

WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

COMMUNION SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 26, 2023

PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Wild God of wilderness, as we devote these forty days to you, shape us by your Holy Spirit into the image of Christ our Lord, so that we may be ready, by your grace, to confront the power of death with the promise of eternal life. Amen.

THE GATHERING

PREPARING TO HEAR THE WORD

PASTORAL GREETING AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

Presto from Sonata in C Minor

Pescetti

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will you eat?

All: **The word of the Lord is our daily bread.**

Leader: People of God, during a time of temptation, how will you live?

All: **Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.**

Leader: People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will you serve?

All: **We worship the Lord our God alone.**

*HYMN 41

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

LYONS

1 O worship the King,
all glorious above!
O gratefully sing
God's power and God's love:
our shield and defender,
the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor
and girded with praise.

(Hymn continues on the next page.)

*To all who are able, please stand as we offer God thanks and praise.

Bold type face indicates that the congregation participates in word or song.

2 O tell of God's might;
O sing of God's grace,
whose robe is the light,
whose canopy space,
whose chariots of wrath
the deep thunderclouds form;
and bright is God's path
on the wings of the storm.

3 The earth with its store
of wonders untold,
Almighty, your power
has founded of old;
established it fast
by a changeless decree,
and round it has cast,
like a mantle, the sea.

4 Your bountiful care
what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air;
it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills;
it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills
in the dew and the rain.

5 Frail children of dust,
and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust,
nor find you to fail;
your mercies, how tender,
how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender,
Redeemer, and Friend.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: Happy are those whose sin is forgiven, who no longer suffer in silence, but name their sin and seek God's grace. Let us confess our sin.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Lord God, you know the ways of good and evil. You know the things that tempt us and the things that give us life. You know our nakedness, and you know our sin. We confess that we have disobeyed your word, denying your providence and care and relying on our own cleverness. Have mercy on us, we pray: cover us with your grace, feed us with the bread of life, and re-create us in your image; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

***KYRIE**

Lord, Have Mercy

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Happy are those whose sin is forgiven! Be glad in the Lord and shout for joy: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

GLORIA IN ABEYANCE DURING LENT

(11:00) SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Adrian Williams

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

O Lord, may the words of your mouth be our daily bread, and may the leading of your Spirit become our way; in Jesus' name. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: *Matthew 4:1-11*

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Antiphon to be sung by choir and congregation.

Blessed are you whose wrongdoings have been forgiven,
whose shame has been forgotten.

Blessed are you in whom Love Divine finds a home,
and whose spirit radiates truth. (Antiphon)

When I acknowledged not my shortcomings,
I became ill through all my defenses.
And day and night, guilt weighed heavy constricting my heart;
my spirit became dry as desert bones. (Antiphon)

I admitted my faults to the Most High,
and I made known my regret;
I cried out, "Forgive me, O Comforter, for those times I have sinned
in my thoughts, my words and my deeds,"
And the Beloved created within me a clean and open heart. (Antiphon)

Therefore, let everyone who is sincere give thanks to the Beloved,
for whenever we feel paralyzed by fear we shall be embraced by Love.
Dwelling in the Heart of the Beloved, we are free from distress,
free to live more creatively. (Antiphon)

O my Beloved, You are my guide, You teach me to walk in the Light.
Be watchful of me, counsel me as I listen to You in the Silence.
I pray for the gifts of inner peace and wisdom,
for the grace to reverence all of Creation. (Antiphon)

SECOND LESSON: *Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-13*

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 833**

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

ST. MARGARET

1 O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.

2 O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
my heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.

3 O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain
that morn shall tearless be.

4 O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
and from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: FROM A DECLARATION OF FAITH** (Unison)

We believe in one true and living God. We acknowledge one God alone, whose demands on us are absolute, whose help for us is sufficient. That One is the Lord, whom we worship, serve, and love. God is greater than our understanding. We do not fully comprehend who God is or how God works. God's reality far exceeds all our words can say. The Lord's requirements are not always what we think is best. The Lord's care for us is not always what we want. God comes to us on his own terms and is able to do far more than we ask or think.. To worship God is highest joy. To serve God is perfect freedom.

