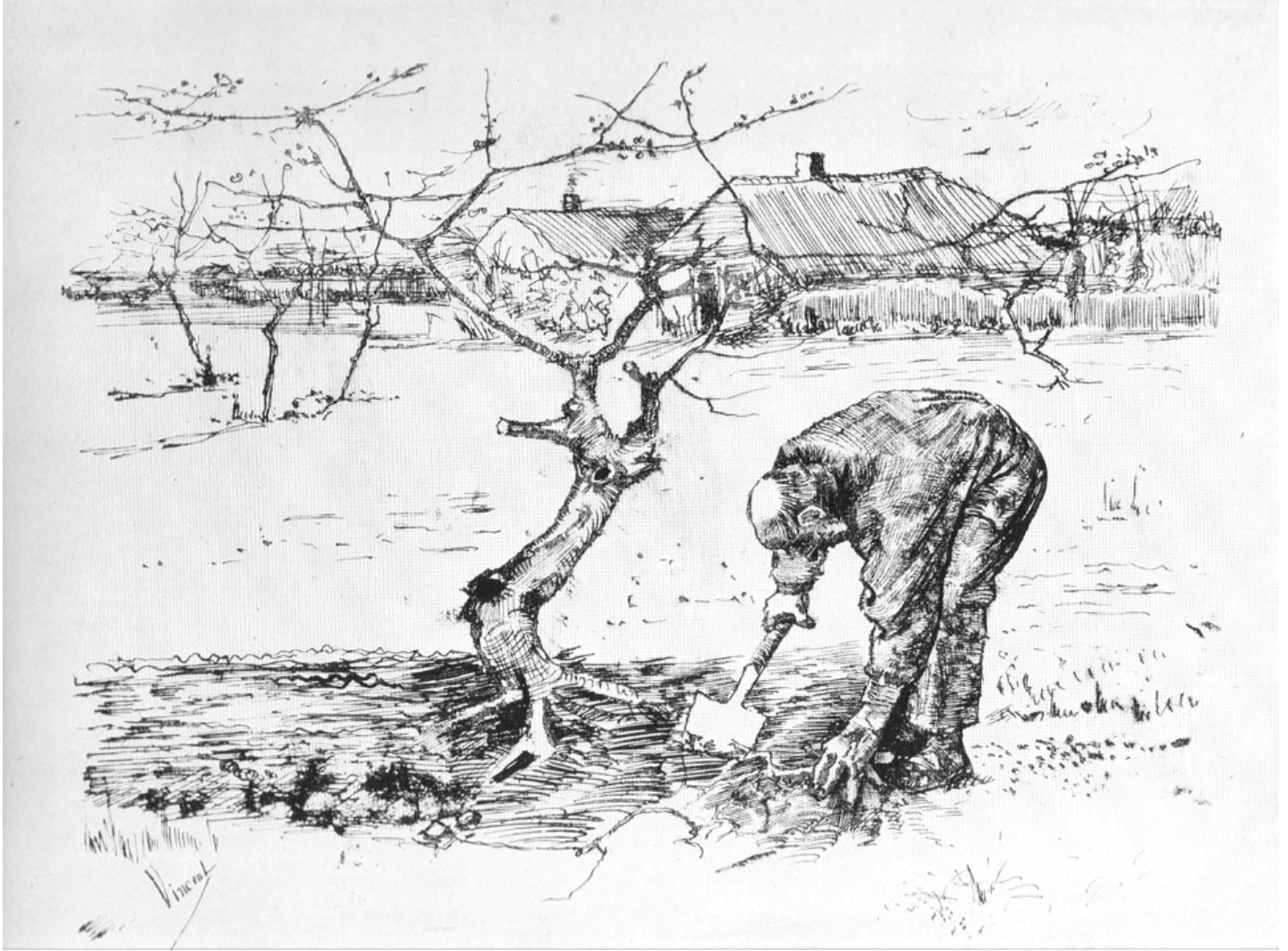


Sunday, March 23, 2025
Third Sunday of Lent



In the Orchard pencil, pen, reed pen, on paper
Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam, NL
Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890)

**Faith Presbyterian Church
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich

JOYS AND CONCERNS

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE *Rorate Caeli*
(Drop down, ye heavens)

Jeanne Demessieux
(1921-1968)

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Delevena Brown

If you are thirsty for righteousness,
God says: Come to the waters of life!
If you are hungry for justice,
Come, and be fed by the Spirit!
We follow the One who offers us living water,
the One who shares the bread of life. Let us worship God together.

