



WEBSTER GROVES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

45 West Lockwood Ave. ♦ Webster Groves, MO 63119

314-962-9210 ♦ wgpc.org

5th Sunday in Lent ♦ March 17, 2024 ♦ 9:30 a.m.

Our Mission:
We seek to live Christ's love,
welcome all people, and joyfully serve God.



As the music begins, let us use this time for quiet reflection and prayer, so that we, individually and as a great crowd of witnesses, may prepare ourselves to reaffirm our faith as the people of God.

✦ *When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.*

Gathering for God's Word

PRELUDE

"Brethren, We Have Met to Worship"
Shawn Portell, organ

arr. Douglas Wagner

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

Matt Miller

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

(Please rise in body or spirit.)

L: Come before the Lord with joyful song,
knowing we belong to God!
Come before the Lord
with a heart of penitence, praying:

**P: Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

Sherry Moschner

✦ OPENING HYMN #692

"Spirit Open My Heart"
(see music in back of bulletin)

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

✦ CALL TO CONFESSION

Matt Miller

L: We are a people born of water and the Spirit.
We have made promises to be Christ's faithful disciples,
and to show his love to our life's end.
Although we fail to fulfill those baptismal vows,
God's faithful love endures forever. *Continued >>*

L: Confident of God's grace,
let us confess our sin and the sin of this world.

✠ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Let us pray:

**P: Merciful God,
in your gracious presence
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.**

**Although Christ is among us as our peace,
we are a people divided against ourselves
as we cling to the values of a broken world.**

**The profit and pleasures we pursue
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.**

**The fears and jealousies that we harbor
set neighbor against neighbor
and nation against nation.**

**We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,
of intellect and reason,
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us;
heal and forgive us.**

**Set us free to serve you in the world
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.**

✠ CONFESSION RESPONSE

"Wash Me Clean"

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Wash me clean, wash me clean, whit-er than snow a - gain.

Wash me clean, wash me clean, and I know you're done with my sin.

✠ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: The saying is sure
and worthy of full acceptance,
that Jesus Christ came into the world
to save sinners. *Continued >>*

L: He himself bore our sins
in his body on the cross,
that we might be dead to sin,
and alive to all that is good.
I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ,
you are forgiven. **Amen.**

✠ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

L: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
P: And also with you.

✠ RESPONSE #582

"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

VASILE

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B \flat F B \flat F B \flat F Gm F



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
F B \flat E \flat B \flat Gm7 C7



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm) (A7) (D)
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

Proclaiming God's Word

SCRIPTURE CONVERSATION

L: Let us pray:

God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us.

Amid all the changing words of our generation,
speak your eternal word that does not change.

Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives;
through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Pew Bible pg. 735
Sherry Moschner

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 12:20-33

Pew Bible pgs. 106-107

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

L: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Responding to God's Word

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Almighty God,
 we pray for those
 locked in circumstances beyond their control,
 restrained by oppressors,
 and seeing no end to their captivity.
 May they discover hope
 buried in deepest suffering;
 through Jesus Christ,
 who shared the weakness and despair of human life,
 yet gave even death a new outcome
 and brought resurrection from a closed tomb.
 Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the Church,
 set in the world
 to show how people belong together
 and how your gifts are given to be shared.
 Grant that, as we feel
 for the rejection and voicelessness of others,
 we may meet Christ in them
 and bear witness to his transforming love.
 Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the communities
 in which we live and work;
 for people under stress
 and unable to deal with their difficulties;
 for those who seek comfort
 in ways which bring no help;
 for all who are fearful.

(JOYS AND CONCERNS)

Give us grace to show by our concern and actions
 how each is loved and valued by you.
 Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** *Continued >>*

L: We remember those now hidden from us
but at home with you.
We give thanks especially
for those who have strengthened our weak faith,
built up our trust in you,
and by their lives have drawn us
into the life of Christ
who died in weakness and reigns in glory.

