

CRESTWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Advent is a season of both quiet reflection and joyful expectation. This service is intended to be a time of spiritual preparation, as we watch and wait for the coming of the Kingdom of God. Through our experience of sacred Word and music, the story of the coming of Christ gradually unfolds and deepens our understanding of God's message of love and redemption. May these words and this music propel you quietly toward the true joy of Christmas.



December 18, 2022
8:30 & 10:45 AM

Welcome to Crestwood!
We are glad you have joined us for worship.
We hope your time with us is meaningful and that you return soon.

Our Vision

Connecting People to God and Each Other

Our Mission

Crestwood Christian Church connects people to God and each other
by being a community that welcomes and accepts all people;
invites questions about how faith and life intersect;
encourages people to take the next step in their spiritual journey;
cares for each other and the stranger;
and serves God through serving others.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18, 2022

8:30 & 10:45 AM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you are visiting with us, we'd love to hear from you. And if you have a prayer concern, we will be glad to add it to our prayer list. Please fill out the Connection Card on the back of the pew in front of you or contact the church office for more information.

PRELUDE

Jesus Child

arr. John Rutter

We invite you to use this time for quiet prayer and preparation for worship.

Have you heard the story that they're telling 'bout Bethlehem,
Have you heard the story of the Jesus child?
How he came from heaven and was born in a manger bed?
Mary was his virgin mother pure and mild.
Sing alleluia, brothers, sing alleluia, sisters,
Worship the Jesus child and praise his mother mild.
"Glory to God on high" the angel hosts above are singing:
Listen to the story of the Jesus child.
Have you heard the story of the poor humble shepherd men,
Sitting on the hillside with their flocks at night?
Suddenly the angel tells them: "Hurry to Bethlehem;
Go and find the Jesus child, the world's new light."
Jesus child, lying at Bethlehem, Sleeping safe at Mary's knee,
Save my soul and bring me to paradise,
Let me join the angels singing glory to thee.
Have you heard the story of the kings from the Orient,
Following the star that's shining over his head?
Offering their precious gifts of gold, myrrh and frankincense,
Kneeling with the ox and donkey before his bed?
Brothers, let us celebrate the birth of the Jesus child,
Sisters, come and welcome him, the newborn King;
Praise the Lord who sent him down from heaven at Christmas time;
Young and old and rich and poor, his praises sing.
Sing alleluia, brothers, sing alleluia, sisters,
Worship the Jesus child and praise his mother mild.
Glory to God on high the angel hosts above are singing:
Listen to the story of the Jesus child.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are getting closer to Bethlehem.

All: **Our anticipation is growing!**

Leader: Christ is closer to being born again.

All: **We can't wait to see what he is bringing.**

Leader: Love, grace, compassion, forgiveness.

All: **Hope, comfort, joy, resurrection.**

Leader: Today we proclaim the goodness of God.

All: **Let us worship God through the gift of music.**

**Please stand as you are able.*

***HYMN**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Congregation Sings on Verses 1 and 4

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH the Hughes family (8:30 AM); the Thompson family (10:45 AM)

CHILDREN'S TIME (10:45 AM only)

After Children's Time, three-year-olds through grade two may leave for children's worship.
After worship, parents may pick up their children in the Children's Wing.

THE BIDDING PRAYER AND 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERTORY

What Sweeter Music

arr. John Rutter

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heav'nly King? Awake the voice! Awake the string!
Dark and dull night, fly hence away, and give the honour to this day
That sees December turn'd to May, that sees December turn'd to May.
Why does the chilling winter's morn smile, like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly shorn thus on the sudden?
Come and see the cause, why things thus fragrant be:
'Tis he is born, whose quick'ning birth gives life and lustre, public mirth,
To heaven and the underearth.
We see him come, and know him ours, who, with his sunshine and his show'rs,
Turns the patient ground to flow'rs, turns all the patient ground to flow'rs.
The darling of the world is come, and fit it is, we find a room to welcome him.
The nobler part of all the house here, is the heart,
Which we will give him; and bequeath this holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do him honour; who's our King, and Lord of all this revelling.
What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heav'nly King, the birth of this our heavenly King.

READING

Matthew 1:18-23

CAROL

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

arr. John Rutter

Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and man is bless'd for evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

HYMN

The First Nowell

arr. John Rutter

Congregation sings on verses 1, 3, 5, and 6

**The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep;
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel!**

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel!

**And by the light of that same star, three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel!**

This star drew nigh to the northwest; o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel!

