

“I have one life and one chance to make it count for something. I’m free to choose that something ... my faith demands that I do whatever I can, wherever I can, whenever I can, for as long as I can.”

JIMMY CARTER
1924 - 2024
39TH PRESIDENT OF THE U.S.
BAPTIST PEACEMAKER

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD SUNDAY**



Crescent Hill
BAPTIST CHURCH

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD SUNDAY

10:45 AM

We gather to worship the Living God. In order to focus our hearts on this purpose, we ask that you silence all cell phones, alarm watches, and other electronic devices.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Noel* Louis Claude Daquin

GREETING Jordan S. Conley

THE WORK & WITNESS OF OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY

If you are a guest at Crescent Hill, consider filling out one of our connection cards in the pew rack in front of you, or scanning the QR code on the back of your worship folder. We'll reach out to connect about our community, one that we'd love for you to be a part of.

ENTRANCE INTO WORSHIP

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

INVOCATION

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to you we raise,
once revealed, when heaven's star
brought the wise men from afar:
Branch of royal David's stem
in your birth at Bethlehem,
Praises be to thee addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.

Stars shall fall and heavens fade,
sun and moon shall dark be made;
Christ will then like lightning shine,
all will see the glorious sign:
all will then the trumpet hear,
all will see the Son appear,
Praises be to thee addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.

Christopher Wordsworth, 1862; rev. 1982

God revealed at Jordan's stream,
prophet, priest and king supreme,
once revealed in power divine
changing water into wine:
Cana's holy wedding guest
keeping to the last the best,
Praises be to thee addressed,
God in flesh made manifest.

LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE: PEW BIBLE, 734 Jeremiah 31:7-14 Grady Throneberry

For thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back; I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path where they shall not stumble, for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock." For the LORD has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

*GOSPEL LESSON: PEW BIBLE, 2

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

*HYMN OF EPIPHANY 185

We Three Kings of Orient Are

KINGS OF ORIENT

We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, gladly raising,
worshiping God on high. **Refrain**

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. **Refrain**

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign. **Refrain**

Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
sounds through the earth and skies. **Refrain**

John H. Hopkins, Jr. 1857, alt.

WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

Welcome Home: The Home We Dream

Jordan S. Conley

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: God be with you

All: And also with you

One: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to God

One: Let us praise God together

All: Let us give God thanks and praise

One: As we share this bread and cup, we celebrate the presence of Christ among us and proclaim together:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Beginning with those seated at the back of the sanctuary, as directed by an usher, please come down the aisle to receive the bread and the cup with open hands. After you partake of the bread and cup at the altar, then return to your seat by way of the opposite aisle. If you do not wish to come forward, please raise your hand when your row is dismissed and we will serve you.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Moving into 2025 Hymns of Faith Medley:

Louie Bailey

Great Is Thy Faithfulness, How Firm a Foundation, We, O God, Unite our Voices

DISCIPLINE OF SILENCE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lisa Howser

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING OF OURSELVES, OUR TITHES, & OUR GIFTS

Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of Crescent Hill Baptist Church.

MUSICAL OFFERING

On This Day Earth Shall Ring
Chancel Ensemble; Louie Bailey, piano

PERSONENT HODIE

On this day earth shall ring
with the song children sing
to the Lord, Christ our King,
born on earth to save us;
him the Father gave us.

Id-e-o-o-o, id-e-o-o-o, id-e-o,
gloria in excelsis Deo!

*EPIPHANY DOXOLOGY

Glory Be to God on High

GLORIA

Glory be to God on high, to our Savior Christ the Son, to the Spirit, ever near.
Sing we to the Three-in-One: Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo. Amen.

Louie Bailey, 1994

*EPIPHANY PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jordan S. Conley

One: As a sign of our thankfulness we bring these gifts to you. Use them for the renewal of your creation.

All: Use us as your ministers of compassion and grace. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.

*INVITATION TO RESPOND

Crescent Hill is a welcoming community of faith. We invite those seeking baptism for the first time, or those seeking to join our fellowship from another faith community to come forward during the Hymn of Response. Rather than a place of guilt, we invite you to come forward to claim your identity as the beloved of God united in beloved community. Welcome home.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 181

As with Gladness Men of Old

DIX

As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright,
so, most gracious Lord,
may we evermore be led to thee.