And now, O Gracious God, give us the confidence
to come before you this day,
praying as you have taught us, saying:

**P: 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.**

L: Lord, be with us this day-
within us to purify us;
above us to draw us up;
beneath us to sustain us;
before us to lead us;
behind us to restrain us;
around us to protect us. **Amen.**

(based on a prayer of Patrick of Ireland)

OFFERING INVITATION

Sherry Moschner

L: God has told us what is good;
and what does the Lord require?
To do justice, love kindness,
and walk humbly with our God.

Let us present ourselves to God
as those who have been delivered from death to life.

OFFERING

(For those not using the offering plate, your offering can be made
by texting ALMS to 73256 or using the QR code to the right)



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Be Not Afraid"
Chancel Choir

Dufford/arr. Douglas Wagner

✠ DOXOLOGY

"With Grateful Joy"

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

With grate - ful joy for you the source of all life,
we raise one voice to you from whom all bles - sings flow.
You are the Giv - er of life, you are the Lov - er of life,
the Good Sus - tain - er of Life. We live in you.

✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

P: Let us pray . . .

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
Through your goodness
you have blessed us with these gifts:
ourselves, our time, and our possessions.

Use us, and what we have gathered,
in feeding the world with your love;
through the one who gave himself for us.
Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sending

✠ CLOSING HYMN #724

"O Jesus I Have Promised"
(see music in back of bulletin)

ANGELS STORY

✠ CHARGE

(Patrick of Ireland)

L: May the strength of God pilot us.
May the power of God preserve us.
May the wisdom of God instruct us.
May the hand of God protect us.
May the way of God direct us.
May the shield of God defend us.
May the host of God guard us against the snares of evil
and the temptations of the world.
May Christ be with us,
Christ before us,
Christ in us,
Christ over us.
May your salvation, O Lord,
be always ours this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

✠ BLESSING

L: And now may the Lord bless you and keep you
may she make her face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you
may he lift up his countenance upon you
and may God grant you peace. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

"Postlude: Forty Days and Forty Nights"
Shawn Portell, organ

Timothy Albrecht

*You are welcome to stay for the postlude, especially when we have musical guests.
If you would like to respond at the end, please do so with an "Amen."*

Welcome to WGPC

- **FRIENDSHIP PADS:** Please sign the friendship pads located at the end of each pew.
- **CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME IN WORSHIP:** The nursery (designed for children from newborn through three) is open from 8:45 to 11:45 a.m. But if you need to step out of the Sanctuary, the new Gathering Spot (formerly the front office) will be open with a comfy place to relax with toys, books, coffee, and a live-stream of the worship service.
- **COMMUNION:** Everyone is invited to participate in Communion including children and the unbaptized.
- **ASSISTIVE DEVICES:** Hearing devices, large print hymnals, and cushions are available. One of our ushers will be happy to assist you.
- **WELCOME BAGS:** If you are a visitor or know someone who might be interested in WGPC, please pick up a red welcome bag at our Welcome Station in the main hallway or at the church entrances.

Those Who Serve Today

Liturgist: Sherry Moschner

Greeters: Greta Buck and Ruth Meyer

Ushers: Dan Egley, Deni Fuller, Dan Hagemann,
and Deb Grossman

Tech Team: Lia Fairbanks, Tom McNeely, Rob
Meyer, Spencer Roudebush, Joey Stokes, and
Dennis Wacker

Nursery Caregiving Team: Anna Stokes, Debbie
Goss, Tammy Graning, Sophia Kenow, and
Carrie Rao

Flower Deliverers: Nancy Hansbrough and Nelly
Miyazaki

Office Assistance: Leigh Porter

The Chancel Flowers

The Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God with prayers of peace for the people of Ukraine and all others who are affected by war, the gift of the Oliver and Kazlauskas families.



Online Worship: Our worship services are live-streamed and video recorded for viewing on our website (wgpc.org) and YouTube pages. Children's participation in the Scripture Conversation indicates implied parental consent to be recorded.

Resources: Some prayers and liturgical texts for worship are provided by: Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1 © 2012; Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 2 © 2014; Westminster John Knox Press from Book of Common Worship © 2018.