***HYMN 479** *Ho, All Who Thirst*

JACOB'S WELL

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the garden, in a world where produce is left to rot in the field and surplus food spoils while some go hungry, you call us to be the change that sustains generations. But our branches are bare; we have not enriched the soil of our lives with that which leads to thriving, instead subsisting on that which does not feed us. Forgive us, and nourish our hearts with grace and goodness, that we might bear good fruit for a hungry world. We open ourselves to you in silent prayer...

KYRIE 467 *Give Us Light*

JYOTHI DHO

- 3) Give us peace; give us peace; give us peace, O Lord.
5) Give us grace; give us grace; give us grace, O Lord.



ASSURANCE OF GRACE

***GLORIA 654** *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;
in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God; do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you...
... and also with you.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

MOMENT WITH FAITH KIDS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALTER READING Psalm 63:1-4

O God, you are my God, I seek you,
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

MUSIC *To God be the Glory*

Martha Sherrill Kelsey

GOSPEL READING Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’

Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”’

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

SERMON

Growing Season

Rev. Goodrich

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 800** *Sometimes a Light Surprises*

SALLEY GARDENS

MINUTE FOR MISSION *Report from the Synod*
INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Bobby Hall

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 *His Eye is on the Sparrow*

arr. Mark Hayes
(b. 1953)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Interactive Lenten Prayer Project: *Late winter and early spring is a time of waiting: for buds appear on branches, and green shoots to poke through the soil. Are you in a season of waiting for an effort to bear fruit? Maybe you are longing for encouragement, or you know of a barren yard or garden in need of fertilizer - a project or situation where more energy and nourishment is needed. Come forward and, on a circle, prayerfully write a word or draw a picture that symbolizes the fruit you hope is growing even now, or the project, situation, or place where more energy and nourishment are needed. Offer your prayer to God.*

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 307** *God of Grace and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *God of Grace*

Paul Manz
(1919-2009)

Leading Worship Today

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich, Pastor
Dr. Samuel Springer, Minister of Music and Organist
Chancel Choir
Delevena Brown, Liturgist
Robin Nemser, Elder of the Day
Yvonne Davis, Usher
Dawn Shirey, Zoom Moderator & PowerPoint
Andy Fuller, Audio/Camera

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! Children are welcome in worship, but if you need it, there is a caregiver in the nursery, just outside the door nearest the pulpit.

On the first Sunday of the month, children are encouraged to stay in worship for the whole service, to share in the sacrament of communion. Church school for K-2 and 3-5 grades will be held all other Sundays following the Time with Faith Kids in the classrooms on the third floor.

When in the sanctuary, children six and under are invited to worship in the **Prayground** at the front of the sanctuary. The Prayground has quiet activities and books to keep hands busy so ears can listen. 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.

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.	The people of Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, Sudan,
Our partners in Cuba	The Democratic Republic of the Congo, and all
Our democracy	those who suffer from war and disaster.

Wednesday Bible Study 11:00 a.m. on Zoom Wednesdays - Join Cat Wednesdays to reflect on the coming Sunday's lectionary passage. All are welcome! Meeting ID: 830 8730 5092; passcode: 033954.