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued faithful stewardship to WPC. May our offerings continue to help us be the light for our neighbors and our siblings in Christ all over the world. Offering envelopes can now be found inside the friendship register book.

We invite you to make your offering or pledge payment in one of the following ways:

- **You may place your offering in the plates as you exit the sanctuary.**
- Click the “Make Online Offering” button below the video window on the watch worship services page (www.mywpc.org/streaming/).
- Scan the QR code at the right to access the online offering form.
- Mail your offering to the church office.



OFFERTORY

Let Us Come

Karen Marrolli

Let us come, let us come to the table of God.

Let us come to the table of God,

For the banquet is spread:

Cup of Life, Living Bread.

Let us come to the table of God.

Let us feast on the love of our God, of our God,

Let us feast on the love of our God:

Cup of Hope, Bread of Heaven,

Peace restored, healing given,

Let us feast on the love of our God.

Let us go, let us go to the people of God.

Let us go to the people of God,

Granting love, granting grace,

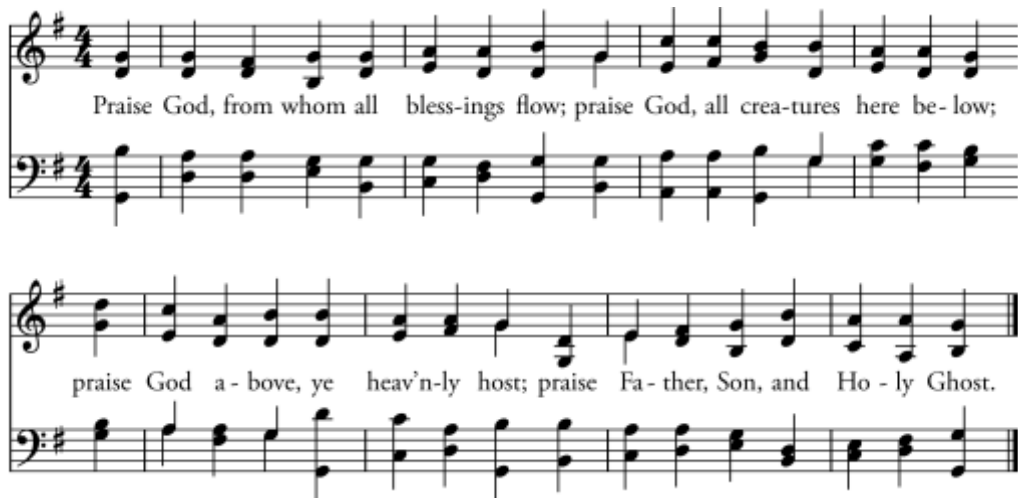
In every time and place.

Let us go to the people of God.

***DOXOLOGY**

All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

TALLIS' CANON



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;
praise God a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Williamsburg Presbyterian Church welcomes all who believe in Jesus Christ to share the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper with us today. We receive the elements by means of intinction, taking a piece of bread and dipping it into the cup. For those who desire an individual serving, regular or gluten free, they will be on a table in front of the baptismal font and on the small tables located in the balcony. If you are seated on the main floor of the sanctuary, you are invited to come forward to the chancel area by way of the center aisle and return to your pews by the side aisle. If you are sitting in the balcony, an usher will guide you to the sacrament. If you are unable to come forward easily, please signal to one of the ushers or elders so the communion elements can be brought to your seat.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

Pastor: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! They will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God. All are welcome here without regard to denomination or membership. This is the Lord's Table and all are welcome to join in Holy Communion.

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O God our creator and redeemer. In your wisdom, you made all things and sustain them by your power.

You formed us in your image to love and serve you, but we forgot your promises and abandoned your commandments. In your mercy, you did not reject us but still claimed us as your own.

