

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 11, 2024

11:00 a.m.

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.

VOLUNTARY: I. Mäßig schnell/ Lebhaft from Sonata no. 1

Paul Hindemith (1895-1963)

John Alexander, organ

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Jill Duffield

* CALL TO WORSHIP Newton Cowan

Leader: Blessed is the Lord our God, who revealed the law to Moses.

All: The Lord our God is holy!

Leader: Blessed is the Lord our God, who has spoken through the prophets.

All: The Lord our God is holy!

Leader: Blessed is the Lord our God, who came to us in Jesus Christ.

All: The Lord our God is holy!

Leader: The one who spoke and called light out of darkness now shines in our hearts.

All: The Lord our God is holy!

Leader: The one who comes and does not keep silence now speaks in our midst.

All: The Lord our God is holy!

Leader: Now we have seen the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

All: The Lord our God is holy!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 189 – O Wondrous Sight, O Vision FairDEO GRACIAS

O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair 189

Capo 3: (Am) (G) (Am) (C) (D) (Em)
Cm B \flat Cm E \flat F Gm

1 O won - drous sight, O vi - sion fair
2 From age to age the tale de - clare,
3 The law and proph - ets there have place,
4 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray
5 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high

(Am) (Dm) (Am) (Em) (Am)
Cm Fm Cm Gm Cm

of glo - ry that the church shall share,
how with the three dis - ci - ples there,
two cho - sen wit - ness - es of grace;
Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day
by this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,

(G) (Dm) (Em) (G) (Am)
B \flat Fm Gm B \flat Cm

which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah meet,
the Fa - ther's voice from out the cloud
what glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove
for which in joy - ful strains we raise

(Em) (Dm) (F) (G) (Am)
Gm Fm A \flat B \flat Cm

where bright - er than the sun he glows!
the Lord holds con - verse high and sweet.
pro - claims his on - ly Son a - loud.
who joy in God with per - fect love.
the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This translation of a 15th-century Latin devotional text is set here to a majestic 15th-century tune celebrating the victory of an English king; they combine to evoke the awe and wonder of that moment of revelation the three disciples experienced in Christ's Transfiguration.

* CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of compassion, in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory, but we turn away, distracted by our own plans. We confess that we speak when we should listen, and act when we should wait. Forgive our aimless enthusiasms. Grant us wisdom to live in your light and to follow in the way of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

A brief period of silence is observed for personal confession.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* THE PEACE

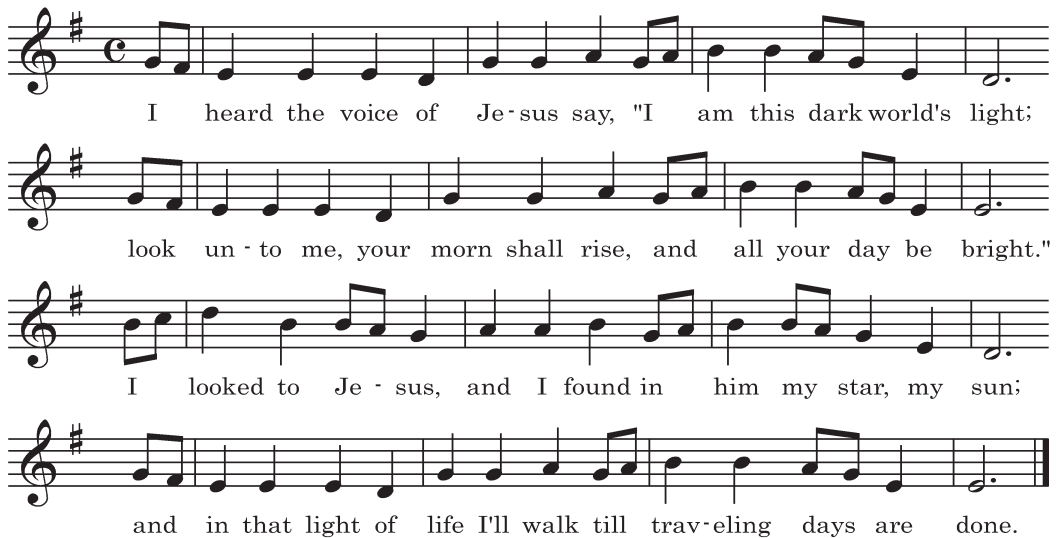
Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

* RESPONSE TO THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say KINGSFOLD



I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "I am this dark world's light;
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-eling days are done.