Ministry Staff

314-962-9210

Pastor: Rev. Edwin Zumwinkel, III (ext. 3201),
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Custodians: (ext. 3212)
Pete Brennan (Supervisor) pjb@wgpc.org
Pierre Campbell
Ken Kastner

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Art Webster,
chq2@fairpoint.net

March 17, 2024 Announcements

WORSHIP

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7:00 p.m.

(Guest minister: Rev. Jay Kanerva)

Good Friday, March 29, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, March 31, 9:30 a.m.

Time to Order Easter Flowers

Deadline: Palm Sunday, March 24

Easter Sunday is March 31! You can order beautiful Easter lilies, hydrangeas, and tulips to help decorate the Sanctuary. Flowers are \$10 each and may be given in honor or memory of someone. (Due to supply limitations, the type of flower cannot be specified.) To place your order, use the link in the Friday Flash or go to wgpc.org/give, click on "Click here to give" blue box, enter the amount, and choose "Flowers" from the drop-down menu. If given on behalf of others, **please enter "honor" or "memory"** and the name/s in the memo field. The deadline is March 24. Flowers may be picked up on Easter Sunday after Worship. For more information or questions, contact Jamie Scott at mjscott81012@gmail.com.



Stony Hill Brass Quintet on Palm Sunday!



Next week, we welcome our WGPC's "Artists in Residence" who are taking part in four festive worship services this season. Members Lucas Alberts (trumpet), Matt Frederickson (trombone), Steve Hanrahan (horn), Jeremy Knudtson (tuba), and Robert Souza (trumpet) appear in orchestras throughout the St. Louis region (including the Fabulous Fox, Muny, and solo concerts).

Please Bring Flowers for Our Cross on Easter Sunday!

Please join us in honoring Christ and celebrating the resurrection on Easter Sunday by participating in WGPC's traditional floral cross. Just bring a few blossoms to add to this beautiful, collective display on our front lawn.



Update from the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) has worked faithfully for 18 months toward calling an Associate Pastor for Faith and Family while encountering multiple challenges. Following the established PC(USA) process, we have found very few candidates whose qualifications and interests align with our congregation's needs. It's time for a new approach.

With approval from Session, the APNC has engaged a non-profit organization called PneuMatrix, which specializes in assisting churches through transitions, including minister search/sourcing. Having spoken with numerous references who have successfully called clergy with the help of PneuMatrix, the committee is quite optimistic about their process and how it can effectively advance our efforts! You can read more about them at chchurches.org/the-changing-church.

PneuMatrix will:

- Send a dedicated consultant to meet in person with the APNC to crystalize the most critical skills and attributes desired in our next Associate Pastor;
- Use its deep networks around the denomination to identify candidates who meet our qualifications (whether actively seeking a call or not);
- Fully vet those candidates (qualifications, willingness to move to St. Louis, references); and
- Present a pool of well-vetted candidates to the APNC

The APNC will then:

- Review applications/materials/sermons;
- Conduct multiple in-depth interviews; and
- Prayerfully complete our process.

The engagement cost with PneuMatrix is being funded from the legacy gift of Dorothy Meyer that was specifically set aside for special projects of the Session.

The APNC asks for your continued prayers and patience as we enter this focused and exciting phase of the search process.

Respectfully,

Tim Currinder, Amy Escott, Sarah Essen, Katie Furtick, Scott Lyon, Brian O'Loughlin, Joey Stokes, and Cece Strand

FELLOWSHIP

Join WGPC's SLAM Group

Wednesday, March 27 at 10:00 a.m., meet at the Art Museum's main entrance

Join us for a fun co-ed opportunity – a docent-guided tour at the St. Louis Art Museum. This month's focus is "Florals in the Collection." Flowers and floral motifs have the power to transport us from winter to spring. Welcome spring while exploring floral depictions in the museum galleries! All are welcome to participate! Please sign up wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links or contact Michelle Lepak at mml@wgpc.org or 314.962-9210, x3210.



Sign Up Now for Small Groups!