As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.

As with joyful steps they sped
to that lowly manger bed,
there to bend the knee before
him whom heaven and earth adore,
so, may we with willing feet
ever seek the mercy seat.

Holy Jesus, every day
keep us in the narrow way;
and when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds thy glory hide.

William C. Dix, c. 1858, alt.

*BENEDICTION

Jordan S. Conley

POSTLUDE

Morning Reflections

Louie Bailey

*Worshippers are invited to rise, in body or spirit.

- Texts are reprinted by permission of CCLI License 1801331 and One License A718444.
- We invite those who wish to be baptized or join the church to share that decision with the church near the conclusion of worship. However, if you would prefer to explore baptism or church membership privately, the ministers would be glad to discuss those decisions with you following worship.

Today's Worship Leaders

Lisa Howser has lived in Louisville for nearly 40 years. She has two married daughters and six grandchildren! Lisa is passionate about books-both as a reader and throughout her career. After the loss of her husband Mike, four years ago, her faith has kept her sustained. Lisa joined CHBC in January of 2023 and in her own words she says, *"I have felt at home ever since, I have felt so warmly welcomed here."*

Grady Throneberry was a local police chief for 16 years until he recently retired. He also served as a bi-vocational associate pastor and earned a PhD in pastoral ministry. Grady and his husband, Devin, live in St. Matthews with their dog Reagan, enjoy a variety of arts events and venues, big screen movies, reading and travel. Grady writes regularly and is currently working on a second book.

Staff Contacts

Rev. Jordan Conley

Pastor

jordan@chbcky.org

Ann Cottone

Building Administrator

ann@chbcky.org

Rev. Dr. Louie Bailey

Minister of Music/Organist

louie@chbcky.org

Bobbe Crouch

Financial Secretary

bobbe@chbcky.org

Lillian Gordon

Communications Specialist

lillian@chbcky.org

Crescent Hill is an inclusive community of faith rooted in the Baptist tradition. We're a little different than other churches. We welcome all, regardless of race, age, creed, physical abilities, marital or economic status, gender identity, or sexual orientation. No matter where this day finds you, know that you are the beloved of God & there is space for you here...welcome home.



Find our live-stream online at *Crescent Hill Baptist Church*.



At most gatherings, an American Sign Language interpreter is at the front of the Sanctuary.

Our Partners in Ministry:





Crescent Hill
BAPTIST CHURCH
A Church for All People

What are you looking for?

That's the question Jesus asked in John's Gospel before inviting the disciples to,
"Come and see."

What are **you** looking for?

Crescent Hill Baptist Church is a **progressive community of faith**.
"A Church For All People", committed to practicing the radical love of Jesus Christ.



If you're looking for a place of belonging,
if you're looking for a community that cherishes

life as a gift,

a church that is committed to practicing the
radical hospitality of Jesus, then we invite you

to

"Come and See."

We wholly affirm that all of us
are beloved of God.

No exceptions.

So, what are **you** looking for?

Welcome Home.

Crescent Hill This Week

Highlands Latin School Discussion and Vote

On **Wednesday, January 22**, we will have additional time to discuss the HLS decision. **Then, we will hold a Called Ministry Forum on Sunday, January 26, 2024, immediately following the worship service.** The purpose of this forum is to vote on the renewal of the Highland Latin School lease. This decision is an important part of our ministry and stewardship, and we encourage all members to attend. Your voice and vote are vital as we consider this next step in our partnership. Please plan to stay and participate in this significant moment for our church community. We look forward to seeing you there! If you wish to have a copy of a document outlining the Church Council's recommendation about Highland Latin School, they are available in the church office. If you want a digital copy of this document, please email Ann Cottone at ann@chbcky.org.