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

THE WORD READ: *Mark 9:2-9*..... Reece Medlin

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

A MOMENT OF GODLY PLAY FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Donna Chase

ANTHEM: Christ, Whose Glory Fills the SkiesMark Schweizer

Canticle Choir

Radha Upton, piano

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph o’er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless is the day’s return

Till Thy mercy’s beams I see;
Till they inward light impart,
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, Radiance divine,
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

THE WORD READ: *2 Corinthians 4:1-6*

Therefore, since it is by God’s mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God’s word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: *Shining Bright*Rachel Fitch



Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 12 – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise ST. DENIO

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Jill Duffield

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

– Traditional Apostles' Creed

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

concluding with 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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

You may also participate in the offering using the QR code on the back page of this bulletin. Information for giving by other options, including text, app, and regular mail, can be found there as well.

OFFERTORY: My Eyes for Beauty Pine.....Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Chancel Choir

Canticle Choir

Radha Upton, piano

My eyes for beauty pine, my soul for Goddes grace,
no other care nor hope is mine, to heaven I turn my face.
One splendour thence is shed from all the stars above:
'Tis named when God's name is said, 'tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.
And every gentle heart that burns with true desire,
is lit from eyes that mirror part of that celestial fire.

– Robert Bridges

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'. The score ends with a double bar line.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise
God, all crea - tures here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; Praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION.....Jill Duffield

