**April 13, 2025**

**Palm/Passion Sunday**

**A service of lessons and hymns**

**Crescentville United Methodist Church**

**A Changing Church for Changing Times**

**Pastor Rev. Randy Brubaker**

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***Crescentville United Methodist Church***

***Palm / Passion Sunday* April 13, 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.

*When the trumpet sounds, please take your palm and go to the back of the church*

 *so that we may all process together into worship.*

**PROCLAMATION OF THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY**

***St. Luke 19:28-40***

*After Jesus said this, he continued on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.*

*As Jesus came to Bethphage and Bethany on the Mount of Olives, he gave two disciples a task. He said, “Go into the village over there. When you enter it, you will find tied up there a colt that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say, ‘Its master needs it.’” Those who had been sent found it exactly as he had said.*

*As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?”*

*They replied, “Its master needs it.” They brought it to Jesus, threw their clothes on the colt, and lifted Jesus onto it. As Jesus rode along, they spread their clothes on the road.*

*As Jesus approached the road leading down from the Mount of Olives, the whole throng of his disciples began rejoicing. They praised God with a loud voice because of all the mighty things they had seen. They said,* *“Blessings on the king who comes in the name of the Lord.*

 *Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens.”*

*Some of the Pharisees from the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, scold your disciples! Tell them to stop!”*

*He answered, “I tell you, if they were silent, the stones would shout.”*

**\*Opening Prayer**

 **It is indeed right to praise and bless You, Almighty God, for the acts of love**

 **by which You have redeemed us though Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.**

 **We remember that day when He entered Your holy city of Jerusalem**

 **and there was proclaimed King by those who spread their garments**

 **and palm branches in His path. As we recall His coming in victory,**

 **so we ask that You will bless these palms, that they may be for us signs**

 **of the victory which is yet to come. We pray that as we carry them**

 **in His Name, so we may ever acknowledge Him as our King and follow Him**

 **in the way that leads to eternal life. Amen.**

*Proceed to your pews, being lead by the children.*

**\*Congregational Anthem** *“The Palms”* Jean-Baptiste Faure

 O'er all the way green palms and blossoms gay, are strewn this day in festal preparation;

 Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away, even now the throng to welcome Him prepare.

⁠Refrain: Join all and sing, His name declare; Let every voice resound with acclamation,

 Hosanna, Praise be the Lord! Bless Him who cometh to bring us salvation.

 Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem, of all Thy sons sing the emancipation;

 Through boundless love, the Christ of Bethlehem brings faith and hope to Thee forevermore. (Refrain)

\*Psalter *Psalm 118*

 Give thanks to the Lord, because He is good, and His love is eternal…

 **Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord…**

 The Lord is God; He has been good to us…

 Give thanks to the Lord, because He is good, and His love is eternal.

 **Prayer of Confession**

 Compassionate Lord, we often sing that we are able to follow You, but today

 we confess that this is not always true. Too many times we find ourselves

 living lives that are contrary to You and the way that You would have us

 to live. Forgive us, we pray, and strengthen us, we ask, so that, because

 we are willing, but our flesh is weak, we can live in the strength of Your love

 and goodness, pleasing You and showing Your love to those around us. Amen.

*Silent Prayer and Meditation……………Words of Forgiveness*

\*Hymn of Grace “This Is a Day of New Beginnings” [VS. 1-2] # 383

 This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on,

 time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.

 For by the life and death of Jesus, God's mighty Spirit, now as then,

 can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again.

 Youth Message

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

***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

*The Offertory “Make Way, May Way For Christ The King” Please join in singing!*

**\*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** *“What Wondrous Love Is This” Verse 1* # 292

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss

to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

**GOSPEL LESSON AND HYMNS** ***ST. LUKE 23:1-49***

**St. Luke 23:1-12 Jesus before Pilate and Herod**

The whole assembly got up and led Jesus to Pilate and began to accuse him. They said, “We have found this man misleading our people, opposing the payment of taxes to Caesar, and claiming that he is the Christ, a king. Pilate asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” Jesus replied, “That’s what you say.”

Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no legal basis for action against this man.”

But they objected strenuously, saying, “He agitates the people with his teaching throughout Judea—starting from Galilee all the way here.”

Hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean. When he learned that Jesus was from Herod’s district, Pilate sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time. Herod was very glad to see Jesus, for he had heard about Jesus and had wanted to see him for quite some time. He was hoping to see Jesus perform some sign. Herod questioned Jesus at length, but Jesus didn’t respond to him. The chief priests and the legal experts were there, fiercely accusing Jesus. Herod and his soldiers treated Jesus with contempt. Herod mocked him by dressing Jesus in elegant clothes and sent him back to Pilate. Pilate and Herod became friends with each other that day. Before this, they had been enemies.