When we were slaves in Egypt you freed us and led us through the waters of the sea. You fed us with heavenly food in the wilderness, and satisfied our thirst from desert springs. On the holy mountain you gave us your law to guide us in your way. Through the waters of Jordan you led us into the land of your promise, and you sustained us in times of trial. You spoke through prophets calling us to turn from our willful ways to new obedience and righteousness. You sent your only Son to be the way to eternal life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Choir: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He took upon himself the weight of our sin and carried the burden of our guilt. He shared our life in every way, and though tempted, was sinless to the end. Baptized as your own, he went willingly to his death and by your power was raised to new life. In his dying and rising, you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

(Communion liturgy continues on the next page.)

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ, and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world. Help us, O God, to be obedient to your call to love all your children, to do justice and show mercy, and to live in peace with your whole creation. Guide us through the desert of life, quench our thirst with the living waters, satisfy our hunger with the bread of heaven. Give us strength to serve you faithfully until the promised day of resurrection, when with the redeemed of all the ages we will feast with you at your table in glory.

People: 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.

Pastor: Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE MEAL

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Be Still, My Soul

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide,
who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
to guide the future surely as the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever with the Lord;
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)

So many things in this world try to draw our attention away from what is truly important. Lord, in this moment, through these elements, restore to us the right relationship we should have with you. Remind us again of the blessings and good fortune we have to be in your house and to celebrate this testament of your love for us. Amen.

GOING OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

***INVITATION AND LORD'S DAY GREETING**

We are glad you are worshipping with us today. If you are joining us online, please remember to 'sign' our online friendship register:

- Click the "Sign Friendship Register" button below the video window on the watch worship services page (www.mywpc.org/streaming/).
- Scan the QR code at the right to access the online friendship register.



***HYMN 757**

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples KINGSFOLD

1 Today we all are called to be
disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free,
make plowshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first,
our ease and comfort last.

2 God made the world and at its birth
ordained our human race
to live as stewards of the earth,
responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud;
we sow not peace but strife.
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud
that threatens all of life.

3 Pray justice may come rolling down
as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town
to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for
a harmony of peace.

4 May we in service to our God
act out the living word,
and walk the road the saints have trod
till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be
disciples of the Lord.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION



BENEDICTION RESPONSE

O Christ, Surround Me

GREEN TYLER

POSTLUDE

Toccata in E Minor

Pachelbel

The service of worship concludes after the postlude. The music can be enjoyed or used as an opportunity for prayer. You may remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly and without disturbing those who choose to stay.

∞ THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ∞

The flowers this morning are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Donaldson Tillar, III, killed in action February 27, 1991
by Hazel and Don Tillar.

⌘ THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY ⌘

PASTORS

Rachel Hébert, Associate Pastor for Community Care

Pam Hrnclir, Covenant Pastor for Congregational Care

MUSIC MINISTRY

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music Ministries

Norman Elton, Organist and Assistant Director of Music

Chancel Choir

LITURGIST

Sarah Sullivan

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

Adrian Williams

GREETER

9:30am Bill Riffer

11:00am Terry Backus, Karen Kauritzen

USHERS

9:30am Pat Underwood, Matt Underwood, Rick Murray, Pat Murray, David Littell

11:00am Gene D'Orsogna, Ellen D'Orsogna, Megan Davis, Kirk Lovenbury

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOST

Karol Sibley, Nancy Kistler, Suki Gillis

***WILLIAMSBURG LANDING USHERS**

Anne and Nick Nicastro

***WINDSOR MEADE USHERS**

Paul Hotinger

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS: Matt Slack and John Schoenberger

*Satellite campuses

SUPPORT FOR OUR MEMBERS

- **Stephen Ministry offers help, hope, healing:** Are you going through a difficult time? A Stephen Minister can help. Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people going through difficult times or crisis. To learn how you can receive a Stephen Minister's confidential care, please contact pastor Pam Hrcir (phrncir@mywpc.org). Learn more about this ministry at mywpc.org/stephen.
- **Monthly grief support group** meets the first Wednesday of the month at 10am in room 123 (room across from the nursery.) During this meeting we check in with one another and occasionally watch videos about a specific grief topic. All are welcome to attend.

