

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD SUNDAY
JANUARY 4, 2026



Crescent Hill
BAPTIST CHURCH

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

GREETING

Grady Throneberry

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.

PRELUDE

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

Dietrich Buxtehude

How bright appears the Morning Star, with mercy beaming from afar; the host of heaven rejoices!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Grady Throneberry

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord dawns upon you!

All: We gather as people seeking your presence, O God, to be transformed into your light for the world!

*HYMN OF PRAISE 162

The First Noel

THE FIRST NOEL

LESSON FROM THE HEBREW BIBLE: PEW BIBLE, 734

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Devin Bundrent

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.

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

HYMN OF REFLECTION 181

As with Gladness Seers of Old

DIX

As with gladness seers 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 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.

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.

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.

At this time, all children are invited to meet their teachers for class at the back of the Sanctuary.

*GOSPEL LESSON: PEW BIBLE, 91

John 1:10-18

Jenny Payton

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

That's (NOT) a Wrap

Grady Throneberry

PREPARING FOR COMMUNION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leslie Picken

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

Star in the East

Traditional Appalachian Carol

Chancel Ensemble; Darrell Adams, guitar

arr. Laura Lea Duckworth

Refrain:

Hail the blest morn,
See the great Mediator,
Down from the regions of glory descend!
Shepherds, go worship the babe in the manger
Lo, for his guard the bright angels attend.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star in the east, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid. **Refrain**

Cold in his cradle the dew drops are shining;
Low lies his bed, with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore him, in slumbers reclining,
Wise men and shepherds before him do fall. **Refrain**

Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
Odours of Eden, and offerings divine,
Gems from the mountain, and pearls from the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest, and gold from the mine? **Refrain**
Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gold we his favor secure.
Richer by far is the heart's adoration:
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor. **Refrain**

*EPIPHANY DOXOLOGY

Old 100th

Louis Bourgeois

Praise God from whom all blessings flow/ Praise God, all creatures here below,/ Praise God above, all heavenly hosts;/ Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost./Amen.

COMMUNION CONFESSION

Grady Throneberry

God of mercy, we confess that though we have seen your guiding light, we have often chosen darkness or distraction. Forgive us for our failures to love you with our whole hearts, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Give us eyes to seek your light through all in our daily lives and work, and we may walk joyfully in your way, through Christ, the Light of the World. Amen

INVITATION TO THE TABLE & COMMUNION PRAYER

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. If you do not wish to come forward, please raise your hand when your row is dismissed and we will serve you.

COMMUNION MUSIC

All Glory Be to Christ

Mischke

Elizabeth Weaver, soprano; Darrell Adams, guitar

(His will be done, his kingdom come
on earth as is above
Who is himself our daily bread.
Praise him the Lord of love.
Let living water satisfy the thirsty without price.
We'll take a cup of kindness yet.
All glory be to Christ!

All glory be to Christ our King! All glory be to Christ.
His love and peace we'll ever sing.
All glory be to Christ!
Behold our God shall live with us
and be our steadfast light.
And we shall ere God's people be.
All glory be to Christ!

*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 190

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,
Word before the world began,
God revealed to us in all.

God revealed in valiant fight,
conquering the devil's might,
sins forgiven, sickness healed,
life restored and God revealed:
once revealed in gracious will
ever bringing good from ill,
Word before the world began,
God revealed to us in all.

Christopher Wordsworth, 1862

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,
Word before the world began,
God revealed to us in all.

BENEDICTION

Grady Throneberry

POSTLUDE

"How Brightly Shines the Morning Star," part five

Dietrich Buxtehude

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

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- 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.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

- 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)
- 12:00 Church Council Meeting
(Library)
- 5:00 Divorce Recovery

Pickleball (Gym)

MONDAY, JANUARY 5

- 5:00 Pickleball (Gym)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

- 6:00 Frankfort Avenue Group

(Heritage Hall)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

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

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 Treasurer, Eileen Bartlett 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 Treasurer, Eileen Bartlett. 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 Treasurer, Eileen Bartlett to learn how this could reduce your future tax burden and fulfill your Required Minimum Distribution.

Today's Worship Leaders

Devin Bundrent is an agent at Heyman Talent Agency, specializing in film and television. A Louisville native, Devin attended DuPont Manual High School and the University of Louisville (L1C4!), where he majored in Finance and French. Devin is passionate about the arts and has served on the boards of many local arts organizations. Devin began attending CHBC in 2021 as his second date with Grady Throneberry; the two were married in the sanctuary in May 2023. They live in Saint Matthews with their dog, Reagan, and love reading, tech, travel, theatre, and all things related to food!

Jenny Payton has been at CHBC all her life and is proud to call CHBC her home. She works with her husband in their glass blowing business. She has 3 children and a rescue doggie. In her free time she likes to cook, go road trippin' and spend time at the pool.

Leslie Picken and her husband, Bob have been Louisville residents for over 6 years. Leslie serves on the Social Justice Team and Bob serves on the Personnel 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."

Grady Throneberry was a local police chief for 16 years until he 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.

Elizabeth Weaver has been a member of CHBC since 2014. She attends the Reading Group and is a part of the choir and Church Council. She grew up in Southern Illinois, near St. Louis, and moved to Kentucky in 2006, when she started grad school at UK, where she met her husband, Dennis. She works as a mathematical copy editor, and in her spare time enjoys learning to play the guitar, reading, and traveling.