 **HYMN** *“O Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done”* Verse 1 # 287

 O Love divine, what hast thou done! The immortal God hath died for me!

 The Father’s co-eternal Son bore all my sins upon the tree.

 The immortal God for me hath died: My Lord, my Love is crucified!

**St. Luke 23:13-25 Jesus and Barabbas**

Then Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people. He said to them, “You brought this man before me as one who was misleading the people. I have questioned him in your presence and found nothing in this man’s conduct that provides a legal basis for the charges you have brought against him. Neither did Herod, because Herod returned him to us. He’s done nothing that deserves death. Therefore, I’ll have him whipped, then let him go.”

But with one voice they shouted, “Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us.” (Barabbas had been thrown into prison because of a riot that had occurred in the city, and for murder.)

Pilate addressed them again because he wanted to release Jesus.

They kept shouting out, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

For the third time, Pilate said to them, “Why? What wrong has he done? I’ve found no legal basis for the death penalty in his case. Therefore, I will have him whipped, then let him go.”

But they were adamant, shouting their demand that Jesus be crucified. Their voices won out. Pilate issued his decision to grant their request. He released the one they asked for, who had been thrown into prison because of a riot and murder. But he handed Jesus over to their will.

 **HYMN** *“O Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done”* Verse 2 # 287

 Is crucified for me and you, to bring us rebels back to God.

 Believe, believe the record true, ye all were bought with Jesus’ blood.

 Pardon for all flows from His side: My Lord, my Love is crucified!

**St. Luke 23:26-38 Jesus on the way to the cross**

As they led Jesus away, they grabbed Simon, a man from Cyrene, who was coming in from the countryside. They put the cross on his back and made him carry it behind Jesus. A huge crowd of people followed Jesus, including women, who were mourning and wailing for him. Jesus turned to the women and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, don’t cry for me. Rather, cry for yourselves and your children. The time will come when they will say, ‘Happy are those who are unable to become pregnant, the wombs that never gave birth, and the breasts that never nursed a child.’ Then they will say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ If they do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

 **Jesus on the cross**

They also led two other criminals to be executed with Jesus. When they arrived at the place called The Skull, they crucified him, along with the criminals, one on his right and the other on his left. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they’re doing.” They drew lots as a way of dividing up his clothing.

The people were standing around watching, but the leaders sneered at him, saying, “He saved others. Let him save himself if he really is the Christ sent from God, the chosen one.”

The soldiers also mocked him. They came up to him, offering him sour wine and saying, “If you really are the king of the Jews, save yourself.” Above his head was a notice of the formal charge against him. It read “This is the king of the Jews.”

 **HYMN** *“O Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done”* Verse 3 # 287

 Behold Him, all ye that pass by, the bleeding Prince of life and peace!

 Come, sinners, see your Savior die, and say, “Was ever grief like His?”

 Come, feel with me His blood applied: My Lord, my Love is crucified!

**St. Luke 23:39-43 Jesus on the cross**

One of the criminals hanging next to Jesus insulted him: “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!”

Responding, the other criminal spoke harshly to him, “Don’t you fear God, seeing that you’ve also been sentenced to die? We are rightly condemned, for we are receiving the appropriate sentence for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

Jesus replied, “I assure you that today you will be with me in paradise.”

 **HYMN** *“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”* Verse 1 # 286

 O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,

 now scornfully surrounded with thorns, Thine only crown:

 how pale Thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!

 How does that visage languish which once was bright as morn!

**St. Luke 23:44-49 Jesus death**

It was now about noon, and darkness covered the whole earth until about three o’clock, while the sun stopped shining. Then the curtain in the sanctuary tore down the middle. Crying out in a loud voice, Jesus said, “Father, into your hands I entrust my life.” After he said this, he breathed for the last time.

When the centurion saw what happened, he praised God, saying, “It’s really true: this man was righteous.” All the crowds who had come together to see this event returned to their homes beating their chests after seeing what had happened. And everyone who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance observing these things.

 **HYMN** *“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”* Verse 2 # 286

 What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners’ gain;

 mine, mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain.

 Lo, here I fall, my Savior! ‘Tis I deserve Thy place;

 look on me with Thy favor, vouch-safe to me Thy grace.

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

**\*Choral Benediction**  *“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”* Verse 3 # 286

What language shall I borrow to thank Thee, dearest Friend,

for this Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end?

O make me Thine forever; and should I fainting be,

Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to Thee.

**Lectionary Scripture Readings**

Do you struggle with important and difficult decisions? The Bible helps us to make decisions according to his will so that he will bless us.