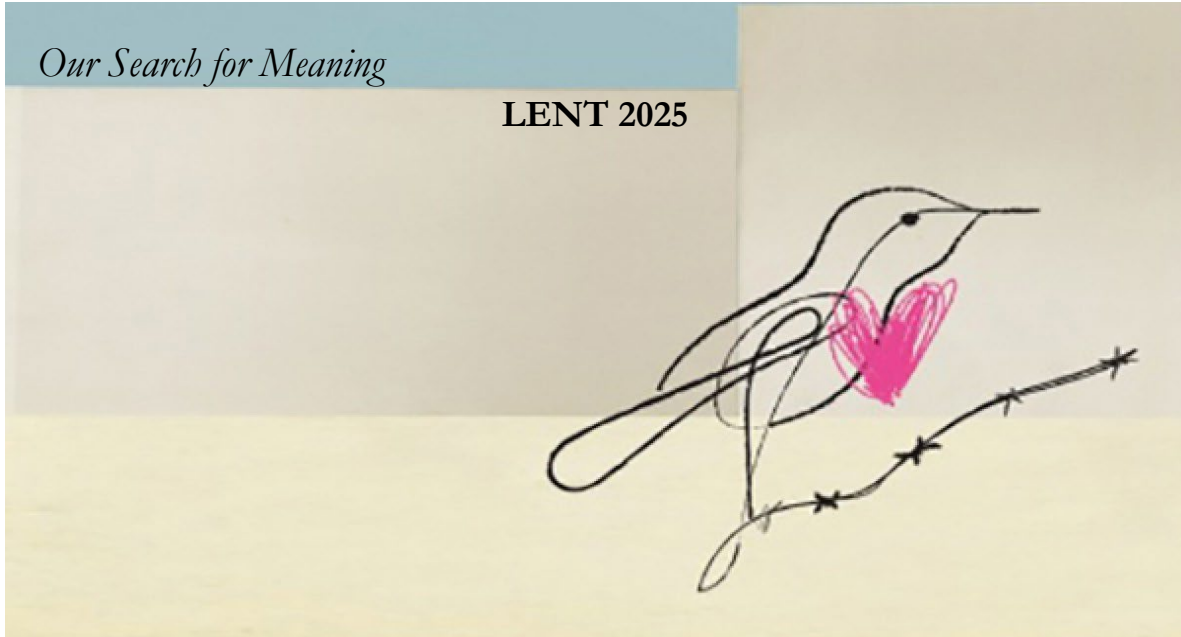
The Forum: Faith formation gathering for youth and adults, *Sundays, 9:15 in the Woodmont Room and on Zoom*. Meeting ID: 829 2802 1217, passcode: 551345. March 16, 23, and 30, we welcome back Rev. Dr. Jerrett Hanson, who will share his **"Thoughts on a New Reformation."**

In March Book Club will be discussing *The Lost Book Shop* by Evie Woods. It has been described as "touch of magic, a love of books, pure escapism, perfect"! March Meeting is on **Tuesday March 25, 7PM at the Nesbitt's** (3913 Juniper Road, 21218).
Harford House Dinner

On **March 27**, the Deacons will be taking chili with cheese & sour cream, cornbread, carrot and celery sticks, fruit, sweet tea and cookies or brownies to the **residents of Harford House**. If you would like to contribute to this meal please sign up on our Google sheet or see Laurie Newton or Phyllis Compton (on March 23). All items need to be dropped off in the kitchen at Faith by noon on Thursday, March 27th.

Bring your rinsed **aluminum cans to raise money for Haiti!** Bring aluminum cans (the change in metal prices means we can no longer accept foil) to church on Sundays and drop them into a designated bin in the Narthex or in Hyde Hall. The cans are sold as scrap metal and the funds sent to two orphanages in Haiti, the Kay Papa Nou Orphanage and Unity House. Have something larger? Call David Rawle at 410-382-4571. Questions? Call David or Lori Rawle at 410-980-6561. Your

contributions have made a big difference, and the project coordinators are grateful for your ongoing support! THANK YOU!



A Lenten Bible Study “Unfinished Confessions” is offered by the Dismantling Racism Team of the Presbytery of Baltimore *Wednesday, April 2 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.* a time of prayer, listening and reflection upon congregational stories of past injustices and broken relationships. How do we hear these sacred stories from our own history? What might we learn about our own spiritual journeys and our collective journey as a community of faith? On Zoom, register with QR Code:



Our Lenten theme is "Our search for meaning," inspired by *Man's Search for Meaning* by Victor Frankl, which chronicles his experiences as a Holocaust survivor and identifies ways people respond and find purpose even in the midst of deplorable, horrific circumstances. If you would like to read this book and gather to reflect on it, a group will meet at **6:30 PM on Wednesday, April 9 at Paula & Peter Burger's home**, 36 Whitfield Road.

HOLY WEEK at Faith

Palm Sunday - Gather at 10:20 in the courtyard for our Procession of Palms! We will begin with a blessing for Holy Week at 10:25, then our procession will depart at 10:30.

Maundy Thursday - Join us for worship around the table in Hyde Hall at 6:00 on Thursday, April 17. We will share a soup supper and break bread together as we remember the last supper Jesus shared with his disciples.

Good Friday - The Dismantling Racism Team of the Presbytery will hold a worship service at noon at St. John United Church in Columbia, MD. Rev. Cat Goodrich and Elder Charese Jordan Moore will offer a dialogue sermon based on the history of Faith and Knox Presbyterian Churches. The service will also be livestreamed.

Holy Saturday - Our Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday morning, April 19, at 10:30 AM in the courtyard at Faith! Join us and bring friends!

Easter Sunday - Join us for a congregational brunch to celebrate the joy of Easter at 10:00 in Jackson Lounge, followed by worship at 10:45 - a musical prelude with brass will begin at 10:30.