

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 1, 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

Victoria Ragsdell

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 in which you would be very welcome.

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.

Please make your way back to your seat once the Choir begins singing.

GATHERING SONG

Spirit of Life

Carolyn McDade

Spirit of Life, come unto me. Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea; move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free; Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In our Lenten journey, we come to you, O God.

All: As Jesus confronted the wilderness, we confront our own wilderness.

Leader: Wilderness that can be both beautiful and discomfoting.

All: Open our eyes to the beauty of our wilderness. Stay with us in our confusion and discomfort.

Leader: We search for your presence.

All: Your presence is constant; in beauty, in desolation, in loneliness, and in companionship.

Leader: Open our eyes to see you everywhere.

All: Open our hearts to receive your ever-present love.

*HYMN OF PRAISE 701

God is Here

BEECHER

God is here! As we God's people meet
to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share:
here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace,
here are table, font and pulpit,
here the cross has central place:
here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence as in speech,
here in newness and renewal
God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here, as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old;
here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel,
help us work your purpose out;
here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we who cannot live without you,
we adore you! we believe.

Fred Pratt Green, 1979

I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day nor the moon by night. The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

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

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

Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

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

WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

Seeing is Communal

*HYMN OF REFLECTION 557

Open My Eyes That I May See

SCOTT

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key,
that shall unclasp and set me free.

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
and while the wave-notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear. **Refrain**

Refrain

Silently now I wait for Thee,
ready, my God, Thy will to see;
open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart, and let me prepare
love with Thy children thus to share. **Refrain**

Clara H. Scott, 1895

LITANY OF RESPONSE

Doug Lowry

Leader: Holy God, in this season of Lent, reorient our hearts to your presence.

All: Open our eyes to see you in our world, in the faces of others, and in our own hearts.

Leader: As you drew Jesus into the wilderness, draw us into prayer;

All: Slow us down, quiet our noise, and teach us to listen, that we may be led closer to you in love.

Leader: As you invite us to self-discipline, loosen the grip of our cravings.

All: Train us to want what we truly need, not what we crave, that your desires for us become our own.

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

All: And renew a right spirit within us.

SILENCE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 & ALMSGIVING FOR LENT

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

MUSICAL OFFERING

Unto Thee I Cry, O Lord Jesus

Marcel Dupree

*LENTEN DOXOLOGY

Tallis Canon

Thomas Tallis

We give these gifts, O God, to you, The Source of All, ancient and new, These blessings we return to Thee O Source of Love and Charity.

COMMUNION CONFESSION

Dr. Lewis Brogdon

God of mercy and of grace, 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 in our daily lives and work, and strengthen us to follow the way of Jesus in this world, that our lives may be lights to others, through Christ, our Lord.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Carl Schalk

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of my salvation, and uphold me with thy free Spirit.

*INVITATION TO RESPOND

Dr. Lewis Brogdon

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 634

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDA

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty –
hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

William Williams, 1775

Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

BENEDICTION

Dr. Lewis Brogdon

POSTLUDE

If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee

J. S. Bach

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

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Today's Worship Leaders

Doug Lowry, aka PlantaClaus, is a seminary-trained, former hospital administrator who serves as an inspired teacher, group facilitator, urban farmer, and organizational development consultant. He has attended CHBC since 2014. Passionate about connecting spirituality to social justice and human need, he has worked as a change agent on numerous civic and nonprofit projects, from LGBTQ fairness and racism to aging and health care to not-for-profit excellence and from public K-12 education to food security and environmental sustainability. As an artist, photographer, plant lover, and writer, he seeks to add beauty, insight, and meaning along the way

Amy Pierce is from Georgetown, Indiana but now lives in New Albany. She has 5 children and lots of grandkids! Amy has worked in the Commercial Insurance Brokerage space for over 30 years; she is currently at Brown & Brown of Kentucky, Inc. In her free time, Amy enjoys music, sports, traveling, hiking, crafts and art – she has even done several murals. In her own words she says, “I am thrilled to be a member here at Crescent Hill Baptist Church. This is the path I have chosen and a place I feel like I BELONG.”

Victoria Ragsdell is a psychologist in private practice. She is a member of the Unlikely Saints Sunday school class and the CHBC Writers Group. Her and her husband, Blake have three children, Beth, Ben and Athena.

Staff Contacts

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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:



Embracing Almsgiving this Lenten Season

Lent often evokes thoughts of “**giving up**” something, or “**adding**” practices to improve daily life. However, Lent is also a time for **almsgiving and charity**. It’s about showing love to others not just through words, but through our actions.

For Lent 2026, CHBC is focusing on incorporating almsgiving into our spiritual practices by collecting essential items for refugee families supported by Kentucky Refugee Ministries. Our Social Justice Team is already engaged in assisting two families and encourages everyone to join in this effort.

We can accept this invitation by weekly filling the empty baskets around the sanctuary table with specific needed supplies.

**MARCH
1**

Cleaning Supplies/Paper Products:

Toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, dish and laundry soaps, all purpose cleaners, scrubbing/cleaning cloths, broom/mop, etc.

