



LOVE TAKES OFF THE MASKS THAT WE FEAR WE CANNOT LIVE
WITHOUT AND KNOW WE CANNOT LIVE WITHIN

James Baldwin, The Fire Next Time

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 30, 2025**



Crescent Hill
BAPTIST CHURCH

MARCH 30, 2025

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
LAETARE - THE JOYFUL 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

Spring from the Four Seasons

Antonio Vivaldi

GREETING

Jordan 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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

All: Let this be the welcoming place, the place of return,

One: and let it be built by a love that bends towards those who return home.

All: For it is love that has been waiting,

like a candle in the window, ever lighting the way back, and never willing to let go,
the hope that each will return home.

Let this be the place where the response to love that has come to the end of its longing
is to feast and celebrate, send up balloons, and prepare the party,

All: For that which has been lost, has returned to be among us once more.

Thanks be to God.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Lord of the Dance

SIMPLE GIFTS

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the
earth,
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain: "Dance, then, wherever you may be;

I am the Lord of the Dance," said he.

"I'll lead you all wherever you may be,

I will lead you all in the Dance," said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and for John;
They came with me and the dance went on. **Refrain**

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame,
The holy people, they said it was a shame;
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me
high,

And they left me there on a cross to die. **Refrain**

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;

It's hard to dance with the devil on your back;

They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,

But I am the dance and I still go on. **Refrain**

They cut me down and I leapt up high,

I am the life that'll never, never die,

I'll live in you if you'll live in me;

"I am the Lord of the Dance," said he. **Refrain**

Sydney Carter, 1963

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jordan Conley

One: O Gracious God, who knows the deepest places of our hearts, forgive us when we forget we are
fearfully and wonderfully made.

All: Forgive us when we pretend you are not at the end of all of our searching.

**Remind us that your knowledge of us is wondrous. Continue to seek us out even as we seek
your face.**

Lynda Weaver-Williams, "Fourth Sunday in Lent," in The Abingdon Women's Preaching, Annual, Series 2, Year C

EXTINGUISHING THE FOURTH LENTEN CANDLE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Family of Faith, hear the good news and believe: Our God is a God of grace and transformation. May the God of mercy, who forgives all sin, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

All: Thanks be to God!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*GOSPEL LESSON: PEW BIBLE, 78

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Leslie Picken

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.' So he divided his assets between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to his senses he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. "Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

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

*HYMN OF REJOICING

We're Part of the Blessing

ASH GROVE

We're part of the blessing of God's new creation;
The world may not see it, but we know it's true.
For God in Christ Jesus has given salvation;
The old life is gone! God makes everything new!
We're part of the blessing, for we are God's
children.
We're loved and forgiven! We're welcomed back
home.
And now we are called to be part of God's kingdom,
To welcome the children God claims as his own.

We're part of the blessing of God's new creation;
As we have been welcomed, may we share God's grace.
There's no room for grumbling in God's gracious
kingdom;
There's no place to question God's loving embrace.
The outcast, the sinner, the poor, struggling mother,
The addict, the seeker, the one who is lost —
God welcomes them home and invites them to dinner —
God runs out to greet us through Christ and his cross.

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2016

A man had two sons and the younger said to him,
"I want my inheritance now! It is mine!"
His father divided the property with him;
That son spent it all and was soon feeding swine.
But then he remembered his father providing;
He thought he would beg to go home as a slave.
His dad saw him coming as he stood there waiting;
He ran out to greet him and welcome and save.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Corrie Hammons

MUSICAL REFLECTION

It Is Well with My Soul
Chancel Ensemble; Louie Bailey, conductor & piano

VILLE DU HAVRE
arr. Craig Courtney

WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

Letting Go of Shame

Jordan Conley

DISCIPLINE OF SILENCE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Michael Smith

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

O, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus
Darrell Adams, vocals & guitar

EBENEZER

*LENTEN DOXOLOGY

Beautiful Savior

CRUSADER'S HYMN

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine! Amen.