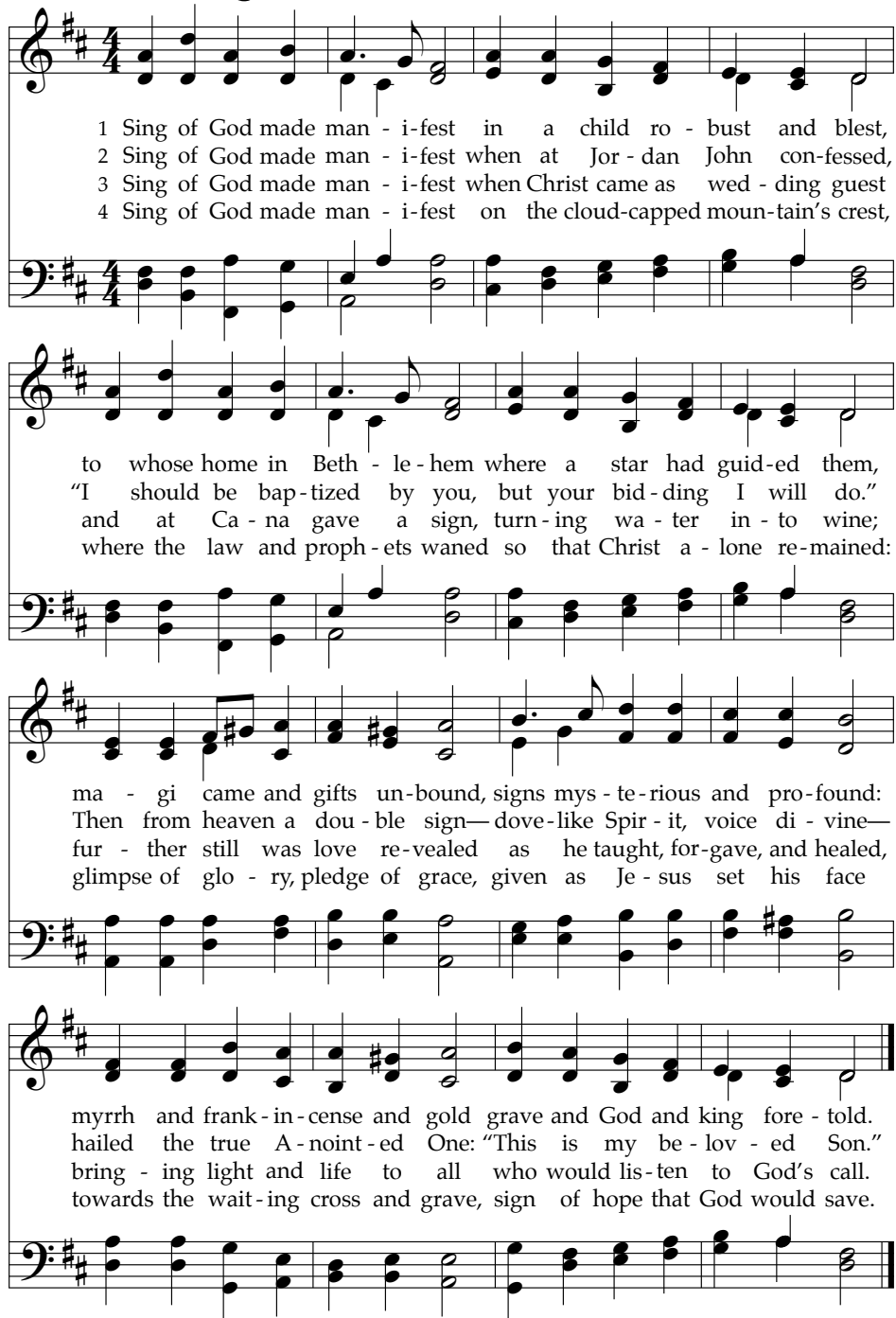
* CHARGE AND BENEDICTIONRachel Fitch

* RECESSIONAL HYMN: No. 156 – Sing of God Made Manifest.....SALZBURO

VOLUNTARY: Te Deum.....Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968)

John Alexander, organ

Sing of God Made Manifest 156



1 Sing of God made man - i-fest in a child ro - bust and blest,
 2 Sing of God made man - i-fest when at Jor - dan John con-fessed,
 3 Sing of God made man - i-fest when Christ came as wed - ding guest
 4 Sing of God made man - i-fest on the cloud-capped moun-tain's crest,

to whose home in Beth - le-hem where a star had guid-ed them,
 "I should be bap-tized by you, but your bid-ding I will do."
 and at Ca - na gave a sign, turn-ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 where the law and proph-ets waned so that Christ a - lone re-mained:

ma - gi came and gifts un-bound, signs mys - te-rious and pro-found:
 Then from heaven a dou - ble sign—dove-like Spir - it, voice di - vine—
 fur - ther still was love re-vealed as he taught, for-gave, and healed,
 glimpse of glo - ry, pledge of grace, given as Je - sus set his face

myrrh and frank-in-cense and gold grave and God and king fore - told.
 hailed the true A - noint - ed One: "This is my be - lov - ed Son."
 bring - ing light and life to all who would lis-ten to God's call.
 towards the wait-ing cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

"Epiphany" means "manifestation" or "showing forth," and this text cites key disclosures of Jesus as Messiah: the coming of the Magi, his baptism by John the Baptist, the wedding at Cana. All are summed up in the Transfiguration, recalled on the Last Sunday after the Epiphany.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Jill Duffield, *Senior Pastor*
Newton Cowan, *Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care*
Rachel Fitch, *Sid & Cathy Batts Pastoral Resident*
Donna Chase, *Director of Christian Formation*
Reece Medlin, *Lay Reader*
Carolina Medlin, *Acolyte*
Robert Wells, *Director of Chancel Choir*
John Alexander, *Director of Music and Principal Organist*
Radha Upton, *Piano*
Chancel Choir
Canticle Choir

“O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair” Text: Latin, 15th century; Music: “The Agincourt Song.”
“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say” Text: Horatius Bonar; Music: *English Country Songs*.
“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” Text: Walter Chalmers Smith; Music: Welsh folk melody.
“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” Text: Thomas Ken; Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*.
“Sing of God Made Manifest” Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr.; Music: Jacob Hintze.

* Let us rise in body or spirit.

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Rooted and reaching in Christ's love, we will
serve God as Spirit-led changemakers for good.

Our vision is to be a caring, compassionate, and inclusive faith
community welcoming those who seek

an abundant relationship with Jesus Christ
meaningful worship
authentic connections
lifelong learning
transformative service

We are continually growing and evolving, even as we remain strongly
rooted in the Greensboro community and the Presbyterian tradition.

Come as you are and prepare to be transformed by God's love.

WE WELCOME YOU to the worship of God and to our community of faith.
We are a church of growing disciples believing that worship
is at the center of all we are and do as Christians.

We seek to be God's changemakers for good in the world.
FPC is a Matthew 25 church, and our creation care and hunger
ministries have been recognized by the Presbyterian Church USA.