**Then entered in those wise men three, full rev'rently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence their gold and myrrh and frankincense;
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel!**

**Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught, and with his blood mankind hath bought.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel!**

READING

Luke 2:1-7

CAROL

Away in a Manger

arr. John Rutter

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.
Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

READING

Luke 2:8-16

CAROL

Shepherd's Pipe Carol

John Rutter

*Going through the hills on a night all starry on the way to Bethlehem,
Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping on the way to Bethlehem.
Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King is come to bring us
Peace on earth, and he's lying cradled there at Bethlehem."
"Tel me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily on the way to Bethlehem,
Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely on the way to Bethlehem?"
"None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely on the way to Bethlehem;
But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies when I get to Bethlehem."
Angels in the sky came down from on high,
Hovered o'er the manger where the babe was lying
Cradled in the arms of his mother Mary, sleeping now at Bethlehem.
"Where is this new King, shepherd boy piping merrily, is he there at Bethlehem?"
"I will find him soon by the star shining brightly in the sky o'er Bethlehem."
"May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily, come with you to Bethlehem?
Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle, is it far to Bethlehem?"
Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the infant King
is born this night in lowly stable yonder, born for you at Bethlehem."*

READING

Matthew 2:1-11

CAROL

Three Kings of Orient

John Rutter

Lloyd Mallory, tenor; Doug Hutcherson, baritone; Elijah Geary, bass

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star:
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.
Born a king on Bethlehem plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign:
Frankincense to offer have I, incense owns a Deity nigh,
Prayer and praising, all men raising, worship him, God most high:
Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone cold tomb:
Glorious now behold him arise, King, and God, and sacrifice!
Heav'n sings alleluia: Alleluia earth replies:
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

READING

John 1:1-5, 14

CAROL

Go, Tell It On the Mountain

arr. John Rutter

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.
While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.
The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.
Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And brought us God's salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION FROM SCRIPTURE

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Two Christmas Carols
Jazmin Salaberrios, soprano

John Jacob Niles

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Those desiring to make their confession of Faith in Christ or to place their membership in this church are invited to come forward as we sing the closing hymn.

HYMN

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

arr. John Rutter

**Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies,
With th'angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King.**

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come offspring of a virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King.**

**Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King.**

***THE ADVENT BLESSING**

The Lord be with you
And also with you
Let us pray

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only Son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

May he who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Chorale Fantasy on "In Dulci Jubilo"

J.S. Bach

Thank you to our talented musicians:

Flute: Grace Hughes, Kathleen West; **Oboe:** Mia Quintana, Allison Weitkamp; **Clarinet:** Adria Sutherland, Scott Wright;
Bassoon: Alexis Cerise; **Horn:** David Elliott, Joanna Filkins; **Trumpet:** Jeffrey Barrington, Andrew McGrannahan;
Trombone: Phil Kent, Joel Lovan; **Bass Trombone:** Doug Oatley; Harp: Carolyn Dupont; **Violin:** Amanda Dudgeon, Lydia Elam, Julie Foster, Sara Francis, Julie Lastinger, JoonWoo Park; **Viola:** Jonathan Crosmer, Dale Jones; **Cello:** Clyde Beavers, Pono Santos Fike; **Bass:** Sue Lucas

ALL-CHURCH CHRISTMAS DINNER

TODAY AT 5 PM

All are invited as we join together for a church family dinner and Christmas carol singing. We will have an Italian feast! All food will be prepared by a new member who is also a trained chef. Please plan to be a part of this meal as we connect and celebrate.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

TUESDAY, DEC. 20, 6 PM

Join us as we spread holiday cheer to some of our neighbors! We'll depart from Crestwood at 6 PM. The whole family is invited to be part of the singing! Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to attend.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 21, 6 PM

The Stephen Ministers invite you to a service acknowledging and seeking the light that comes into the darkness. A soup supper will be served at 5:30 PM. Please join us Wednesday, Dec. 21.

Christmas Eve	
Saturday, December 24	
5:00 PM	Children's Service
7:00 PM	Candlelight Service
10:30 PM	Organ Prelude
11:00 PM	Candlelight Service

Christmas Day	
Sunday, December 25	
Join us at 11 AM for a family-friendly worship service as we throw a birthday party for Jesus and say "Aloha!" to the Son born to us this special morning.	
Everyone is welcome to wear their pajamas.	
Hope to see you there!	

THE WARMTH OF THE SEASON

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our angel tree program! For those who would like to participate, we are decorating the angel trees with scarves, hats, and mittens through Jan. 1. All winter care clothing will be donated to local charities. Please join us in sharing the warmth of Christ's love.

CRESTWOOD CRASH COURSE

SUNDAYS IN JANUARY

Are you new to Crestwood and would like more information about the church? Or have you been here awhile and want a refresher on this wonderful congregation? Join us in January for our Crestwood Crash Course! During these three weeks you'll learn all you ever wanted to know about Crestwood...and maybe some things you didn't even know you wanted to know! Everyone is welcome to join us for these classes. We'll meet at 4 PM in the Bradford Room.

Jan. 22 – A church on the outskirts of Lexington: The history of Crestwood

Jan. 29 – Who runs the church? Governance and decision-making at Crestwood

Feb. 5 – How do I get involved? The programs and ministries of Crestwood

JANUARY SERMON SERIES

JESUS IS PREACHING!

