**May 26, 2024**

**Trinity Sunday**

**“Life by the Spirit”**

A hand holding a bird and a cross

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**Crescentville United Methodist Church**

**A Changing Church for Changing Times**

**Pastor Brendan Van Gorder**

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**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19120**

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

***Crescentville United Methodist Church***

***Trinity Sunday May 26, 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**

Leader: We gather this morning in the name of the Creator, who creates time and space, galaxies and stars and planets.

**All: In the name of Jesus Christ, born on planet Earth, through whom all things were created, and through whom we live**

Leader: and in the name of the Spirit who fills Earth with God’s presence.

**All: Creator God, we worship you. Make your presence felt among us.**

**Worship Song *“I Know Who I Am”***

We are a chosen generation, called forth to show His excellence

All I require for life, God has given me and I know who I am.

We are a chosen generation, called forth to show His excellence

All I require for life, God has given me for I know who I am.

I know who God says I am, what He says I am, where He says I’m at, I know who I am.

I know who God says I am, what He says I am, where He says I’m at, I know who I am.

I’m working in power, I’m working miracles. I live a life of favor, for I know who I am.

I’m working in power, I’m working miracles. I live a life of favor, for I know who I am.

~ ~

Repeat all

I know who God says I am, what He says I am, where He says I’m at, I know who I am. [4X]

**Opening Prayer**

**Lord Jesus, Thank you for trusting us with your Holy Spirit. Thank you that your Spirit comforts us, guides us, and reminds us that we are your children. Help us to be led by the Spirit. Help us to be in this world but not of it. When we face the difficulty of the body and the flesh, help us to feel light and free in our spirits. In everything help us to feel the energy and presence of Divine Light. Thank you Jesus. In your name we pray. 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*

**Gifts and Offerings**

**Offertory** *“Holy Spirit” Please join in singing!*

*Please stand*

**The Doxology** *“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”* # 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**The Offertory Prayer**

Dismissal of the Youth

**Hymn** *“Spirit Of God, Descend Upon My Heart”*  Verses 1,3,4,5 # 500

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart, free it from earth, through all its pulses move.

Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art and make me love Thee as I ought to love.

Has Thou not bid us love Thee God and King, All, all Thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind

I see Thy cross there teach my heart to cling. O let me seek Thee and O let me find!

Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh; teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,

to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh; teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love Thee as Thy angels love, one holy passion filling all my frame:

the baptism of the heaven-descended Dove, my heart the altar, and Thy love the flame.

*Please be seated*

**Scripture Lesson** Romans 8:12-17

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh - for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ--if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

**Sermon**“Life by the Spirit”

*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** *“Breathe on me Breath of God”* verses 1-3 # 420

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,  
That I may love what Thou dost love, and do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,  
Until with Thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly Thine,  
Til all this earthly part of me glows with Thy fire divine.

**Benediction**

**Choral Benediction**  *“Breathe on me Breath of God”* verse 4 # 420

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,  
But live with Thee the perfect life of Thine eternity.

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Description automatically generated**Lectionary Scripture Readings**

Sometimes our lives can feel a little like we're just wandering uselessly. Even teens can sometimes feel that they lack direction. When we read our Bibles we can clearly see that God has a purpose for us at every stage of our lives. His words can give us direction, even if we only need that direction and purpose in the short term.

**2nd Sunday after Pentecost - June 2, 2024**

Mark 2:23-3:6 - 1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20) - Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 - 2 Corinthians 4:5-12



**Joys & Concerns: Keep those prayers going and thank God for His answers! To add a prayer request or share a joy, *please call Sue Creevey 267-847-6029*** Praying for one another is a powerful way for us to bear one another’s burdens. It is a loving act to pray for someone and join them in taking the pain of their heart to God.

**Prayer Requests from May 19th**

Sue Creevey - fell on Sunday morning and hurt her back. Prayers for a good recovery.

Enid is starting a new job, prayers for all the changes ahead

Traveling mercies for Kass Greenlaw's grandson who is going to Singapore and Australia

Gerry's grandson Storm graduating from Temple and Hannah graduating from University of North Carolina

Erin Kelly (Sue and Rich's daughter) walked with the family in the autism fundraiser

Prayers for the Fegin family, Jahcurie's teacher Ms. Fegin's husband died

**Continuing Prayers for:**

Dorothy Buzzard Martha & Wondor Korto Scott Meyer Cass Quigley Marva

Sheryl Duke Betty Brzoza Victoria Somers

**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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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Saturday, June 1st - YOUTH** will be helping with set up and the Abington June Fair.