Wednesdays, April 10, 17, and 24, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Deadline to sign up: Tuesday, April 2

This spring, we are exploring the journeys of our lives – past, present, and future. Over three weeks, we will journey together in the company of each other and alongside a few of those whose journeys are described in scripture. The first of these journeys will be about relocation and reorientation; the second, will be about renewal and remembering; and the third, the journey of doubt becoming faith and uncertainty becoming hope. After the sessions, we gather in Fellowship Hall for a light dessert and socializing. If you have not participated in the past, we hope you will consider joining this spring. Past participants have found the experience to be enriching, enjoyable, and compelling. **You do not have to be available for all three sessions** in order to participate. All are welcome, so **feel free to sign up a friend who is not a WGPC member.** To register, visit wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links or contact Michelle Lepak at mml@wgpc.org or 314.962-9210, x3210 by the April 2 deadline.



Theology on Tap

Wednesday, March 27, 7:00 p.m.

Walnut Grill, 10797 Sunset Hills Plaza, 63127

Monthly informal conversations about faith and life. For more info, contact Scott Lyon at 636-675-7893 or sjlyon33@gmail.com.



Women of A Certain Age Outing to LifeWise STL

Tuesday, April 9, 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

1321 S. 11th Street, 63104

Come learn about the impactful programming that LifeWise StL (previously Kingdom House) is doing in St. Louis. The outing includes a tour of their facilities, an overview of the wrap-around programming they provide across all ages, a delicious lunch prepared by their chef, and the opportunity to complete a service project to support their mission of helping families and individuals achieve economic well-being. You'll hear some amazing successes including homes purchased with the help of matched savings programs, 100% graduation rates for the LifeWise Academy teens, seniors finding financial stability and a sense of purpose, and more! To sign up, visit wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links or contact Michelle Lepak at mml@wgpc.org.

Sharing God's Hospitality:

An Update from Michelle Lepak

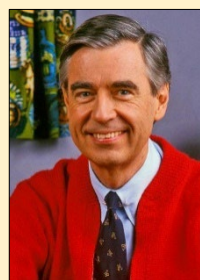
Director of Welcome and Involvement

When visitors sign the Friendship Pad with contact information, I reach out to thank them for joining us and mention that I hope they felt warmly welcomed. Here is an excerpt from a recent email I received:

Yes, I did enjoy the worship service. More importantly, I want you to know that I felt very much welcomed. [I] sat behind two people who were most helpful in telling me about the church. Another woman escorted me to coffee afterward where I spoke to several other women. Everyone's friendliness speaks volumes about WGPC. I've done a lot of "church shopping" over the years, and I have to say this was the most welcomed I've ever experienced.

Sharing God's hospitality is foundational in building relationships; it brings blessings to the receiver and the giver, and it grows your own relationship with God. Please except my sincere gratitude for all you do in making everyone who walks through the doors of WGPC feel welcomed and that they belong here.

Mr. Rogers' Day is Wednesday, March 20

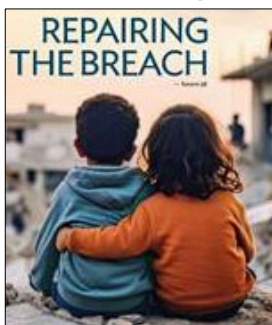


Many do not know that Fred McFeely Rogers – children's TV host, author, and producer – was also an ordained Presbyterian minister. He graduated in 1962 from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary with a bachelor's degree in divinity and was ordained in 1963. He also held a post graduate degree in child development. Fred married his wife Sara in 1952 and had two sons. We salute Mr. Rogers for his kindness, willingness to tackle difficult topics, and positive messages for all!

MISSION

One Great Hour of Sharing Lenten Collection

During Lent, WGPC members participate in One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, a special collection of the PC(USA). This is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together each year to help people around the world including those suffering from natural disasters and those in need of food, clean water, proper sanitation, and other necessities. Envelopes can be found in the pew pockets or you can contribute online at wgpc.com/give/ by clicking on the "Give" button, selecting "PCUSA Special Offering," and entering "OGHS" in the memo.