TAKING ATTENDANCE: The QR code, left, directs you to an online form; just open your smartphone camera, hold it over the code, and follow the prompts. If you do not have a smartphone, you can pick up a physical copy of an attendance card as you enter the Life Center or

Sanctuary. If using the paper form, place it in the offering at the end of the service. On the back of the card is a prayer request form. Your submitted prayers will be prayed for by staff members and kept in strict confidence.

NURSERY CARE IS PROVIDED for infants through age 4 on the first floor of Mullin Life Center. Our Child Protection Policy helps ensure our care is safe, loving and appropriate.

WHAT TO DO – UNWELLNESS AND MEDICAL

EMERGENCIES: If during the service you or someone who is with you begins to feel unwell, or is having a medical emergency; or if you notice someone else having a medical event; please contact the closest usher, who can assist in the situation.

COLD, FLU & COVID SEASON IS HERE! Let's take care of each other by staying home or masking and maintaining a safe distance if we have any symptoms. Many thanks!

PARKING MINISTRY: This ministry helps members with mobility issues get from their cars to the sanctuary for the 11 am service on Sundays. Two volunteers work on Greene Street 10:15-11:15 am. Passengers may be dropped off at the Greene Street door and will be escorted into the sanctuary. Drivers will be directed to a reserved space as needed. *Want to help?* Choose a Sunday at fpcgreensboro.org/signup. Info: Tim Millisor, tmillisor@fpcgreensboro.org or 336.478.4793; or Nancy Courts, nancy_courts@uncg.edu or 336.273.1617.

FOR MORE INFO ON CHURCH SCHOOL, UPCOMING SERVICES, AND OTHER EVENTS • Check out the "Coming Up" insert in your bulletin • Subscribe to our e-news and Sunday preview emails at fpcgreensboro.org/connect • Visit fpcgreensboro.org/events.

THE LITURGICAL COLOR *WHITE* seen through the parament on the lectern and the pastors' stoles signifies the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

ABOUT TODAY'S FLOWERS: The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Hankins by Susan and Ed Giraldo.

ABOUT THIS MORNING'S ROSEBUDS – The rosebuds in Rejoice! and in the sanctuary celebrate the births of Lilian (Lily) Grace Henschel, born January 31, 2024; and Conrad Lane Stamey born February 4, 2024. Lily is the daughter of Will & Hannah Henschel, and the family resides at 4911 Jessup Grove Road, Greensboro, N.C. 27410. Conrad is the son of Craver & Hannah Stamey, and the family resides at 1703 Independence Road, Greensboro N.C. 27408.

WAYS TO GIVE: In addition to the in-person offering, you may also give by mail, web, app, or text. Scan the QR code (*right*) to give online. You can also go to fpcgreensboro.org/give/web-app-text to download the FellowshipOne Giving mobile app (Apple or Android) and for instructions for giving via text. You may also mail your gift to the church at 617 N. Elm St., Greensboro, NC 27401. Go to fpcgreensboro.org/give for more ways to give.



PASTOR ON CALL: When church offices are closed and you have an emergency, call 336.908.8615. Leave a message with your phone number and the pastor on call will be in touch with you.

IN MEMORIAM

Charles Wood Wannamaker III
February 1, 2024

COMING UP AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11 - 17, 2024 • FPCGREENSBORO.ORG

LATER TODAY

Souper Bowl of Caring



- **Souper Bowl of Caring** in the Life Center after 11 am worship; donations will go toward summer trip scholarships and hunger ministries. Take-out is available!

SHETLER DECISION



- **Shetler decision:** Several members of the Property Committee will be available at 12:30 in the Garden Room to share information on Session's decision not to move forward with this project.

RESCHEDULED February 11



- **Winter Walking Group** will meet on the sanctuary steps at 3 pm for brisk air and conversation.

THIS WEEK

FEBRUARY Book Clubs

MONDAY **The GREAT GATSBY** TUESDAY

FEB 12 10:30 AM FEB 13 1:30 PM

Neil Dunnivant leads discussion in the Garden Room, both book clubs

- **Imposition of Ashes service,** 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. *Beginning at 6:15, child care will be available for ages 7 and under, MLC 101.*

- **Lenten Dinner & Devotions** begins, continues Wednesdays in February & March. Join the FPC family for fellowship, food, and a simple Lenten devotion. Dinner will be served 5:15-6:45

pm in Mullin Life Center. Staff will lead the devotion at 6 pm. Reservations are required by 5 pm Monday each week. Ages 12 and up, \$10; ages 6-11, \$6; under 5, free. Household max, \$30. Sign up online (fpcgreensboro.org/signup) or with the QR code, *left*.