PRAYER CONCERNS, JOYS, & TOUCH NOTES

To share a joy or concern, please visit www.mywpc.org, select GET CARE on the menu bar, then PRAYER REQUEST from the drop-down menu. Complete the form and click SEND REQUEST on the bottom of the form. Per your instructions, your request will be shared with our pastors, prayer chain or will be included in the worship bulletin. If the internet is not available to you, please call the church office (757) 229-4235 with your request.

The Prayer Chain Coordinator is: Jo Ann Youhas (handbellringer@cox.net).

If you are in need of a pastor after hours or on the weekend with an emergency request, please contact the Pastor-on-Call listed below for this week. To reach a Pastor during the week, please call the church office.

Sunday, February 26 – Saturday, March 4

Pastor Rachel

rhebert@mywpc.org; (757-880-1180)

The WPC Family extends its deepest Christian sympathy and prayers to:

Please pray for:

- Craig, Evelyn Sailor, Jackie Bowlin, Neal Bowlin, Kathy Kruschwitz, Mary Voorhess, Steve Custer, Richard Friese, Jean Young, Rice Trolan, Bonnie Jefferson and Don Swain
- Those who have recently lost loved ones, those recovering from various surgeries and our sick and shut-ins who are at home or facility bound.
- Those traveling on the WPC Holy Land trip from Wednesday, February 22 - Tuesday, March 7.
- Those serving our country in the military services and their families.
- Those affected by the war in Ukraine.

🌀 ANNOUNCEMENTS 🌀

- Vanessa Gamble, Church Secretary will be out of the office Monday, March 6 - Monday, March 13. **Bulletins for Sunday, March 5 and Sunday, March 12 will be prepared and printed in advance. Submission of announcements for inclusion those bulletins must be received by 12pm, Monday February 27.** Please send your announcement to publications@mywpc.org.
- **Monthly grief group meets this Wednesday, March 1st at 10:00am in room 220.**
- **Men's Squares Bible Study:** What is wise decision making? Often the answer to that question comes following a time of conflict. And so, using the story of Lot and Abram, Genesis 13:1-18, The Squares will search for a way to solve conflicts through "wise decision making." You are invited to join this group of men on **Thursday, March 2, 7:30om** in room LL011, or via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84000897925?pwd=elQ5RDBrSVhKRTJMM1ZpckR4RUhwUT09>
Meeting ID: 840 0089 7925 Passcode: 005054
- **On Saturday, March 4, our Presbyterian Men's Fellowship will have Captain Donald Troast, retired US Navy Chaplain and currently the Interim Pastor at Jamestown Presbyterian Church, as guest speaker.** Don's presentation is entitled "*Wine: Ancient and Divine*" and he will be discussing the origins of wine and it's secular and religious impact on history. The meeting begins at 8:00am in Stevenson Hall with fellowship and breakfast. **Please make your reservations by Wednesday, March 1, at the church Welcome Center, or online. A donation of \$10.00 will be requested at the breakfast.**
- **Stephen Minister Training begins March 7 from 6-8pm.** Through 50 hours of training, you will gain confidence in your gifts to walk with those facing life's challenges. Contact Pastor Pam or one of our Stephen Leaders: Judy Austin, Allen Hogge, and Becky McKinley.
- **March 15 Wednesday Lenten service is at noon in Stevenson Hall. Join Pastor Pam for a time of worship and fellowship over lunch.** We will worship together using the spiritual practice of *The Examen* as we explore "Being a Child of God" Bring your own lunch or sign up for a box lunch from Divine Lunches. Cost is \$10. No cost for children under 12 and college students. Order lunch on line or in person at the back lobby.
- **Join our WPC family. New member orientation luncheon is March 26 after the 11 am worship service in Stevenson Hall.** Please contact Pastor Pam for more information.
- **Crockpot Ministry Needs Your Help - No Cooking Required.** Sign up or for more information - Scan the QR code here to go to SignUpGenius (open the camera on your phone and point at the QR code) or contact *Robin Sabo.

