



**NORTHRIDGE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2025

INSPIRING TRANSFORMATIVE FAITH
RELEVANT WORSHIP • COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITY • EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

6920 BOB-O-LINK DRIVE • DALLAS, TEXAS 75214 • NORTHRIDGEPC.ORG

Speaking of Faith and Conversation Cards

Throughout this program year, we're exploring words of faith that have been passed down to us and that we want to pass down to our children and grandchildren. Each week, worship is centered around a single word that is distinct to our faith. Through the Lenten season, we'll be exploring words related to self-examination and the story of Jesus: *Dust, Angels, Sin, Confession, Repent, Remember, Hosanna, Commandment* and *Crucifixion*. To help us speak our faith this year, we are assembling a deck of conversation cards. Pick up your cards in the Narthex today.

Faith Formation Opportunities this Lent

The season of Lent has begun and takes us all the way to Easter on a journey of forty days plus Sundays. Families with children may pick up a Lenten Daily Word Calendar to help observe the season at home. Adults have two options during Connection Hour for Lenten studies: *The Difficult Words of Jesus* in room 130 and *Good Enough with The Village* in room 135.

George Mason: Theologian-In-Residence

We are excited to welcome the Rev. Dr. George Mason, former Senior Pastor of Wilshire Baptist Church, as our Theologian-In-Residence this spring! Rev. Dr. Mason will serve as our guest preacher on six Sundays between March 23 and June 1. He will also meet with church officers and teach two Sunday morning classes during Connection Hour. We look forward to learning from Rev. Dr. Mason during the Lenten and Easter seasons.

You Are Not Anonymous Here!

God knows you by name and we want to, too. We encourage you to wear your nametag, found on the kiosk in the narthex, or fill out a temporary nametag at the welcome table behind the sanctuary. If you need a new nametag, please contact us at office@northridgepc.org.

Kids Belong in Worship Too

We believe children are an integral part of our community and they belong in worship with us. Worship bags with interactive children's bulletins and other materials to help children stay engaged during worship are available in the narthex at the back of the sanctuary. For children younger than 1st grade, the nursery is open and staffed with caregivers until worship ends. Children also serve as Lay Readers and our children's choir sings in worship from time to time.

Worship Livestream

Our worship service extends beyond the walls of the sanctuary in the form of video recording and livestreaming. Your presence with us today signifies consent to the possibility that your image may be included as part of our media broadcast. You can revisit the livestream of this service on our YouTube channel by visiting www.youtube.com/NorthridgePresbyterian. You can also view or listen to archived sermons via YouTube or Spotify.

Join Us

At Northridge, we believe the church is a gift everyone deserves to enjoy; a community of people committed to doing life together, following in the footsteps of Jesus. If you think Northridge may be the community for you, please reach out to Rev. Rebecca Sicks at rebeccas@northridgepc.org. The next opportunity to join in worship is on Sunday, March 16.



NORTHRIDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

✠ *an invitation to rise in body or spirit*

Chiming the Hour

Introit

Toccatà in D minor, BWV 913

J. S. Bach

Welcome

✠ Call to Worship

written by Stephen Fearing

*The Lenten journey has begun, with ashes and prayer,
self-examination and study of the Word of God...*

We follow our faithful Lord.

These times, they are troubling. This journey, it is hard...

We follow our faithful Lord.

It is God who sustains, not the temptations of this world...

We follow our faithful Lord.

In the Lord is our trust, our protection from harm...

We follow our faithful Lord.

Come, let us worship the One whom we serve...

We follow our faithful Lord.

✠ Gathering Hymn (insert)

Jesus, Tempted in the Desert

EBENEZER

Prayer of Confession

adapted from *The Walk* by Ann Weems

**Living God, we confess our reluctance to walk along the road
that leads to the cross in Jerusalem.**

Lent is not our favorite time of year.

We'd rather be more active: planning and scurrying around.

All this is too contemplative to suit us.

Besides, we don't know what to do with piousness and prayer.

We confess when we make time to think, thoughts come, unbidden.

When we know our past, we're afraid to face our future.

(silence for personal confession)

Give us the courage, O God,

to hear your word and to read our living into it.

Give us the trust to know we're forgiven,

and give us the faith to take up our lives and walk.

