

Thursday, March 28, | 6:00 pm | Dinner | 6:45 pm | Communion



# **LENT BANNERS**

The season of Lent provides a blessed opportunity for reflection as we approach the altar of our Lord's sacrifice with hope in His mercy. The seasonal wall hangings (paraments) reflect the themes and color of this liturgical season. The purple of Lent represents sorrow and repentance. Grey, the color of ashes, calls us back to Ash Wednesday, when we received this symbol of mourning and humility on our foreheads. The tan fabric suggests desert sands and the arid nature of sin. The coarse ropes suspended between the fabric panels also carry symbolic meaning. The five groupings of ropes remind us of the five wounds Christ bore on the cross. The rope itself is a symbol of the betrayal of Christ as the soldiers bound him after the kiss of Judas. The stones, woven into the ropes, represent the sin that weighs down our souls. The knots in the ropes suggest the discord in our families, the hurts between married couples, and the absence of peace and joy caused by our pride and failure to depend on God. These paraments provide a visual reminder of the mercy God offers us not only in the Lenten Season but also throughout the entire year.







Sunday, March 31 | 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00 am | Sanctuary | Livestream



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Traditional Worship Service March 17, 2024 | 11:00 am

# Lent: A Season of Fasting and Feasting

Mark 13:28-37

Dr. Mike Marshall, preaching Rev. Lance Marshall, Senior Pastor

#### Welcome

Dr. Mike Marshall, Associate Pastor

### Prelude: "Hear Us, O Lord"

Thomas Atwood, Ronald Nelson, arranger Adoramus Chamber Choir Alison Haygood, director

## \*Call to Worship

Zhenya Gurina Rodriguez, PhD, Associate Pastor

One: In the Light of God's love we journey through the dark places of life knowing we should fear no evil and will be victors in God's grace. So let us worship the one who journeys with us and helps us to overcome our fears to live with strength even in our tears. Do we expect life just to be sweetness and light?

All: We know that trials will confront us all. One: Where is our hope in the darkest of times?

All: In the love and grace of God who gives us strength.

One: How do we journey through the challenges of life? All: With trust in the One who journeys with us.

One: In that trust let us turn to God and Christ Jesus, God's Son

and in the Spirit of peace and praise worship God.

All: Amen.

\*Hymn 160: "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"

#### \*Affirmation of Faith 881

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 Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at 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 Spirit,

the holy catholic° church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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# \*Gloria Patri 70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

\*\*Please be seated

# **Sacrament of Baptism**

Bradley Walker Dearden son of Jacqueline and Michael Dearden

Baptismal Hymn 191: "Jesus Loves Me" (vs. 1)

## **Congregational Response**

With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ that Bradley Walker, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

#### Faith Like a Child

"Mister Mark" Burrows, Director of Children's Ministries

\*Hymn 560: "Help Us Accept Each Other"

Scripture: Mark 13:28-37

Jeanne Cochran, lay reader

God speaks to us through the reading of scripture.

Thanks be to God.

# Sermon Series: Lent: A Season of Fasting and Feasting

Rev. Lance Marshall, Senior Pastor

# **Pastoral Prayer**

# 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen. (Matthew 6:9-13)

# Offertory: "Sing Praise to Christ"

J. S. Bach, composer

#### \*Doxology 95

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

# \*Benediction

One: Our gathering will soon be ended. Where will we go, and what will we do?

All: We will go out to be God's people in the world.

One: May grace, peace, hope, love, and joy forever accompany you. Amen.

\*Congregational Benediction: "Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed"
At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the light,
and the burden of my heart rolled away;
it was there by faith I received my sight,
and now I am happy all the day.

\*Postlude: "Postlude in C Major"
Girolamo Frescobaldi, arranger

Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Fort Worth – we are glad you're here to worship with us today!

Please let us know you are here by filling out the attendance pad as it comes by or registering on-line.

Asterisks (\*) indicate times when you are invited to stand as you are able.

In addition to your regular contribution, every one dollar (\$1) bill placed in the offering plate for the month of March will support rental assistance for clients

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in memory of our friend & neighbor, Carol Elliott Row, by Debbie & Gary Griffith.

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### **ARE YOU NEW?**

If you would like to find your Worship Plus One, we would love to visit with you and help you explore the First Church groups or ministries of special interest to you! Finding your Worship Plus One will help you meet others, build relationships, and grow stronger in your faith.

For details, please email Angie Parish (aparish@myfumc.org), Director of Welcoming Ministries or Dr. Mike Marshall (mmarshall@myfumc.org), Associate Pastor of Leadership Development — and be sure to include your phone number in your email!