More information about the events and announcements listed above can be found on our website at mywpc.org/news/ or on the church calendar.

***Contact information can be found in our online directory.
You may also contact the church office at 757-229-4235.**

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA) **THE TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORT**

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake near the Turkey-Syria border struck in the early hours of February 6, 2023. This earthquake is estimated to affect more than 23 million people.

Solidarity grants to meet immediate needs are being processed and ACT partner GOPA-DERD is distributing winterization items (blankets, mattresses), food items and medicines.

To support our response, designate gifts to DR999999.

Ways to contribute to the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Relief Effort:

- Donate to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) – Send and make check out to Williamsburg Presbyterian Church – on memo line: PDA – Turkey-Syria Earthquake
- One Great Hour of Sharing – Send and make check out to Williamsburg Presbyterian Church – OGHS on memo line.
- Donate directly to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance – Designate Gifts to DR999999
- By Mail – Presbyterian Church (USA), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15264-3700.
- By Phone – (800) 728-7228 to give by Credit Card
- Donate on line (WPC website) – OGHS or PDA

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Black History Month Weekly Programs presented by the Williamsburg Regional Library

Sundays in the Theatre: A Cultural Heritage Series each Sunday

in February at 3pm in the Williamsburg Library Theatre.

February 26 • The Historic First Baptist Church — “Yes We Can!”

Valarie Gray Holmes has written and performed in a variety of productions with particular focus on the contributions of the enslaved and free African American women. Based on strong research, Valarie portrays these women with dignity and complexity, rising above the horrors of enslavement. She has a B.A. in marketing from Hampton University and a M. F. A. in performing arts from Regents University. She received the prestigious Women in American History Award from the Williamsburg Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Her presentation on “Angela” was featured in local state and national media, including USA Today and the Washington Post.

Also, meet author Min. Juanita Graham at a book signing in the Williamsburg Library Theatre.

∞ OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS ∞

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Communion will be served at all worship services.

Holy Land Trip

9:30am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Live-Stream Worship; visit mywpc.org to access

10:30am Fellowship Coffee Hour / Stevenson Hall

11:00am In-person Worship / Sanctuary; Broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740. or wmbgradio.com

5:30pm Youth Group / Rm 222 and 227

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Holy Land Trip

1:00pm Caregiver Support Group

2:00pm WPC Book Club / Church Library

5:30pm Pizza Night at WPC / Stevenson Hall

6:00pm UKirk Dinner Dialogue / LL009, LL012, LL011

6:30pm Williamsburg Choral Guild Rehearsal / Choir Rm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Holy Land Trip

10:00am Disciple Class / LL010 and Zoom

1:00pm Staff Mtg / Zoom

7:00pm AA Wmsbg., Tuesday Night Big Book Study / LL049

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

Holy Land Trip

9:00am Feeding Faith: College Breakfast / Stevenson Hall

10:00am Monthly Grief Support Group / Rm 220

6:00pm Genesis Bell Ringers Rehearsal / Bell Rm

6:30pm Lent Spiritual Practice / Stevenson Hall

7:00pm Mid-week Lenten Worship / Stevenson Hall

7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Rm

7:30pm Christian Fellowship Committee / Church Library

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

Holy Land Trip

9:00am Sanctuary Closed for Cleaning

4:30pm Carol and Junior Choir Rehearsals / Children's Choir Rm

7:00pm Session Mtg / Stevenson Hall

7:30pm Westminster Ringers / Bell Rm

7:30pm The Squares Men's Bible Study / LL010

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

Holy Land Trip

2:00pm From His Hand Motel Meals Prep / Kitchen

∞ Next Sunday in Worship ∞

March 5, 2023 • Second Sunday in Lent

The sermon, "*Altars in the Wilderness*" is based on Genesis 12:1-9.

***9:30am service is live-streamed on mywpc.org. **11:00am service is broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740**