

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 8, 2024

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
worship with us again 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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2024

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

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

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 ass 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: Long ago the people were given a sign of God's presence.

**All: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"
which means "God is with us."**

Leader: God's promise to us remains sure and true. God's Anointed One will soon walk among us to lighten our darkness, to restore the joy of our salvation, to save us from our sins.

All: Let us worship the God of new births and rebirths, manglers and empty tombs.

*HYMN

**O Come, O Come Emmanuel
(congregation sings on vs. 1 and 4)**

VENI EMMANUEL

**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

(8:30 AM)
(10:45 AM)

Bonnie Huddleston and Kay McLean
The Ruddy family

CHILDREN'S TIME (10:45 AM only)

After Children's Time, three-year-olds through second grade 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 SHARE 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 and 6, men only sing on verses 3 and 5; all sing on each refrain

**(All) 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;
Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel!**

(Choir) 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. *Refrain*

**(Men) 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. *Refrain***

(Choir) 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. *Refrain*

**(Men) 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. *Refrain***

**(All) 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. *Refrain***

READING

Luke 2: 1-7

Orchestra

Violins

Gretchen Tucker
Meg Saunders
Kristen Klein
Julie Baker
Julie Lastinger
Julie Foster
Sara Francis
Aaron Breck

Bass

Sue Lucas

Harp

Carolyn Dupont

Flutes

Kathleen West
Emma King

Bassoon

Joshua Cohen

Horns

Joanne Filkins
Melanie Kjellsen

Trumpets

David Hummel
Andrew McGranahan

Violas

Dale Jones
Nancy Campbell

Oboes

Allison Weitkamp
Kim Heersche

Trombones

Steve McCallum
Phil Kent

Cellos

Clyde Beavers
Pono Santos Fike

Clarinets

Scott Wright
Adria Sutherland

Bass Trombone

Doug Oatley

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES ***Tuesday, Dec. 24***

5:00 PM Children's Service

7:00 PM Candlelight Service
(live-streamed)

10:30 PM Organ Prelude

11:00 PM Candlelight Service



ANGEL TREE THANK YOU

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 January 1. All winter care clothing will be donated to local charities. Please join us in sharing the warmth of Christ's love.

"PARKING LOT PAGEANT" CHRISTMAS PLAY Sunday, December 15, 4:30 PM

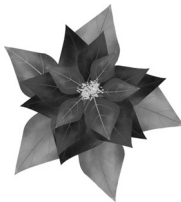
Join us for our "Parking Lot Pageant" Christmas pageant presented by Crestwood children and youth. Our all-church Christmas dinner will immediately follow the program.



POINSETTIA ORDERS Payments due December 15



Each plant costs \$10. Call the office to place an order (859-266-0459) or use the QR code to sign up. The Poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary by December 22. If you are purchasing a plant, you are welcome to take it home after the Christmas Eve services.



CHRISTMAS CAROLING Wednesday, December 18, 6:30 PM



Join us as we spread holiday cheer to some of our neighbors and church members! We'll depart from church at 6:30 PM and share in some hot chocolate and fellowship when we're done. The whole family is invited to be part of the singing!

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE Saturday, December 21, 4:30 PM

We are approaching the Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year. Memories of lost loved ones and the



pain of present experiences and situations can become overwhelming. While the holidays are supposed to be full of joy, some of us experience sadness, grief, or anxiety. You are not alone. The Stephen Ministers invite you to a service acknowledging and seeking the LIGHT that comes into the darkness. Please invite friends to join you.

ADVENT SERMON SERIES

We've entered into one of the most holy times of the year, the season of Advent. We have turned our eyes toward Bethlehem, as we listen again to the timeless story of Jesus' birth. But which story? You know, there are two different versions of it in the Bible. And two of the Gospels don't even talk about Jesus' birth at all! For our Advent sermon series we're going back to the beginning of each gospel to see how they start and how they tell the story of the birth of Jesus...if they tell it at all! Join us for our "In the Beginning" sermon series during the season of Advent.

December 15 - Matthew and Luke - Who's Right?

