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

## 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.

## 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 of leadership.

**Prayer Request:** To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz (<u>pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org</u>) 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, 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).

**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 <a href="mailto:kurt@dangereddy.com">kurt@dangereddy.com</a>.

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.

We thank Elizabeth Shaw for serving as Lay Leader this morning.

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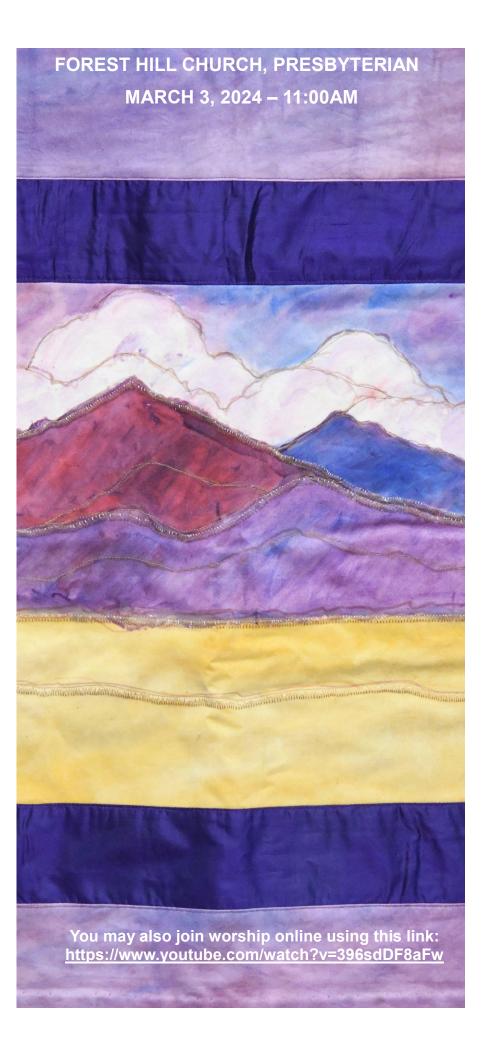
Custodian Phone on Duty: 216-217-5257

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Website: www.fhcpresb.org

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





### **CENTERING WORDS**

Satisfy us with your love in the morning, And we will live this day in joy and praise. Psalm 90:14

PRELUDE Reinhold Gliere

"Prelude"

**WELCOME** 

CHORAL INTROIT Gerald S. Henderson

"Great Are You, O Lord" Chancel Choir

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

O Lord, open our lips, and our mouths shall proclaim your praise. The Lord's unfailing love and mercy never cease, fresh as the morning and sure as the sunrise. Come! Let us worship the living God! We will offer our prayer and praise to our Creator!

\*HYMN NO. 39

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Christ Jesus our Savior.

#### A TIME OF REFLECTION

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God. Amen.** 

### **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**HYMN NO. 583** 

"Gloria"

All sing first time. On second time of the singing, we will sing this piece in canon!

Low voices will start, followed by high voices two measures later.

Young voices will sing two measures after high voices begin.



\*Children are invited to leave the sanctuary with their adult leaders to go to Sunday School.

ANTHEM Mark Miller

"I Believe" Chancel Choir Larissa Boley, soprano

THE LIVING WORD Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

After the readings

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.

Thanks be to God.

**HYMN NO. 458** "Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet"

**SERMON** Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

"It's About Time"

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 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.fhcpresb.org

Or you may also mail a check to the church office.

Make Your Commitment (Pledge) For 2024 at www.fhcpresb.org

**OFFERTORY** Morris Chapman

"When I Believe" Jack Lentz, tenor

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION/ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also, with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Cesar Franck

"Andantino"

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me bless God's holy name. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ. Making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

\*HYMN NO. 37

"Let All Things Now Living"

\*BENEDICTION

\* WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

"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** John Stanley

"Voluntary"

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

Maundy Thursday, March 28
6 pm Dinner in Fellowship Hall
7 pm Worship in the Sanctuary with Communion

Please RSVP Here: https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/25a55e1595.

Do you want to contribute flowers for Sunday worship?

If so, please click here:

https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/641db7701127776329



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



Cover Image: Mary Ann Breisch's paraments photo taken by Jean Reinhold