American Red Cross Blood Drive: Can You Help Save a Life?

Tuesday, April 2, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
Every two seconds, someone in our country needs blood and/or platelets; that need equals approximately 29,000 units of blood each day. Your single donation can help save many lives! Please join us on April 2 to donate blood in Fellowship Hall. To sign up, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org and enter WGPC to schedule an appointment. For questions, please contact Jane Fairbanks at 314-753-7846 or jane.fairbanks@yahoo.com.



A Message to WGPC from Beyond Housing

Thank you for your gift of \$5,000 on January 12, 2024, to support the work of Beyond Housing! Together with people like you, Beyond Housing is creating real transformation within under-resourced communities for the benefit of the entire region. In Pagedale alone, we have build 100 new homes since 2010. In that time, residential property sales values have risen 367%. Crime is down 42%. And the number of businesses has risen 249%. Thank you for your commitment to our comprehensive community development model. Together we have the tools necessary to create meaningful and lasting change for the St. Louis region.
- Chris Krehmeyer, President & CEO

Lenten Mission Collection Continues: Essential Cleaning Supplies for SITO

Deadline: Easter Sunday, March 31

A reminder that we are collecting cleaning supplies for those served by Sanctuary in the Ordinary (SITO), one of our mission partners. As individuals transition from homelessness into stable housing, these supplies are a practical gift of grace and renewal as they embark on a new chapter in their lives. Necessary items include buckets, mops, all-purpose cleaner, dish soap, and toilet bowl cleaner/brushes which will be assembled into "Welcome Home" baskets. To sign up to donate items, please visit wgpc.org/get-involved/sign-up-links or use the QR code. Please place items in the collection bin in the Mission Hub. Together, let's extend the love of Christ with this simple gift.



Afghan Family Partnership Update

Last week, Sue Davis received the best news regarding the family's residence status in the U.S. They have now received their green cards! This has been a long process of hard work and a source of



fear and frustration for the family since authorization for employment for Afghans airlifted from Kabul has a two-year limit. The holder of a green card is granted authorization to live and work in the U.S. on a permanent basis! To read more about the hurdles our Partnership Team (Sue and Glen Davis and others) and the family went through to gain this status, visit wgpc.org/afghan-family-partnership/. Thanks be to God for all who helped along the way; the family can now rest assured that the U.S. is their home!

WGPC Scholarship Program: Celebrating God's Gifts for High School Seniors

Applications due Friday, March 29

Through the generosity of previous church members, scholarships are available to graduating high school seniors who are members of WGPC or who have been active in its programs to help cover the costs for educational plans after high school (college, community college, trade school, etc.) Contact chb@wgpc.org or 314-962-9210, ext. 3205, for the application and more information on the process of applying.

🍀🍀🍀🍀🍀 Happy St. Patrick's Day! 🍀🍀🍀🍀🍀

Give-A-Meal-A-Month March Menu

Help those served by Webster-Rock Hill Ministries by purchasing a bag of menu items and dropping it off in the Mission Hub. The GAMAM March menu is: canned chili, canned fruit cocktail (lite or in fruit juice), cornbread mix, graham crackers, and cooking oil. Additional needs: feminine hygiene products.

FAITH FORMATION

FAITH FORMATION THIS WEEK

Today

Coffee & Conversation with the Lectionary 8:30 a.m.
 "Re-membling Baptism" 10:45 a.m.
 Sunday School for pre-K – 3rd Graders
 (starts during Worship)
 Celtics 4:00 p.m.
 Agape 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday (March 19)

Men's Bible Study 7:00 a.m.

Thursday (March 21)

Disciples' Bible Study 10:00 a.m.
*Please note that Disciples Bible Study
 will not meet on Thursday, March 28.*

Sunday (March 24)

Coffee & Conversation with the Lectionary 8:30 a.m.
 "Re-membling Baptism" 10:45 a.m.