Staff Contacts

Laura Lea Duckworth
Interim Music Director
lauralea@chbcky.org

Ann Cottone
Operations Manager
ann@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:



Preaching Schedule for January 2026

This schedule may change if an interim pastor candidate is invited to preach in view of a call. If that occurs, the **Interim Pastor Search Team** will adjust the dates as needed and ensure the congregation receives adequate notice before the candidate's visit.

- **January 4:** Grady Throneberry
- **January 11:** Kelley Woggon
- **January 18:** Jason Crosby
- **January 25:** Brent Bowden

Kentucky Refugee Ministries Coat Drive

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



January

4

after worship

Volunteers Needed to Remove Decorations - Today!

Thank you to all those who helped prepare our Sanctuary for the Advent season! Now the new year is coming and the decorations must come down until Advent 2026. Please consider helping with this task **after church today, January 4.** Be sure to bring or order your lunch and we will spend some time in fellowship together before starting. Thank you in advance!



Add More Color to Your Advent!

Erin McGee Ferrell and MyCroft produced images for this year's Advent booklet. **There are copies of these in the Sanctuary and church office for you to take and color with pencils, watercolor, acrylics, etc.**

John Arnett and the Art Spirit group will collect these and display them in the Fellowship Hall in January during the Epiphany season. There is a space for your name but you can also submit your colored creations anonymously.



If you have a completed Advent coloring you would like the Art Spirit group to display, please place it in the Art Spirit mailbox with a yellow label located in the Church Office.

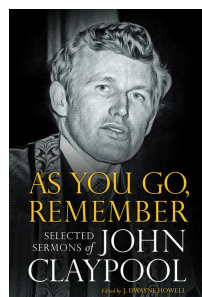
Unlikely Saints Sunday School Book Study

Dwayne Howell will be leading a study of his new book, *As You Go, Remember: Selected Sermons of John Claypool*, in the Unlikely Saints Sunday School class **beginning January 11 and going through February 1.** Find a copy at Carmichael's or online! Schedule of the book study will be published in the coming weeks. Anyone interested in this book study is invited to join!

January

11

9:30 AM



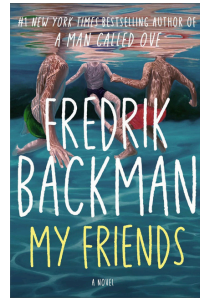
Reading Group - January 29

January

29

7:00 PM

Swedish writer, Fredrik Backman, will be featured in the January meeting of the Crescent Hill Reading Group on **Thursday, January 29**, in our parlor. Backman's most recent book, *My Friends*, displays his signature charm, humor, and attention to the poignant details of everyday life. This book is a stunning testament to the transformative, timeless power of art and friendship. If you have never read one of Backman's novels, you are in for a treat! We'd love for you to join us.



Little Free Pantry 2026 Adoptions

It's that time of year where Sunday School classes, Ministry teams, and this year we're adding Leadership Teams (Finance, Personnel, Church Council), and Choir/ Office Staff agree to adopt filling the Little Free Pantry for one month starting in January - September 2026. The schedule is to fill the LFP every Sunday of the month, then one time midweek throughout the month. Groups handle this service in various ways, including having members bring non-perishable food and hygiene products and different members pick a week. Also money donations are also welcome and the Missions Response Team will be glad to shop if needed. **If your team or group is interested in adopting the pantry, please inform Melanie Claypool or the Missions Response Team by February 1.**

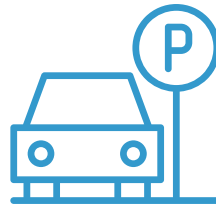
Item suggestions include:

- **Non-perishable foods**- pop-top soups, fruits and vegs, canned meats, peanut butter, mac and cheese, Ramen soup, cereal, granola bars, spices (basics), condiments, shelf-stable milk, juice boxes, etc.
- **Hygiene Items**- soap, toothbrush/toothpaste, deodorant, comb, hotel samples, feminine products, shampoo/conditioner, toilet paper, small bottles of laundry detergent and dish soap.
- **Diapers**- can be divided, wipes and other baby items, kid snacks
- **New socks, hats, gloves for cold weather (leave in packaging)**



Inner Parking Lot

We kindly ask that the inner parking lot be designated for individuals with disabilities or those requiring additional assistance on Sundays. We recognize that many may find themselves in this situation. Nevertheless, if you feel capable, we encourage you to utilize one of our other parking lots if possible.



Weekly Prayer Concerns

If you have a care need or prayer request that you would like the church to remember, please contact the Congregational Care Team at **(502) 882-0992, congregationalcare@chbcky.org**.

We pray for the CHBC Interim Pastor Search Committee

We pray for Greg Robertson; Tom Doyon; Madge Roberts; Marjorie Ash; Carolyn Seiffertt; Corinne Holt; Donnie Murphy; Blake Ragsdell; Eugina Robertson; Margot McCall Lehocky; Jose Chipe; CJ Phipps; Betty Schnur; Judy Hodge; and, Lolly Tucker. Also, Greg Robertson's aunt, Joyce Ann Robertson Berentz; Kerri Richardson-Cheng's friend, Jennifer Toll; Anna Bowden's sister, Cassie Hyde; Kat Goodman's friend, Danny Campbell; Ann Cottone's father and brother, John Revel and Johnny Revel; Annie Hammon's niece, Nancy; and Annie's brother, James Bellinger; 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.

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.

