

**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, 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. We need volunteers to bring soup, bread, and salad for about 30 people. Please sign up here: <https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/c82a0c21>.

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

Lead 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. Please sign up here: <https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/4fd15b>.

**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. Please sign up here: <https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/25a55e1595>

**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, Qin Ying Tan, Leslie Clement and Valeria Stutz for their vision and spirit of leadership.*

**Prayer Request:** To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz ([pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org)) no later than Thursday afternoon of each week for inclusion in next week's congregational prayer.

**Prayers are requested this week for:** Joe Dauer, Mark Davidson, Deborah Howard, Kemp Jaycox, Beverly Thomas, Grace Uhle, Ann Williams, Warren Young and Karen & Dan Yourd.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Roz and Graham Peters.

**Care Groups** will assist our pastors with members' needs. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will be passed on to the **head of the Deacons, Dean Sieck** ([deacons@fhcpresb.org](mailto:deacons@fhcpresb.org)).

**Thank you, all office volunteers:** Joan Bacon, Lynda Bernays, Cathy Ghiandoni, Nancy Grube and Pat Jenkins.

**Thank you, all Stream Team Volunteers!** Anyone interested in helping stream Sunday services should contact Kurt Haas at [kurt@dangereddy.com](mailto:kurt@dangereddy.com).

**The deadline** for the bulletin and weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **March 24, 2024 (for the April TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org).

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Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor  
Dr. Amy Wheatley, Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministry  
Dr. Qin Ying Tan, Director of Music



**FOREST HILL CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN  
MARCH 10, 2024 – 11:00AM**



You may also join worship online using this link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=djoaOYQ0uME>

**PRELUDE** Nikolai Rybakov  
"Blossoms"

**WELCOME**

**CHORAL INTROIT** William Whiting  
"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"  
Chancel Choir

**GATHERING FOR WORSHIP (from the Iona Community)**

Creator of the cosmos, of eternity and time,  
**Be with us in this time.**  
Savior of the world, healer of nations,  
**Be with us in this place.**  
Breath of all that lives, of people near and far,  
**Stir within our lives.**  
Maker-Spirit-Son, God of here and now,  
**Be present in our worship, that we may find new ways to be present in your world.**

\***OPENING HYMN NO. 645** "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

**LENTEN PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious and awesome God, creator of the universe, you are the Lord of life – the Lord of the dance and of our mourning. You call us to joyous lives within your household, but we choose to dwell in other houses and follow other gods. We confess that we are too often lost. Call us home, O God, to lives of abundance in your community of belovedness.

**A TIME OF SILENCE**

**KYRIE** Kyrie eleison, Criste eleison, Kyrie eleison

**THE GOSPEL ASSURES US**

Friends, the God who creates us, forms us, redeems us, calls us, and claims us, also forgives us.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**HYMN NO. 582** "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"  
*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace as pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. World without end, without end, amen (x3). As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

**CHILDREN'S WELCOME** Amy Wheatley  
*Children are invited to leave the sanctuary with their adult leaders to go to Sunday School.*

**ANTHEM** Mary Ann Breisch  
"For The Least Among Us"  
*Please sing the refrain with us when indicated.*  
**[Refrain]** *So how will you do justice*  
*How will you love goodness*  
*How will you walk humbly*  
*Humbly with your God*

**READING FROM THE PSALMS** Psalm 121 (page 498)

**HYMN NO. 524** "The Rice of Life"  
*(Choir sings verse 1, all sing starting on verse 2)*  
*Please also add the following description in smaller and italicized print.*  
*This is a hymn based on a traditional tune from Taiwan. For the rice-based people of Asia, Jesus' self-disclosure as the Bread of Life (John 6:35, 51) does not relate to daily experience as it does in Western societies. This hymn seeks to bridge that gap and to alert us to such assumptions. The tune name is Taiwanese for "rice-food."*

**READING FROM THE GOSPELS** John 3:1-17 (page 862)

*After the readings*  
Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** Rev. Dr. David Ensign  
"The Great Confusion"

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

**Our Father and Mother, 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 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.**

**FRIENDSHIP REGISTER/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To participate in our online Friendship Register, please leave a comment in the Live Chat box listing the names of those participating in this morning's Live Worship or email the office.

**OFFERING**

By texting: 216-400-5300  
You may give online with PayPal, Credit or Debit Card:  
[www.fhcbresb.org](http://www.fhcbresb.org)  
Or you may also mail a check to the church office.  
Make Your Commitment (Pledge) For 2024 at [www.fhcbresb.org](http://www.fhcbresb.org)

**OFFERTORY** Pepper Choplin  
"Let Your Kingdom Come"  
Chancel Choir

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

\***HYMN NO. 637** "O Sing to the Lord"  
V. 1-2 all voices V. 3 high voices  
V. 4 low voices V. 5 all voices

\***BENEDICTION HYMN NO. 600** "Sanctuary"  
*Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary pure and holy tried and true, with thanksgiving, I'll be a living Sanctuary for you.*

**POSTLUDE** Charles Gounod  
"Marche Romaine"

**David Ensign** is a writer, musician, and mostly retired Presbyterian pastor in Arlington, Va., where he has lived for more than 20 years with Cheryl Lederle, his beloved of more years than he can remember. He most recently served as interim executive director of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship. Prior to his role with PPF, David served two congregations in National Capital Presbytery, as well as congregations in the Presbytery of the Western Reverse and Pittsburgh Presbytery. David and Cheryl have three adult children and two grandchildren (whose pictures he will happily show you). Ordained in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in 1999, David holds a doctorate in philosophy from DePaul University and a masters in religious studies from the University of Chicago Divinity School. Prior to ordination, David was an editor and senior policy manager for the Council of State Governments. His pronouns are he/him.



*We thank Cate Monaghan for serving as Lay Leader this morning.*

**Place your Easter Lily orders by March 23. You may use this link for orders:** <https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/641db77011797588>.

**Do you want to contribute flowers for Sunday worship? If so, please click here:**  
<https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/641db7701127776329>