of crossed arms, these little breads were called bracellae, the Latin word for "little arms." From this word came the German word bretzel, the root of our familiar word pretzel.

Today, we have pretzels as a reminder of the importance of prayer, of daily turning to our Lord this Lent so that we better prepare for the great events of Holy Week and the Easter celebration. Each pretzel is a delicious Lenten treat to remind us to turn to the Lord often and "taste and see that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8).

**Lectionary Scripture Readings**

Do you desire to defeat the presence of sin in your life? The Bible helps us fight sin in our lives.

**March 5, 2025 - Ash Wednesday** Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 - Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 - Psalm 51:1-17 - 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

**March 9, 2025 - First Sunday in Lent**

Luke 4:1-13 - Deuteronomy 26:1-11 - Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 - Romans 10:8b-13

**Joys & Concerns: Keep those prayers going and thank God for His answers! To add a prayer request or share a joy, *please call or text Sue Creevey 267-847-6029***

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.

**Prayers requests from February 23rd**

***PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOUR PRAYER REQUEST WAS NOT ENTERED ON A PRAYER CARD, IT IS NOT LISTED HERE.***

Walt Rininsland fell and hurt back. Started P.T.

Prayers for the Bernard family and Haiti

Prayers for the Broch family as they grieve death of mother, Sherry.

Prayers for the Hannaway family - loss of 2nd family member in less than 2 months. A mother lost two children.

Continued prayers for Luoli, Emmy and Jeff.

Continuing prayers for the Bresnan Family.

Prayers for Katie and family.

**Continuing Prayers for:**

Martha & Wondor Korto Scott Meyer Cass Quigley Sheryl Duke

David & Esther Clinton Betty Brzoza Victoria Somers Meghann Riley

Prayers for the Bishop and Cabinet as the decide who will be our next Pastor.

**For families, especially:**

Zilpha and James Browne The Stefanescu, Mc Manus, Salvadore, and Didirea Families

Jean Bernard and family The Spotts 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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 **ASH WEDNESDAY IS MARCH 5TH.**

 **Worship at Crescentville UMC 7:00 PM.**

 **Holy communion and distribution of ashes.**

**Ash Wednesday; time to reflect and share our thanks,**

**For this is the time that we remember the greatest sacrifice.**

 **LENTEN WEDNESDAY GATHERINGS**

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**Wednesday’s during the Lenten season**

 **March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9.**

 **Noon – in church hall.**

 **Please bring a lunch for yourself.**

 **Beverages and dessert will be provided.**