**Crescenta Valley United Methodist Church**

www.cvumc.org | 2700 Montrose Avenue | Montrose, CA 91020

Pastor Kevin Kang, kevinkangxix@gmail.com, (213) 290-3722

(We are a United Methodist ‘Reconciling Church’, which means we believe God blesses every human being inclusive of every gender and sexuality. Our fellowship is further inclusive of every ethnicity, faith history, age, physical and mental ability, economic status, marital status, and family configuration. We believe a diverse community makes our faith stronger, our spirituality deeper, and our service more effective. You are welcome to refrain from participating in any part of our worship service that is not in keeping with your beliefs.)

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**Festival of God’s Creation**

**April 21st, 2024**

PRELUDE “How Can We Name a Love” # 111 Band

WELCOME

\*OPENING HYMN “Morning Has Broken” # 145 Congregation

(\*An asterisk indicates standing if comfortable and able.)

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: How shall we live when we have more than enough?

**People: We have no greater praise to offer than caring for your creatures and Creation.**

Leader: The earth is our teacher – nurturing and tender.

**People: In this hour, O God, nourish us in the soil of your love.**

Leader: Let us worship God, the Ground of all Being.

\*HYMN “For the Beauty of the Earth” # 92 Congregation

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please give a greeting of Peace to those around you with a gentle elbow bump. It is customary to say, “*Peace be with you*”, or respond with, “*And also with you*.”

THE CONGREGATION IN PRAYER

## Prayer Chorus “Lord, Listen to your Children Praying” # 2193 Congregation

## Silent Prayer Please take a moment of silent prayer.

Prayer for the People followed by The Lord’s Prayer

(Please call God the name that is most comfortable for you when we join in saying The Lord’s Prayer)

Our Maker, 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

THE WORD

Leader Luke 15:11-32 (NRSV)

11 Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. 12 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. 13 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. 14 When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. 15 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. 16 He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. 17 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! 18 I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ 20 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. 21 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.’ 22 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. 23 And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, 24 for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

25 “Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. 27 He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.’ 28 Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. 29 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. 30 But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ 31 Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 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.’”

Leader: With the hearing of God’s Word, we are blessed.

People: May the Spirit help us hear what God is saying.

## Sermon “Parable of the Prodigal Son Part 2” Pastor Kevin Kang

GIVING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

## Offertory Invitation

Leader: Will the ushers please come forward to receive God’s Tithes and our Offerings.

## Offertory music: “Rain Down” by Jaime Cortez Band

## \*Doxology “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” #94 Congregation

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## \*Offertory Prayer

Leader: *Gracious Provider, we gather with hearts filled with gratitude for the love and light you’ve shown us. Your Word reminds us that true love is seen in the self-sacrifice of Christ. As we offer our tithes and offerings, we are reminded of the importance of generosity and stewardship in every aspect of our lives. May these gifts be a reflection of the love we have experienced in Christ and our commitment to steward them faithfully for the work of your kingdom. Use these offerings to bring justice, mercy, and hope to a world in need. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.*

\*CLOSING HYMN “Turning of the World” by Ruth Pelham Congregation

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

Serving In Worship

**Liturgist:** Jenny Hambarsumian

**Music Director:** Wendy Ryan, pianist, is substituting for Barb Catlin

**Musicians:** Ricky Cosentino, song leader & drummer; Tim Kobza, lead guitarist; Alexis Sklarevski, bass

**Tech Team:** CVUMC lay members Edmond Hambarsumian, Kim Mawhinney, Kathy Midgley, Molly Burke

**Hospitality:** Kathy Midgley

Our Prayers

**We Pray** for the world. That the hungry & homeless be fed & sheltered; healthcare & clean water be available to all. That God protects, comforts, & heals those suffering from war, violence, and abuse. That God’s Guiding Hand be upon local, national, & world leaders – guide them to act with wisdom & compassion, embrace differences and restore Earth’s precious ecosystem.

**We Pray** for the well-being and enrichment of our Child Care Center’s children & staff; for the health and renewal of our congregations and staffs; into God’s loving care we uplift our homebound, chronically & severely ill, and those suffering from mental disease & emotional pain; and we faithfully trust God with our list of congregational prayers.

Life In The Congregation / Announcements

**Fellowship Sign Ups**– Please sign up at the following web address to host refreshments sometime in the next couple of months. It can be as simple or as elaborate as you wish. Please let Molly Burke or Barb Catlin know if you need assistance signing up online. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4aa8ac28a4f5ce9-fellowship>

**Hot Pot Meal with Pastor Kevin --** Join us on **Saturday April 27th** at **3:00 PM** in **Fellowship Hall**. Hot Pot is vegetables and meat cooked in broth (like fondue). The cost for all you can eat is $20.00 for Adults and $15.00 for Youth. The extra money after buying the food will go to the Youth for Sierra Service Project. Invite your family and friends for an afternoon of fellowship and food!

**United Methodist Church General Conference – April 23rd through May 3rd** The General Conference that was postponed during the pandemic is finally going to happen. The UMC will decide many things at the conference but most importantly they will vote on changing the wording in the Book of Discipline to remove harmful language to the LGBQIA2S+ members of our church. If you would like to learn more, have questions and/or want to see how you can follow the conference, Pastor Kevin Kang, Kim Mawhinney, and Janice Burke are hosting an **informational meeting after worship today, Sunday April 21st in the Thee Room**.

**Sunday, May 5th**

* **Breakfast at Tujunga UMC, 9:00 AM –** RSVP required to ensure there is enough food for everyone. Please RSVP to Marcie Smith at office@tujungachurch.com
* **Worship at La Cañada UMC, 10:30 AM–** Crescenta Valley UMC and Tujunga UMC will join LCUMC for worship and Communion. Pastor Kevin is becoming a United Methodist Church member. Rev. Karin Ellis will officiate and we hope everyone can attend to support Pastor Kevin. Please plan attending worship and fellowship at La Cañada UMC at 104 Berkshire Place, La Cañada, 91011.

**April**

**22**

**2024**

**Crescenta Valley UMC Staff**

**Pastor:** Kevin Kang

Korean Language Pastor: Rev. YeoungKeun Kim Child Care Center Director: Erica Patterson

**Office Administrator**: Karyn Kemmerer **Facility & Tech Coordinator:** Molly Burke

**Music Director/Pianist**: Barb Catlin **Band**: Ricky Cosentino, Tim Kobza, Alexis Sklarevski

**CVUMC Office Hours**: Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday: 12:00-5:00pm

California Pacific Annual Conference Leadership

**Resident Bishop:** Rev. Dottie Escobedo-Frank **North District Superintendent**: Rev. Melissa McKinnon