Joseph A. Seiss, 1873

*LENTEN PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jordan S. Conley

One: Gracious God, You speak of a promised day where swords will be beaten into plowshares and justice will roll down like a mighty stream. So we offer you these gifts in hopes that they might help bring about that day.

All: Use us and use these gifts for your good. Cultivate in us more generous hearts. 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 441

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

THOMPSON

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me;
see, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me? **Refrain**

Refrain: Come home, come home;
ye who are weary, come home;
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, O sinner, come home!

O for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,
pardon for you and for me. **Refrain**

Will H. Thompson, 1880

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Morning Reflections

Louie Bailey

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

- Cover: *Prodigal Grace*, By Lisle Gwynn Garrity. Inspired by Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32, alt, 2025.
- Call to Worship by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on *Mucky Paws*.
- 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

Michael Smith has been a member of CHBC since July 29, 2018. He grew up in Elizabeth, IN. He completed his undergraduate degree at Bellarmine University, with a bachelor's in Theology and minor's in Music and Psychology. He graduated from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary with a M. Div. in December 2017. CHBC ordained him to the Gospel ministry on October 31, 2021. Michael recently completed a residency in Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) with Norton Hospital. Michael loves singing, cooking, and reading in his spare time

Leslie Picken and her husband, Bob have been Louisville residents for over 4 years. Leslie serves on the Social Justice Team and Bob serves on the Finance Team. In her own words she says, *"I love this church. This building, these people, the Living Gospel being preached, the idea of the wide arms of Christ, I love it all. This is home."*



As winter comes to a close and we celebrate the arrival of spring, we are reminded to embrace new beginnings and release anything that may be hindering our connection with ourselves and with God. Join us this Lenten season as we nurture and grow together.

Staff Contacts

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Bobbe Crouch

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Lillian Gordon

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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:



WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

- 9:15 Coffee (Birchwood Lobby)
- 9:30 Sunday School
- Harbor Class (Second Floor)
 - Unlikely Saints Class (Room 211)
 - Agape Harmony Class (Parlor)
 - Barnabas Class (Library)
 - Inspire Class (4:30pm, homes of class members)
- 10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)
- 5:00 Divorce Recovery
- Pickleball (Gym)

MONDAY, MARCH 31

- 2:00 Staff Meeting (Parlor)
- 5:00 Pickleball (Gym)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

- 5:00 Fellowship Meal (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 Guided Prayer
- Frankfort Avenue Group
(Heritage Hall)
- 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Choir Room)

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

- 5:00 Pickleball (Gym)
- 5:45 Change of Heart (Heritage Hall)

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

- 5:00 Pickleball (Gym)

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

- 1:00 Terry Pound Memorial Service
(Sanctuary)

Thank you for Giving

Your gifts are making a difference in our church and our world. Below are several methods you can use to contribute financially to Crescent Hill. We appreciate your generosity. Get started or manage your giving at chbcky.org/give.



EASY. QUICK. SECURE.

Scan the QR Code with your smartphone camera to make an electronic contribution now.



ONLINE.

Schedule a recurring or one time gift charged to your debit or credit card. Get started at chhcky.org/give.



DONATE STOCKS.

Contact Bobbe Crouch in the church office to explore these options confidentially.



AUTOMATIC BANK PAY.

Log in at your bank's website and follow instructions to set up Crescent Hill Baptist Church as a new payee. The financial institution will send the church a check.



MAIL.

Send to Financial Secretary, Bobbe Crouch. Be sure to specify if your check is intended for the Unified Budget or another purpose.



TEXT.

Text "GIVE" to 502.237.7312 and follow the prompts.



FROM YOUR IRA.

For those over 70.5 years old, tax-free IRA gifts offer a huge financial benefit. Reach out to Bobbe Crouch to learn how this could reduce your future tax burden and fulfill your Required Minimum Distribution.



BWIM | MONTH OF **ADVOCACY**

March is Baptist Women in Ministry Advocacy Month! Throughout this month, BWIM invites us all to affirm, value and elevate Baptist women in ministry.