- **24-hour Prayer Vigils** – Join us as we begin and end our Lenten season in prayer. Participants are invited to pray from their homes in 30-minute time slots starting at 5 am on Ash Wednesday and on Holy Saturday. We encourage you to pray for our church during this time. Sign-up with the QR code, *right*.



FRIDAY, FEB 16

- **Memorial service for Warren Buford,** 2 pm in Memorial Chapel. Family visitation afterward in the Solarium.

SATURDAY, FEB 17

- **Memorial service for Martha Sharpless,** noon in the sanctuary. Visitation following in Mullin Life Center.



COMING UP IN FEBRUARY & MARCH

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- **First Sunday in Lent.** Jill Duffield preaches.
- **Capital Campaign kickoff** – At 10 am and noon, (after worship services), take a tour of work to be done.
- **New church school series begins**, *Making Sense of the Bible* led by Chip Bristol, 10 am in the Garden Room. Based on Adam Hamilton's book by the same name, which may be purchased at the Welcome Center front desk for \$10.
- **Registration deadline for the Women's Connection Conference**, August 9-11 at Montreat Conference Center. FPC will have a group attending; please register now to

make sure you get a spot! The cost will be \$500 (single room) & \$400 (double room). The cost includes registration to attend both days of the conference, lodging at Assembly Inn and meals (transportation will not be provided). Use the QR code to register.



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20: "Our America: Lowballed," a documentary on discrimination in property assessments. With members from St. James and Westminster, we will be learning about the intersection of race and the challenge of affordable housing and exploring concrete ways to repair aspects of our broken system. This Racial Equity Ministry Team event is at 5:30 pm in the Garden Room.

SUNDAY, MARCH 3: Communion Sunday and

Third Sunday in Lent. Jill Duffield preaches, 9 and 11. **Congregational Meeting** at the beginning of the 11 am sanctuary service to vote on the slate of officers, the 2024-2025 Nominating Committee and change in terms of call for pastors. Rejoice! attendees are invited and encouraged to come for the meeting. The slate of nominees is available around campus and online ([FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/MEMBER-RESOURCES](https://fpcgreensboro.org/member-resources)).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6: Planning Your 4th Quarter

Series: *Estate Planning*, 5-6 pm, Garden Room. RSVP by Monday, March 4, to Debby Foster, DFOSTER@FPCGREENSBORO.ORG or 336.478.4702.

SUNDAY, MARCH 10: Daylight Savings begins.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17: One service for dedication of Capital Campaign Gifts and Confirmation Sunday, 11 am in sanctuary. Confirmands will be received as full members. We also will dedicate our commitments to the Capital Campaign.



A PRAYERFUL LENTEN SEASON

Available this Sunday: FPC PRAYER CARDS created by the team, and In JESUS' NAME DAILY PRAYERS BOOKLET. Pick up in the Welcome Center, narthex, Tower Room, and Life Center.

JILL DUFFIELD'S *LENT IN PLAIN SIGHT* (\$10) is also available at the front desk, starting this Sunday.

FPC 40 DAYS OF LENTEN PRAYER CALENDAR: With quotes, scriptures & more, created by our Capital Campaign Prayer Team. *Available Ash Wednesday, February 14.*

WEEKLY PRAYER GATHERING: In the sanctuary at noon on Wednesdays, February 21-March 27.

OPEN LABYRINTH PRAYER WALKS: Trip and Ann Adams invite you to walk their backyard labyrinth



during Lent. It takes 10 minutes and 2-3 people can walk at a time. 4502 Starmount Drive.

Bring a picnic if you like!

- Sunday, March 3, 1-3 pm.
- Tuesday, March 5, 11 am-1 pm.
- Saturday, March 9, 10 am-noon, 3-5 pm.
- Sunday, March 10, 5-7 pm.

Are you getting our weekly emails? You can subscribe to our mailing list at

[FPCGREENSBORO.ORG/CONNECT.](https://fpcgreensboro.org/connect)