December 22 - John - Bigger than a Baby

THE KENTUCKIANS CHORUS CONCERT

Tuesday, December 10, 7:30 PM

The Kentuckians Chorus will provide us a free preview of their Christmas show! Join us for great music and some laughs. This is their "Thank You" for our letting them use our space for rehearsals.

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

arr. 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."
"Tell 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 in Bethlehem."

READING

Matthew 2:1-11

CAROL

Three Kings of Orient

John Rutter

Keshawn Coleman, tenor; Doug Hutcherson, baritone, Maximus Taylor, 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

O Holy Night

Pharel Silaban, tenor

arr. John Rutter

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till he appeared, and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! Oh hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born.
Led by the light of faith serenely beaming
With glowing hearts by his cradle we stand;
So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here came the wise men from the Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our friend;

He knows our need, to our weakness no stranger;
Behold, your King! Before him lowly bend!
Truly he taught us to love one another;
His law is love and his Gospel is peace.
Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother,
And in his Name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise his holy Name.
Christ is the Lord, then ever, ever praise we
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim.

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 COLLECT AND 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

In dulci jubilo, BWV 829

J.S. Bach

WHAT'S COMING UP AT CRESTWOOD

December 8, 2024

Sunday, December 8

- 8:30 AM - Worship Service
- 9:30 AM - Sunday School
- 10:00 AM - Choir Practice
- 10:45 AM - Worship Service
- 4:00 PM - Nest Food Box Day - All Youth/Families
- 5:00 PM - Youth Group Dinner - Chalice Hall

Monday, December 9

- 6:30 PM - Crestwood Book Club - Chi Rho Room

Tuesday, December 10

- 11:30 AM - SRO Lunch at Parlour (Harrodsburg Rd.)
- 2:00 PM - Property Team - Bradford Room

Wednesday, December 11

- 1:00 PM - Bible Study - MC3
- 2:00 PM - Safety & Security - MC5

Thursday, December 12

- 11:00 AM - Bible Study - Bradford Room
- 6:00 PM - Finance Team - Bradford Room
- 7:00 PM - Choir Practice - Choir Room

Saturday, December 14

- 8:00 AM - Men's Breakfast - Bradford Room

Sunday, December 15

- 8:30 AM - Worship Service
- 9:30 AM - Sunday School
- 10:00 AM - Choir Practice
- 10:45 AM - Worship Service
- 12:00 PM - Elders Lunch - Chalice Hall
- 4:30 PM - Children and Youth Pageant - Sanctuary
- 5:00 PM - All-Church Christmas Dinner - Gym

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Elders

8:30 AM Natalee Feese
10:45 AM Amy Wheeler

Liturgist

8:30 AM Natalee Feese
10:45 AM Katherine Steckler

Joys and Concerns

MEMBERS: the family of Joe Clark, Joan Stafford

FAMILY: Benita Baughn (family of Michelle DeLacey), Sandra Deerhake (mother of Amanda Deerhake), Jim Ernst (husband of Becky Ernst), Judy Walden (mother of Connie Guilfoil), Linda Yates (mother of Stephanie Moore)

FRIENDS: the Cristi family (of Crestwood), Mary Duff (of Dana Adamson), the Furlong family (of Patsy Anderson), the family of Jim Turner (of Fran Allen), Mary Van Kesteren (of Crestwood)

LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST: Tyler Coultas (son of Karen Coultas), Frank Dickey, David Farmer (friend of Kimberly Sparks), Jo Fulkerson, Laurie Hart (granddaughter of Susan & Kendall Hart), Jordan & Ginny Sue Hemphill (brother & sister-in-law of Monte LaFrana), Lisa Jern (cousin of Libby Wachtel), Henrietta Shores (granddaughter of Mary Beth Shores), Nathaniel Sligh (nephew of Kimberly Sparks), Donnie Wakefield, Jim Wallace (father of Scott Wallace)

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

HEART-TO-HEART MEMBERS: Carlene Adams, Karen Billings, Janice Boyd, Dick Featherston, Sylvia Griffin, Buzz Mattingly, John Sims, John & Carolyn Thomas, Lucy Wheeler

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

Crestwood Christian Church

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