**MARCH
8**

Baby Supplies:

Diapers (infant to toddler), wipes, burp cloths, lotions/creams, baby shampoo, baby body wash etc.
Please do not bring clothing.

**MARCH
15**

Personal Hygiene Items:

Shampoo/conditioner, feminine products, deodorant, hand/body soap, toothbrush/toothpaste, hand sanitizer, hair brush/combs, wash cloths, etc.

**MARCH
22**

Kroger/ Walmart Gift Cards:

Any number of cards but limit each card to \$10. If you prefer, you can give funds to Alice or Darrell Adams, Leslie Picken, Debbie Brashear, and we will purchase the gift cards.

**MARCH
29**

Palm Sunday

Heartfelt Letters:

Notes and cards of welcome and/or encouragement for the families as well as KRM staff. Please print your message.

**APRIL
5**
Easter Sunday

Flowers:

For KRM families / staff; CHBC homebound members, etc. Be on the lookout for more information about flowers.

Embracing Almsgiving This Lenten Season - Donations for KRM

For Lent 2026, CHBC is focusing on incorporating **almsgiving** into our spiritual practices by collecting essential items for refugee families supported by Kentucky Refugee Ministries. Our Social Justice Team is already engaged in assisting two families and encourages everyone to join in this effort.



There will be a designated time during each service to bring your offerings of love and support in the form of necessary supplies forward and place them in the baskets.



Please view the previous page for the complete Lenten donation schedule for Sundays during Lent.

- **March 1:** Cleaning supplies and paper products (e.g., toilet paper, laundry soaps).
- **March 8:** Baby supplies.

March

3

12:00 PM

Game Day - March 3

Roll the dice and practice your poker face for game day! Meet in the parlor **Tuesday, March 3 at 12pm**. Be sure to bring your lunch and your favorite games!



We Need Your Help with Wednesday Night Meals

Help is needed in the following ways for Wednesday Fellowship Meals:

- Setting up
- Serving
- Side dishes



- Salad
- Dessert
- Clean up



If you are interested in helping, please list your name, contact information, what you can help with and how often you can help to Margaret McCollum (502-541-9790, mernst7591@gmail.com).

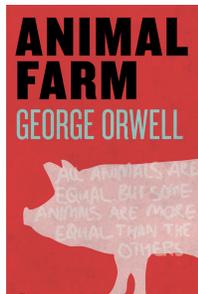
Reading Group - March 26

March

26

7:00 PM

Our reading group will be meeting on **Thursday, March 26 at 7 PM** to discuss *Animal Farm* by George Orwell. This 1945 allegorical novella satirizes the rise of stalinism by telling the story of farm animals who overthrow their human farmer. It critiques totalitarianism, corruption, propaganda and the manipulation of truth - solidifying it as a classic political fable. All are invited to join us! Contact: Bobbie Thomason (bobbijt@icloud.com).



BWIM | MONTH OF
ADVOCACY

Baptist Women in Ministry Advocacy Month is a time to affirm, value, and elevate Baptist women in ministry. This work has deep roots at Crescent Hill Baptist Church—a community that has championed women in ministry for over 50 years.

Throughout this month, BWIM invites us all to continue uplifting the voices, gifts, and leadership of women in ministry.

WEDNESDAYS AT CRESCENT HILL

March 4

Menu (5 PM): Breakfast for Dinner!

Program (6 PM): Prayer Meeting

Choir Rehearsal (7 PM) in the Choir Room

Please RSVP to the Church Office
(churchoffice@chbcky.org) by
Monday, March 2 @ 4PM.
Suggested Donation: \$10



You are Invited to Dinner in March! - RSVP by March 13

The Congregational Care Team is inviting YOU to dinner! Beginning in March, six families are hosting meals at their respective homes, and the guest list will be a surprise!

We are asking folks to sign up, be prepared to bring a dish to share (hosts provide main course) and enjoy an evening with people in the pews you may or may not know. We will be assigning participants to a home; the host will contact you with details, and then all you have to do is show up and settle in for a good time. This is an opportunity to share your stories, laugh, eat, and grow closer to one another as an associate of this Beloved Community. You do NOT have to be a member to attend. Friends are most welcome, in fact, we hope you do bring friends.



We are offering three dates: March 20th, March 21st, and March 22. We ask you sign up, rank your preference and let us know if you have any food or pet allergies. Please submit this information to Leslie Picken (lesliepick@yahoo.com or 734-904-0881) no later than March 13th.

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 extend Christian sympathy to Derek Inghram and his family upon the passing of his grandmother.

We pray for June Bailey; Eh Thaw Thaw; Jane Rose-Zupetz; Ron Horn; Stephen R. Holt; Jerry and Sharon Smith; Tom Doyon; Marjorie Ash; Carolyn Seiffert; Corinne Holt; Donnie Murphy; Eugina Robertson; Margot McCall Lehocky; Jose Chipe; CJ Phipps; Betty Schnur; Judy Hodge; and, Lolly Tucker. Also, Amy Pierce's brother, Nicky Hill; 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, John 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 Scarlette 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.