January

19

9:30 AM

How We Resist: An Exploration of Resistance and Resilience

The Justice Center, part of the All Peoples Unitarian Universalist Congregation, aims to teach justice activism within the community. Join the initial conversation at All Peoples Congregation (4934 Brownsboro Road) to discuss the link between resilience and resistance, acknowledge current resistance efforts, and strengthen connections. The event is free and requires no registration. For more information, contact justicecenter@allpeoplesuu.com.

Refugee Family Donations Update

The social justice team no longer needs basic household supplies for the Congolese family they are sponsoring. However, household furniture is still needed. **If you are able to donate any furniture, please contact David Graves or Debbie Brashear. The family will be arriving on January 9, 2025.** If you wish to donate towards the first three months' rent (estimated at \$2500), please do so by making out a check to Crescent Hill Baptist Church and put "Social Justice Refugee Family" in the memo line. Thank you for your support as we collaborate with Kentucky Refugee Ministries to welcome this family!



Reading Group

Our next reading group discussion will be on **January 30, 2025**. We will spend December and January reading both *Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain and *James*, by Percival Everett. We will be comparing and contrasting these two books at our meeting. *James* is a retelling of the *Huckleberry Finn* story from the enslaved Jim's point of view. Join us for this unusual conversation. For more information, contact Bobbie Thomason (502)896-4149.

January

30

7:00 PM



Kentucky Refugee Ministries Coat Drive

We are now collecting new or gently used coats, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, boots, etc. for Kentucky Refugee Ministries. There will be a donation box located in Birchwood Lobby. All coat sizes for all ages will be accepted. Donations will be collected throughout January. Thank you!



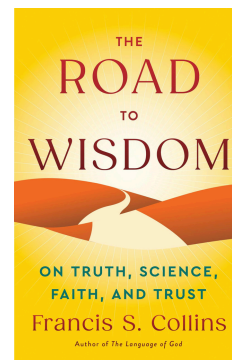
The Unlikely Saints Sunday School Class - New Book Series

January

5

9:30 AM

Victoria Ragsdell will lead the Unlikely Saints Sunday School class in a new book study series of, *The Road to Wisdom* by Francis S. Collins. **This series begins on January 5** and discussions of the four milestones—Truth, Science, Faith and Trust will follow on January 12, 19 and 26 and February 2. Starting February 9 Victoria will lead our discussions titled, “So What?” and “What’s Next?” Books can be purchased at Carmichaels, Amazon, Thrift Books, EBay and Audible. Summaries for each session which will be emailed and will be available in class. So, mark your calendars and invite friends to journey on the road with us! The Unlikely Saints Sunday School Class meets at 9:30 am in Room 211 across from the elevator on the second floor.



Weekly Prayer Concerns

We extend Christian sympathy to Edward Adamson and his family, upon the passing of his mother, Juanita Adamson. We pray for Terry Pound; Rickey Geary-Bayman; Eugina Robertson; Margot McCall Lehocky; Jose Chipe; Dr. Glenn Hinson; CJ Phipps; Betty Schnur; Judy Hodge; and, Lolly Tucker. Also, Rickey Geary-Bayman's friend, Monnie Farmer; Lisa Howser and Patti Speck's stepfather, Merrill Smith; Ann Cottone's father, John Revel; Annie Hammon's niece, Nancy; Adrienne Eisenmenger's grandmother, Betty Gorham; Kat Goodman's friend, Danny Campbell; Kay Sanders' friend, Sharon Wilson; Joyce Deboe's friend, Phyllis; Joelle Pope and, Kay Sanders' aunt, Kakai. For those affected by the conflict in Palestine & Israel. We pray for our CBF Field Personnel: Rick & Ellen Burnette, Steve Clark & Annette Ellard and Scarlett Jasper. We pray for healthcare workers, as well as school personnel and students. We pray for those affected by gun violence in our city and nation.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

December 2024 Projected Budget Offerings: **\$38,333**

Total December Offerings received (includes online giving through 12/12): **\$32,874**

Total December Revenue (includes online giving through 12/12): **\$34,693**

For Comparison:

December 2023 Budget Offerings received: **\$37,498**

Total Revenue for December 2023: **\$70,284**

We're glad
you're here

If you are a guest with us today and would like to let us know a little more about yourself, please take a moment to scan the QR Code.