A red and white striped tent with a flag on top

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The June Fete is an old-fashioned country fair with amusement rides, carnival games, a variety of entertainment, delicious festival food an June Fete Fairgrounds

2990 Edge Hill Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

**Friday, June 15th** – Wish the Snyder’s a happy 50th wedding anniversary & thank them for their dedication to each other and to our church!

**Wednesday, June 19th** – Women’s Fellowship Meeting - Noon

**Sunday, June 23rd - Pastor Brendan's last Sunday with us**. After worship special refreshments as we send Pastor Brendan off to his future endeavors.

**Saturday, June 29th - Flea Market 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Sunday June 30th – Celebrating our youth & graduates!** Worship 10:30AM

**Sunday, July 7th – Worship 10:30 AM** Rev. Randy Brubaker will lead us in worship and Holy Communion.

**Sunday, July 14th - Worship 10:30 AM -** Pastor Bob (Rev. Robert Coombe) Will lead us in worship for the first time. After worship, we will have an ice cream meet and greet time for fellowship.

**A Wetzel and Son Obituary for:**

**Dorothy M. Buzzard**

**May 14, 1922 - May 21, 2024**

The following obituary was written by Dorothy’s family.

Dorothy M. Buzzard (nee Melzer), passed away peacefully on May 21, 2024, surrounded by her loving family. Born on May 14,1922, in Philadelphia, PA, Dorothy (“Nannie”) was the beloved wife of the late Walter B. Buzzard and daughter of the late Frederick Melzer and Amanda (nee Keicher). She is survived by her two daughters, 6 grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren, and extended family.

Dorothy graduated from Simon Gratz High School and worked for the School District of Philadelphia for over 13 years. Additionally, she held a variety of administrative positions including assistant at the Presque Isle Air Transport Command, North American Division during WWII, coder for the Farm Journal Magazine, and secretary at the Arthur H. Thomas Company.

Dorothy was a member of the Crescentville United Methodist Church for many years, and an Eastern Star Chapter member for over 75 years. An avid supporter of the PA SPCA, Dorothy held a special place in her heart for animals.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Pennsylvania SPCA , 350 E Erie Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19134, in Dorothy’s memory.

**Small Group Study – “When God’s People Pray” by Jim Cymbala**

I feel that Crescentville UMC needs a prayer ministry. Each week we tell our joys and concerns, but who is praying these requests? When I get a phone call during the week and someone needs prayer, it only the Pastor and myself that know of this request. We should have a team of prayer warriors to pray!

During the summer, I would like to lead a small group study on prayer, with the hopes of starting a prayer ministry in September. This is a six session study, each session would be about one hour. Each session includes a short video and discussion. I have open options of when and where to meet – at my home, at church, day, evening, whatever works for the majority interested in participating. Please tell me soon if you are interested, and as a group forms we will decide on our meeting times and place.

Sue Creevey 267-847-6029 [call or text] susan.creevey@verizon.net

**Introduction to study:**

Our God loves us deeply and longs to be in a relationship in which we receive the spiritual and physical blessings he wants to give us. We, as individuals and as churches, suffer great loss when we fail to ask God for these blessings. These blessings can change our lives, invigorate our churches, transform our communities, and even alter the course of history! Best of all, they are available to every believer and every church if we will only pray for them in faith and obedience.

My desire through this video series is to help God's people discover prayer as our lifeline to Him - our source of strength and abundant blessing. I want to help God's people engage in serious prayer and become a living display of what God - and He alone - can accomplish here on earth. I don't want any of us to suffer the tragedy of a life summed up by these words from Scripture: ***"You do not have, because you do not ask God" (James 4:2).***

By God's grace, I pray that this video series will instruct, inspire, and assist God's people in discovering a new life of asking and receiving from God.

Jim Cymbala

**When God’s People Pray**

**Session 01: God's Heart for Us**

**Session 02: The Amazing Power of Prayer**

**Session 03: Obedience in Prayer**

**Session 04: The Word of God and Prayer**

**Session 05: Why Prayer Matters**

**Session 06: Creating a Prayer Ministry in Your Church**