Wouldn't you like to hear a sermon from Jesus? Well...you can! Starting Jan. 8 and continuing through February, our sermon series will focus on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's gospel. This sermon covers everything from who God blesses to how to deal with your enemies to whether or not you should worry. Jesus has some amazing things to say, so make plans to worship with us in the new year!

Jan. 8 Who is Blessed?

Jan. 15 Salty Christians

Jan. 22 Logs and Splinters

WHAT'S COMING UP AT CRESTWOOD

December 18, 2022

Sunday, December 18

- 8:30 AM Advent Lessons & Carols
- 9:30 AM Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
- 10:45 AM Advent Lessons & Carols
- 4:00 PM Combined Youth Christmas Party
- 5:00 PM All-Church Christmas Dinner

Tuesday, December 20

- 11:00 AM DWM Naomi Circle
- Patsy Anderson's Home
- 6:00 PM Christmas Caroling
- depart from Crestwood at 6PM

Wednesday, December 21

- 10:00 AM DWM Dorcas Circle - Chalice Hall
- 1:00 PM Bible Study - Bradford Room
- 6:00 PM Longest Night Service - Sanctuary

Thursday, December 22

- 11:00 AM Bible Study - Bradford Room

Friday, December 23

- 11:30 AM Fun + Lunch = FUNCH

Saturday, December 24 [CHRISTMAS EVE]

- 5:00 PM Children's Service - Sanctuary
- 7:00 PM Candlelight Service - Sanctuary
(live-streamed)
- 10:30 PM Organ Prelude
- 11:00 PM Candlelight Service - Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25 [CHRISTMAS DAY]

- 10:00 AM Choir Practice
- 11:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

Monday, December 26 through

Monday, January 2

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
FROM DEC. 26 TO JAN. 2

Sunday, January 1 [NEW YEAR'S DAY]

- 11:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Elders

- 8:30 AM Dan Pence
- 10:45 AM David Miller

Joys and Concerns

MEMBERS: Joe Clark, Dick Featherston, Jo Fulkerson, Fay Issacs, Fran McKinney, Jeanna Ott, Estee Riling and family, the family of Brad Rister, Mary Janice Towles

FAMILY: **Walter Finger** (father of Joanne Brown), **Danny Lee Meyers** (brother of Jeanna Ott), **the family of Makenzie Harlin** (great-niece of Jason Taylor), **Jim Wallace** (of Steph & Scott Wallace), **Lois Waltrip** (stepmother of Connie Guilfoil), **Anisa Willis** (daughter-in-law of Rose Willis), **Virginia Wiseman and family** (mother of David Wiseman)

FRIENDS: **Billie Jean Glass** (of Crestwood), **Beth Hoffmann** (of Crestwood), **the family of Foster Ockerman Jr.** (of Crestwood), **Linda Owens** (of Kimberly Sparks)

ARMED FORCES: **Anar Aliyev** (of Crestwood), **Paul Baird** (grandson-in-law of Minva Hodgins), **Karlis Bowman** (nephew of Debbie Bowman Gardner), **Matt Holman** (son of Gaye Holman), **Daniel Day** (grandson of John and Carol Royse and son of Tracy Day), **Bud DeLacey** (nephew of Matt and Michelle DeLacey), **Zoe McIntyre** (granddaughter of John Sims), **Ashlyn Marra-Sigler** (daughter-in-law of Pam Sigler), **Daniel Sigler** (son of David and Pam Sigler), **Dalcus Sparks** (nephew of Andrea Back)

HEART-TO-HEART MEMBERS: Jean Aspley, Karen Billings, Lucy Booker, Margaret Buchanan, Joe Clark, Faye Cooper, Jacqueline Lindsey, Betty Shanklin, John Sims, John & Carolyn Thomas, Mary Janice Towles

OUR WORLD COMMUNITY: We pray for the victims and loved ones impacted by all forms of violence, inmates of the Fayette County Detention Center and their families, for an end to the war in Ukraine, for the peace of God to rule in the hearts of our local and national leaders, for those affected by COVID and natural disasters, and for God's spirit of reconciliation to bring healing during these difficult times.

Our Church Staff

Rev. Kory Wilcoxson, Senior Minister
Rev. Trish Standifur, Associate Minister
Steph Wallace, Student Associate Minister
Missy Wallace, Children's Minister

Jennifer Smith, Office Administrator
Jim Cristi, Facilities Manager
Frank Spragens, Music Director
Cindy Abernathy, Pianist

Jane Johnson, Organist
Tara Monzon, PDO Director
Amber Combs, Childcare Center Director

Crestwood Christian Church

1882 Bellefonte Drive • Lexington, KY 40503 • (859) 266-0459
office@crestwoodchristian.org • www.crestwoodchristian.org