

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 10, 2024



Welcome to worship at Faith Presbyterian Church! We are glad you are joining us this morning. Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, whatever your faith or your doubt, we welcome all whom God welcomes, and that means you. As we begin our time together, take a few deep breaths and settle in, to make the transition from getting here to being here, and to prepare your mind and body for worship.

Faith Presbyterian Church
ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich

JOYS AND CONCERNS

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Them*

Guy Bovet
(b. 1961)

*Please rise in body or in spirit; unison parts are in bold.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Bobby Hall

We believe this to be true:

God so loved the world that God came to us in Christ.

We trust this to be true:

God's love is for us, too.

We give thanks that through love, God came to walk with us:

to teach, to heal, to challenge, to suffer in solidarity, to confront evil, and to lead us in the ways of life.

In gratitude, we share our thanks and praise.

***HYMN 104** *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, if you held our sin against us, who could live? Who could stand? We have more faith in death than hope in your promise of new life. We seek peace through war and find security in weapons. Too often we ignore the hungry and fail to show compassion for those who suffer. And yet, you love us, pouring out grace upon grace. Renew our commitment to follow you, growing out of our shared hope in the future you promise for creation. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...

KYRIE 577 *Lord, Have Mercy*

KYRIE ELEISON
(Reindorf)

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

***GLORIA 215** *What Wondrous Love Is This*

WONDROUS LOVE

verse 3

**To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I am,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing!**

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you...

... and also with you.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A MOMENT WITH FAITH KIDS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

MUSIC *Amazing Grace*

arr. Lee Dengler
(b. 1949)

GOSPEL READING John 3:14-21

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.'

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

For the wisdom we find in this ancient story,
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Keep the Bible Weird

Rev. Goodrich

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 850 *In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness*

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

MINUTE FOR MISSION *One Hour of Sharing*

Dawn Shirey

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

If you wish to contribute online, please scan the QR code with your mobile device to be directed to Faith's online giving site.



OFFERTORY *Give Me a Clean Heart*

Margaret J Douroux
(b.1941)

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lenten Creative Prayer Project – The ritual of gathering with others is central to our practice as a faith community. Relationships sustain and nourish us. Consider the web of community that holds you: is there a gathering or person for whom you feel deeply grateful? As an act of thanksgiving, write a word or name that signifies that person or activity for you. Or, is there a group you have been curious to experience or wanting to try to gather? If so, write a word that signifies your commitment to take the next step towards that community in the week ahead.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 209** *My Song Is Love Unknown*

LOVE UNKNOWN

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Fugue in d Minor*

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, Pastor

Dr. Samuel Springer, Minister of Music and Organist

The Chancel Choir

Bobby Hall, Liturgist

Gail Poorbaugh, Elder of the Day

Dawn Shirey, Zoom Moderator & PowerPoint

Andy Fuller, Audio/Camera

****Joys and Concerns:** We are a community who prays with and for each other. There is a book in the narthex where you may write your joys and concerns, to be included in the Prayers of the People and shared in our weekly prayer chain email. If you would like to be added to the prayer chain email: faithchurchbalt@gmail.com.

This week we pray for:

Faith's homebound members and those receiving long-term care.
Our partners in Cuba

Victims of gun violence
The people of Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, Sudan, and all those who suffer from war and disaster.

WELCOME to Faith Presbyterian Church! If you are visiting with us this morning, we hope you find our worship to be meaningful - your presence enriches our community. If you are seeking a church home, we hope you will return soon so that we might get to know you better. To learn about ways to get engaged in the life of Faith, check out our website, www.faithpcbalt.org, and speak with our pastor, Rev. Cat Goodrich, cgoodrich@faithpcbalt.org.

KIDS are welcome at Faith! Our PRAYGROUND at the front of the sanctuary is for children 6 and younger during worship. There are books and quiet activities to keep hands busy so ears can listen, and it's close to the action so that our youngest members can experience the beauty of worship in a space that's just for them.

Sign up for our weekly **News & Notes** email by completing the visitor card or go to the website: faithpcbalt.org and navigate to "Contact Us."

Wednesday Bible Study 11:00 a.m. on Zoom Wednesdays - Join Cat most Wednesdays to reflect on the coming Sunday's lectionary passage. All are welcome! Meeting ID: 818 8551 6595; passcode: 716331

The Forum: Faith formation gathering for youth and adults, *Sundays, 9:15 in the Woodmont Room and on Zoom*. Meeting ID: 829 2802 1217, passcode: 551345

Join us in March as we read and reflect on Casper ter Kuile's book *The Power of Ritual: Turning Everyday Activities into Soulful Practices*. To see our everyday lives as filled with potential for spiritual practices and meaning. If you would like us to order a book for you, please email the church office at seekfaith@faithpcbalt.org.

3/18 Connecting with Nature

3/25 Connecting with Transcendence

Children's Sunday School On Sunday mornings, after the Moment with Faith Kids, kids ages 4 and up are invited to explore the passage of the day with games, crafts, and other activities. They will return at the end of worship to the sanctuary.

Book Club: Our March book to read and discuss will be reading *Killers of the Flower Moon - The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* by David Grann. "A twisting, haunting true-life murder mystery about one of the most monstrous crimes in American History." National book award finalist and now out as a Martin Scorsese movie. Time, date, and place to be decided.

ROPAGOFA Youth Group meets every third Sunday! Join young people from Faith, Govans, and Roland Park churches to build a durable faith through fun, games, and encountering God together. The next gathering will be on **Sunday, March 17 at 3pm.** We will be going to see the Third Wall production of *Jesus Christ Superstar!* The theatre's address is 3701 Sweet Air Rd, Phoenix, MD 21131. We can carpool from Faith, if we meet at 2:10 at church - but please let Cat know you plan to carpool, so we can wait for you! Buy your own tickets in advance and use code **ROPAGOFA** for our special \$10 ticket (plus ~\$1 in fees). The code will only work for the Sunday March 17, 3pm performance.



SAVE THE DATE! The next **Presbytery Gathering is at Faith** on Thursday, March 14 from 10 till noon. If you would like to volunteer to help with hospitality, please let us know.

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30

10:30 - Noon

Games & Crafts on South Lawn at 10:30am
Photos with the Bunny begin 11:00am
Egg Hunt at 11:15am



Faith
PRESBYTERIAN

5400 Loch Raven Blvd Baltimore 21239



*Rituals along
the way...*

Holy Week at Faith

PALM SUNDAY

March 24

Meet in the courtyard at **10:20** for our Palm Parade. Worship in the sanctuary at **10:45**.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28

Gather with family or friends for dinner at home
(Questions to spark reflection will be provided).

Join to break bread on Zoom at **6:30**.

GOOD FRIDAY

March 29

Join us in the sanctuary at **6:00** for a solemn service of remembrance for Good Friday.
Visual art connected to the scripture will guide our shared meditation.

SATURDAY EGG HUNT

March 30

Join Faith friends and neighbors at **10:30 - 12:00** on the south lawn for games and
crafts; egg hunt in courtyard at **11:15**. Photos with the bunny starting at **11:00!**

EASTER

March 31

Congregational brunch at **10:00** in Jackson Lounge – bring a breakfast dish to share.
Worship with brass, communion, and a festive procession at **10:45**.
Come celebrate the joy of the resurrection with us!