

Toll free conference call number (844) 855-4444, access code 654132#

Worship will also be connected through Facebook Live



Worship

January 15, 2023, 11:15 am

+Stand as you are able

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Centering Music

+Call to Worship

L: Why are we here today? Why do we come to this place?

P: We are here to worship and praise the one who created us and loves us.

L: Why are we here today? Why do we come to this place?

P: We come to be the body of Christ, joined in heart, mind and spirit to those around us.

L: Why are we here today? Why have we come to this place?

P: To learn and to grow, so that we may take our joy and peace in God into the world, to share with everyone we meet.

Let us pray: **God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and in truth; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

+Hymn *Holy God We Praise Your Name* #460

Call to Confession

When we pass through deep waters or go through times of fiery trial, the Lord our God is with us. With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer, let us make our confessions.

Prayer of Confession

God of grace and truth, you have given us such gifts, more than we can even imagine; and they're right in front of us just waiting to be received. But the gifts you offer don't satisfy us because they don't fit into our expectation of how the world works. We look for material gifts; you offer us living water and the bread of life. We look for the path to an easy life; you offer us the life that never ends. Have mercy upon us, O God; help us to appreciate the spiritual gifts that you have to offer as much as the things of this earth that we love so much.

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: “God, who got you started in this spiritual adventure, shares with us the life of his son and our Master Jesus. He will never give up on you. Never forget that.” (I Corinthians 1:9, *The Message*)

P: By the grace of God we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Response of Praise *Awesome God 3x*

*Our God is an awesome God who reigns from heaven above
with wisdom power and love our God is an awesome God.*

Passing of the Peace

L: As God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another: the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us share the sign of the peace with one another.

Anthem

Hearing God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

We are here, O God, to hear your Word and know its meaning for our lives. Help us to be open to what you are saying to us, even when it’s hard, even when we don’t want to hear or know; help us to hear the Good News in all of your words. Amen.

First Reading I Corinthians 1:1-9 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymn *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* #438

Gospel Reading John 1:29-42 ²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³²And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.” ³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!”

³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated

means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

Sermon

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith *From “A Brief Statement of Faith”*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Offering Prayer

L: The earth is the Lord’s, and all that is in it,

P: The world, and those who live in it.

L: Heaven and earth are yours, O Lord,

P: and of your own we give you.

L: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; in the way of Jesus the Christ, who taught us to pray, saying: ***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.***

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

For the church, the world, and all in need, let us pray to the Lord, saying:

God of Grace, **Hear our prayer**

For leaders and people in every land, that they may know your way and do your will . . .

For justice throughout the world, that there may be peace and plenty for all . . .

For the earth you have made, that it may flourish in beauty and show your glory . . .

For all those who hunger and thirst, that they may be filled with good things . . .

For those who are ill or close to death, that they may know your loving care . . .

For those mentioned in our joys and concerns today...

Time for silent prayer...

Receive all these prayers, O God, in the tenderness of your mighty hand, and strengthen our hands to serve you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Taking the Word into the World

+Song *Arise, Your Light Is Come!* #411

Charge and Benediction

COMMUNITY OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 15, 2023

Pastor:

Rev. Sharon Carter
865-385-5003

Choir Director:

Jie Fang Goh

Admin Assistant:

Stephanie Class

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Scriptures for Sunday, January 22

Isaiah 9:1–4
Psalm 27:1, 4–9
1 Corinthians 1:10–18
Matthew 4:12–23

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Betty Murphy
Ruth Roeber
The McDermott family
Johanna Willis
The Kleier family
Jean Jennings' family
Emilee Walden
Kelly Montana
Lynda Jaeger
Ron Carlin
Ella Grace Marksberry

Worship Services

Join us for in person services at our new location at 710 Western Reserve Rd., Crescent Springs, KY. You can also worship with us online via Facebook Live, or by joining the conference call. Worship services begin at 11:15 am.

Cornerstone Meals

We'll be preparing and serving meals for Cornerstone in January. We'll cook on Monday, Jan. 16 and serve at Cornerstone on Tuesday, Jan. 17.

Annual Meeting

The annual congregational meeting will take place on Sunday, Jan. 22 following the morning's worship service. Please let Stephanie know if you would like an additional copy of the Annual Report sent to you (via mail or email).