

**Black History Month** is celebrated annually to celebrate Black culture, eradicate discrimination and encourage racial equality. For the past 13 years, Forest Hill Church has proudly presented a full month of Black History Celebration Events. All events are FREE and open to the public, although some events offer sweets and treats for sale.

Join us in celebrating our 2024 Theme:  
**Black Women: Crowned with Glory**

**Please sign up for the Soul Food Potluck**  
here: <https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/68261e>  
(Please be patient - it does take a moment or two for the form to appear).

**If you wish to volunteer for Black History Month, please click here:**  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Sy7ISmiS0tjqBXQm-3on5HXK3WxqUZi2kEL0tqKMWPw/viewform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Sy7ISmiS0tjqBXQm-3on5HXK3WxqUZi2kEL0tqKMWPw/viewform?edit_requested=true)

**Please fill out this Google form if you need a ride to Black History Month events:**  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScP8Mzu7Z\\_B2vPJhTWWCyFeDRIHiciy0H7UtFugmg13\\_rx0Ow/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScP8Mzu7Z_B2vPJhTWWCyFeDRIHiciy0H7UtFugmg13_rx0Ow/viewform).

For more information, please contact Danielle Cosgrove at [daniellejcosgrove@gmail.com](mailto:daniellejcosgrove@gmail.com) or call or text her at 216-513-3162.

If you wish to make a donation, you may send checks to the church. Please notate Black History on the memo line.



Are you a new visitor? Scan this QR code. We would love to hear from you.



If you wish to give online, please use this QR Code and select your giving option.



**Lent 2024**  
**Journey to Jerusalem**  
**Wilderness, Temptation and Call**

As we continue our journey of faith, we will go through the wilderness and be tempted to lose sight of God's presence. Yet, as we continue, we will find a way, a truth and a life that gives glory to God and reveal to us our own calling and our belovedness as children of God.

Each Sunday we will explore the mystery of God's grace and be grounded in our identities as siblings of Jesus Christ. There will also be opportunities midweek throughout Lent to deepen our faith. Join us for the journey to Jerusalem.

**Wednesday, February 14**  
**Ash Wednesday**  
**6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

Supper at 6:00 in Fellowship Hall followed by a service of worship to mark the beginning of Lent at 7:00. At this service we will mark our foreheads with a sign of cross made from the ashes of last Palm Sunday's palms. We will share the Lord's supper and prepare for the journey to Jerusalem.

**Wednesday, February 21, March 6 and March 20**  
**Supper and Contemplative Worship**  
**6:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

Life is busy with many distractions. Join us for a simple meal at 6:00 p.m. followed by a contemplative service in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. Together we will pause from the journey and pray together, sing together, be in silence together, and seek God's presence together.

**Sunday, March 24**  
**Wilderness Retreat**  
**1-4pm in the Chapel**

Led by Sally Wile and Mary Ann Breisch. Through Scriptural stories, poetry, music and visual art, we will explore how the journey to Jerusalem inevitably finds us in the wilderness. We will reflect on how there, in the barrenness, God is revealed and we are transformed.

**Thursday, March 28**  
**Maundy Thursday**  
**6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

Supper at 6:00 followed by a service of worship to prepare us for the crucifixion of Jesus. Passages from the gospels remind us of the final meal with his disciples, his agony in the garden, his trials before he offers himself to the cross. After each reading the lights are dimmed until the Christ Candle is removed from the sanctuary.

**Friday, March 29**  
**Good Friday Community Service @ St. Pauls Episcopal**  
**12:00 noon – 3:00 p.m.**

We join other Christians in our community at St. Pauls for a service of remembrance. Brief homilies are offered on the "7 last words of Christ." The choir of St. Pauls will sing an oratory, prayers will be offered and hymns will be sung. You may come and go as your schedule permits.

Thanks to Jennifer Blakeney, Sally Wile, Mary Ann Breisch, QinYing Tan, Leslie Clement and Valeria Stutz for their vision and spirit leadership.

**FOREST HILL CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN**  
**FEBRUARY 14, 2024 – 6:30PM**



You may also join worship online using this link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDspEgTnOmo>

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

February 14, 2024

6:30 PM

### THE COMMUNITY GATHERS IN SILENCE

PRELUDE: J.S. Bach  
"Herz and Mund"  
Anne Hunter

### CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 51)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
**Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clear; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. **The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.** Let us worship God.  
**God's love endures forever.** God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. *Psalm 46:1-3*  
**God's love endures forever.**

### INVOCATION

\*HYMN NO. 466 "Come and Fill Our Hearts"

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

Isaiah 58:1-12 (page 600)

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

**Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.** "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"

**Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.** Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

**Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not hide yourself from your own kin?**

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. **Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and the Lord will say, 'Here I am.'**

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. **The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.**

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; **You shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.**

### SILENCE

ANTHEM Pepper Choplin  
"Holy Be Thy Name"  
Chancel Choir

### READING

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 (page 787)

### MEDITATION

#### INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF LENTEN DISCIPLINE AND TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. **May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence, and a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.** Remember that you are dust, **And to dust you shall return.** The Lord be with you. **And also, with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.** It is truly right and our greatest joy... Jesus, lamb of God: **Have mercy on us.** Jesus, bearer of our sins. **Have mercy on us.** Jesus, redeemer of the world: **Have mercy on us.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. 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 IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Hymn No. 525 "Let Us Break Bread Together"  
Hymn No. 507 "Come to the Table of Grace"

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**God of compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ you have reconciled us to yourself. Following the example of our Lord Jesus, may we through prayer and fasting, obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN NO. 834 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

### DEPART IN PEACE

May the God of peace make you holy in every way and keep your whole being – mind, body and spirit – free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **AMEN.** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

### PLEASE LEAVE IN SILENCE

### POEM BY: JEAN REINHOLD

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust.  
What precedes death?

Life precedes death, some sort of fire.  
How then do you burn,  
slow and steady,  
flickering, explosively?

How then do you live,  
smoking a chain of  
your own addictions,  
flaming molehills into mountains?

From a core of anger,  
or from a core of heat?  
Do people shrink away  
from you out of fear?

Or does your life beckon,  
causing people to encircle you,  
lift their hands, and reach out  
for your light and warmth?

*Thank you to Anne Hunter for playing in today's service.*