Crescent Hill Baptist Church has been a proud supporter of women in ministry for over 50 years. In fact, our church was the birthplace of Baptist Women in Ministry! In January of 1973, Betty Cook, Jane Kent, and Gaga Woodward were ordained as deacons at Crescent Hill. At the time, they were the first women to hold this position at CHBC and were only three of a handful of women deacons nationwide among Southern Baptists. This month we celebrate the past, present, and future of women thriving in any and all denominations.

April

5

1:00 PM

Celebrating the Life of Terry Wayne Pound

The celebration of life service for Terry Pound will be on **Saturday, April 5 in the Sanctuary at 1 PM**. There will be a reception following the service in Fellowship Hall. Please continue to hold Mitz Nabekura and all who loved Terry in your prayers.

Deadline Approaching

It's time to place orders for Easter lilies to adorn the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday! Order forms may be submitted in the offering plate or in the designated box in the church office. Checks can be made out to Crescent Hill Baptist Church with, "Easter Lily" in the memo line. Please submit payments in the offering plate on Sunday OR to Bobbe Crouch. There is also a Text-to-Give option if you wish to make a payment online. You may purchase flowers in honor, in memory or, in gratitude of a loved one or a friend. **Cost is \$23.00 each.** Flowers may be taken home following the Easter service. **All orders are due by Sunday, April 13.**



April

19

9:30 AM

Sign Up to Volunteer for Eggstravaganza



Bring the kids for some free family fun before the Frankfort Avenue Easter parade on **April 19, from 9:30am-11:30am!** Enjoy crafts, cookie decorating, face painting, a bounce house and other activities and games. Volunteers will need to arrive at 9 AM. Contact Melanie Bunger (melanie.bunger@twc.com, 435-6189) or Corrie Hammons (corriehammons@chbcky.org) if you are able to volunteer during this egg-stra special event! And stick around for the Easter parade on Frankfort Avenue!

Volunteers Needed for Upcoming Donation

While doing some 'spring cleaning' in the children's ministry closet, we stumbled upon dozens of sleeping bags! We plan to keep some for future use and will donate the surplus to organizations in need. **If you are able to assist in this effort by machine washing the extra sleeping bags before we donate them, that would be greatly appreciated!** All sleeping bags are located in the Youth Room. There will be signs in the Youth Room indicating which sleeping bags are clean and which sleeping bags still need to be washed. Please contact Corrie Hammons (corriehammons@chbcky.org) for more information!

WEDNESDAYS AT CRESCENT HILL

April 2

Menu (5 PM): Fried Chicken, Mac n Cheese, Green Beans, Biscuits, Potato Salad and a Dessert!

Program (6 PM): Guided Prayer

Choir Rehearsal is at 7:15pm in the Choir Room



Thank you for Adopting the Little Free Pantry!



March
Choir

April
Missions Response Team

May
Solidarity Class/ John Annett

While the sponsoring groups take the responsibility for stocking the pantry twice a week, the food collections every third Sunday help supplement their efforts! **If you have a group or team that is interested in adopting and stocking the Little Free Pantry for a month, please contact a member of the Missions Response Team!**

Weekly Prayer Concerns

We pray for Rickey Geary-Bayman; Eugina Robertson; Margot McCall Lehocky; Jose Chipe; CJ Phipps; Betty Schnur; Judy Hodge; and, Lolly Tucker. Also, Phyllis Skonicki's son, Jim Mahanes; Kerri Cheng's husband, Eric; 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; and Annie's brother, James Bellinger; Adrienne Eisenmenger's grandmother, Betty Gorham; Kat Goodman's friend, Danny Campbell; Kay Sanders' friend, Sharon Wilson; and Joyce Deboe's friend, Phyllis. 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

March 2025 Projected Budget Offerings: **\$38,333**

Total March Budget Offerings (through 03-11-25): **\$11,261.00**

Budgeted 2025 YTD Offerings: **\$460,000** (Still need: **\$396,609**)

Total March 2025 Revenue: **\$27,070**

For Comparison:

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

Total Revenue for March 2024: **\$61,310**

**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.