**April 17, 2025 - Maundy Thursday**

John 13:1-17, 31b-35 - Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

**April 18, 2025 - Good Friday** John 18:1-19:42 - Isaiah 52:13-53:12 - Psalm 22 - Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

**April 19, 2025 – Easter Sunday - Resurrection of the Lord**

John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12 - Acts 10:34-43 - Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 - 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

**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***

For many reasons, we pray for others: for comfort, salvation, healing, safety, and so on. Prayer is a way for God to align our hearts with His will. Prayer can be used to pray for someone to come to know God or for their dog to return home.

**Prayer requests from April 6th**

***PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOUR PRAYER REQUEST WAS NOT ENTERED ON A PRAYER CARD,***

***IT IS NOT LISTED HERE.***

Prayers for Alaia Bernard (Jean's 3 yo daughter) The Bernard family in Haiti and help with Jean's finances.

Prayers for Mike Rolle to recover from fluid on the lungs, heart failure.

JOY - Sheryl Budman Duke is doing good.

Robert Hart (Kass Greenlaw'sson in law) had successful shoulder surgery this week. Prayers for a good recovery.

Prayers for Evelyn Minah for a speedy recovery from a complicated surgery.

Cocoa twisted her right ankle this week. Prayers for healing.

Prayers for Tommi who is soon to get surgery for digestion issues and is in a lot of pain.

Continued prayers for Paul Keiley who is home from the hospital and recovering.

Prayers for the family and friends of Marge Baldwin as they mourn her death.

Prayers for Bob Charlton who is in the hospital.

Prayers that Kelsey Sutton is not force transfered to teach at another school.

Prayers for the Kofa-Monbo family and prayers that bad dreams stop happening for Sophia.

Prayers for Joe Crowley who is in the hospital with multiple health issues.

Farol Jenning asks for prayers with the word Jealousy.

JOY - Marina Jean celebrated her 18th birthday yesterday!

Prayers for Luoli Kulah as she continues to heal from knee replacement surgery and also for Sue Creevey.

**Continuing Prayers for:**

Martha & Wondor Korto Scott Meyer Cass Quigley Sheryl Duke Bresnan Family

David & Esther Clinton Betty Brzoza Victoria Somers Meghann Riley Jennifer

Prayers for our incoming Pastor Lori and our congregation.

**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!

 **LENTEN WEDNESDAY GATHERINGS**

**Wednesday’s during the Lenten season**

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

 **Noon – in church hall.**

**Pastor Randy will provide his homemade soup!**

 **Beverages and dessert will be provided.**

 **Video will be ready for viewing soon after.**

**TODAY - Sunday, April 13th - Palm Sunday!**

**Sunday Worship Service 10:30 AM.**

Join us for a service of lessons and hymns as we hear the Passion of Christ read and we respond in chorus.

All youth dismissed to classes after offertory.

**Thursday, April 17th - Maundy Thursday** **Worship 7:00 PM**

Join us for a service remembering the last supper that Jesus shared with His disciples. We will receive Holy Communion and share in the stripping of the altar. Please plan to attend, BECAUSE OF THE SOLEMNITY OF THIS SERVICE, IT WILL NOT BE RECORDED.

The term “Maundy” comes from the Latin “mandatum;” it is from a verb that means “to give” or “to order” — command. After Jesus and the disciples finished the Last Supper and walked toward Gethsemane, Jesus taught them a new commandment — “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another” (John 13:34).

On Maundy it is customary to “strip the altar,” which symbolizes the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples and the stripping of Jesus by the soldiers before his crucifixion. It represents the humiliation of Jesus and the consequences of sin as a preparation for the celebration of new life.

**Friday, April 18th - Good Friday Tenebrae Service 7:00 PM**

**Good Friday Tenebrae (Latin for “shadows” or “darkness”)**

Tenebrae is usually held the evening of Good Friday and includes the gradual dimming of the lights and extinguishing of candles. We hold this service in the back of our Church. Scriptures are read reminding us of the events of that week from the triumphant Palm Sunday entry through Jesus' burial. The Christ candle is removed from the sanctuary and a concluding loud noise symbolizes the earthquake and agony of creation at the death of Christ.

BECAUSE OF THE SOLEMNITY OF THIS SERVICE, IT WILL NOT BE RECORDED.

**Sunday, April 20th - Easter Sunday**

**Celebrate the Resurrection of Christ our Lord!**

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 AM

All youth dismissed to classes after offertory.

 **Women’s Fellowship Meeting**

 **Wednesday, April 23, 2025**

 **Noon**

 **All Women are invited!**