*Detailed information about Faith Formation
 opportunities can be found online at wgpc.org
 (click on the Ministries tab,
 then click on Faith Formation).*

Today's Faith Formation . . . Re-membling Baptism

*Today, March 24, and April 7, 10:45 a.m. in the
 Parlor and by Zoom*

This Sunday, we continue our multiweek study on the sacrament of baptism which marks our entrance into the people of God, both as infants and adults, and stands at the center of our Christian experience in the church. In this study, we explore the theological meanings of baptism in the Reformed and Presbyterian traditions which helps us better understand baptism and the dimensions that mark it as of key importance to us. Additionally, we discuss the ways baptism has an ongoing and daily significance for Christians in the church. Classes will be led by **Jeff Buck** (March 17) and **Rev. Dale Kuhn** (March 24). *An April 7 class led by Pastor Ed Zyumwinkel is also being added; details will be forthcoming.*



Retreat Reminder!

*Saturday, April 20, 9:00-3:00 pm
 Mercy Conference and Retreat Center, 2039 North
 Geyer Road, St. Louis 63131*

Registration deadline: Friday, March 29

We all know that important relationships are not built in a single day! They begin to grow and are enriched in conversations and shared experiences. Join with other women from WGPC for a day of fun activities and conversations inspired by Heather Holleman's book *The Six Conversations: Pathways to Connecting in an Age of Isolation and Incivility*. All are welcome! Invite a friend! For more information and to register, visit wgpc.org/get-involved/upcoming-events/.

LIGHT BEYOND SHADOW

*Join WGPC's community partner St. Louis Metro
 Singers with Music Director Shawn Portell for a
 series of concerts this spring.*



Today, March 17, 3 p.m.

Hope Evangelical Lutheran
 Church
 5218 Neosho Street
 St. Louis, MO 63109

Sunday, March 24, 3 p.m.

St Anthony of Padua
 Catholic Church
 3140 Meramec Street
 St. Louis, MO 63118

Bulletin and Friday Flash Deadlines

Announcements for the bulletin and Friday Flash are limited to 150 words or less. They are due by the end of Tuesday prior to the desired Friday or Saturday. For the Friday Flash, email chb@wgpc.org. For the bulletin, email baf@wgpc.org. If you'd like the announcement to appear in both, please send to both email addresses.

692 Spirit, Open My Heart

Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A7)
F B \flat F B \flat C7

Refrain

Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

(Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7) (Bm) (D/A) (Em)
Dm F/C B \flat C7 Dm F/C Gm

liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

(D) (G) (Em7) (D) (G) (D)
F B \flat Gm7 F B \flat F *Fine*

and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

(D) (G) (D) (G)
F B \flat F B \flat

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

(A7) (Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7)
C7 Dm F/C B \flat C7

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
sis - ter, broth - er. In the wel - come of

(Bm) (Em7) (D) (G2) (G)
Dm Gm7 F B \flat 2 B \flat *to Refrain*

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
Christ, may we wel - come one an - oth - er.

The pace and diversity of modern life often hinder us from remaining vulnerable to our emotions and to the humanness of other people. This prayerful text to be open to such joys and pains draws on Ezekiel 11:19 and 36:26 in stanza one and echoes Jeremiah 31:33 in stanza two.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1994
MUSIC: Irish melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011
Text © 1996 The Pilgrim Press
Music Harm. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME
Irregular

724 O Jesus, I Have Promised

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;
 2 O let me feel thee near me! The world is ev - er near:
 3 O let me hear thee speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
 4 O Je - sus, thou hast prom - ised to all who fol - low thee

be thou for - ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;
 I see the sights that daz - zle; the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will;
 that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if thou art by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if thou wilt be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, draw thou near - er and shield my soul from sin.
 O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard - ian of my soul.
 O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

Written to highlight the promises made by the author's daughter and two sons at their confirmation, this text equally well recalls the promises of discipleship made in Baptism and in the Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant. The tune was written for a text now unused.

TEXT: John Ernest Bode, 1866, alt.
 MUSIC: Arthur Henry Mann, 1881

ANGEL'S STORY
 7.6.7.6.D
 (alternate tune: NYLAND, 725)