Assurance of Pardon

✦ Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

✦ Kyrie

WAYFARING STRANGER

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Mark 1:9-15

N.T. p.#33

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Speaking of Faith: Angels

Rev. Rebecca Chancellor Sicks

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

✦ Affirmation of Faith

A Lenten Creed from Patmos Abbey—The Order of Saint Columba

**We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God,
who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs.**

**We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God,
and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted.**

**We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God
who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.**

**We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures,
and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts.**

**We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination,
and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine.**

**We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road,
and that we are called to love one another as God loves us.**

This is our faith and we are humbled to profess in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

✦ Affirmation Response

When We Are Tested

Glory to God, #783, v.4

**When we have struggled and searched through the night,
sorting and sifting the wrong from the right,
Savior, surround us with circles of care,
angels of healing, of hope, and of prayer.**

The Prayers of the People and 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 to Give

Offerings of cash or checks may be left in the offering plates at the back of the sanctuary.
To make an offering via text, send NPC6920 to 73256 and follow the link to the giving page.
Please enter the desired fund where your gift will be recorded.
To make a gift toward your pledge, choose "Stewardship 2025."

Offertory

Lo, a voice to heaven sounding Dimitri Bortniansky
Lo, a voice to heaven sounding, praising everlastingly.
As the voice of many waters, God the Father, praising ever joyfully.
We, too, sing exultingly; we, too, sing now who love thee; we sing to thee this holy day.

✠ Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all creatures here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
one holy God, whom we adore. Amen.**

✠ Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

✠ Sending Hymn #738

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

MARYTON

✠ Charge and Benediction

**Go out into God's world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good;
return to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak;
help the suffering; honor all persons; love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Closing Voluntary

Prelude in D minor

Dieterich Buxtehude

Leading Worship Today

Rev. Rebecca Chancellor Sicks, Parish Associate for Community

Bert Colter, Pastoral Associate for Care

Leah Lucas, Family Ministries Coordinator

Dr. Bryan Scott Page, Director of Music

Maria Markevitch, Organist

Jesus, Tempted in the Desert

Je - sus, tempt - ed in the des - sert,
Je - sus, tempt - ed at the tem - ple,
 Je - sus, tempt - ed on the moun - tain
When we face tempt - ta - tion's pow - er,

lone - ly, hun - gry, filled with dread: "Use your power," the
high a - bove its an - cient wall: "Throw your - self from
 by the lure of vast do - main: "Fall be - fore me!
lone - ly, strug - gling, filled with dread, Christ, who knew the

tempt - er tells him; "Turn these bar - ren
loft - y tur - ret; an - gels wait to
 Be my ser - vant! Glo - ry, fame, you're
tempt - er's ho - ur, come and be our

rocks to bread!" "Not a - lone by bread," he an - swers,
break your fall!" Je - sus shuns such emp - ty mar - vels,
 sure to gain!" Je - sus sees the daz - zling vi - sion,
liv - ing bread. By your grace, pro - tect, pre - serve us

"Can the hu - man heart be filled.
feats that fick - le crowds re - quest:
 turns his eyes an - oth - er way:
lest we fall your trust be - tray.

On - ly by the Word that calls us
"God, whose grace pro - tects, pre - serves us,
 "God a - lone de - serves our hom - age!
Yours, a - bove all oth - er voi - es,

is our deep - est hun - ger stilled!"
we must nev - er vain - ly test."
 God a - lone will I o - bey!"
be the Word we hear, o - bey.

SERVICE MUSIC

✠ Kyrie

You are the Lord, giv-er-of mer-cy! You are the Christ,
giv-er of mer-cy! You are the Lord, giv-er-of mer-cy!

✠ Affirmation Response

When we have strug-gled and searched through the night,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

✠ Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all crea - tures
here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more; one
ho - ly God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

738 O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move
 3 Teach me thy pa - tience, still with thee
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray

in low - ly paths of ser - vice free;
 by some clear, win - ning word of love;
 in clos - er, dear - er com - pa - ny,
 far down the fu - ture's broad - ening way;

tell me thy se - cret; help me bear the
 teach me the way - ward feet to stay, and
 in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in
 in peace that on - ly thou canst give, with

strain of toil, the fret of care.
 guide them in the home - ward way.
 trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
 thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

In honestly admitting the limits of human ability, this prayerful hymn does not seek a sense of God's presence for self-comfort but for strength and companionship in pursuing the tasks that God sets before us. The author specifically chose this tune to accompany his words.

THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

(214) 827-5521

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The Church Staff

Pastor (on family leave until June 2025)

Rev. Elizabeth Lyles Swetenburg
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Director of Music

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Organist

Maria Markevitch
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Heather Kolodziej
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Moderator

Rev. Betsy Swetenburg

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Dr. Roger Quillin

The Session

Treasurer

Allan Tepera
treasurer@northridgepc.org

Clerk

Bill Swart

Class of 2025

Natalia Brownfield—Faith Formation
*Jeff Chauza—Mission
*Ken Slack—Administration
*Brandy Treadway—Human Resources

*committee chair

Ruling Elders

Class of 2026

*Jack Munn—Property
*Colleen Taylor—Engagement & Connection
*Pete Wahl—Worship
*Sarah Nicholson—NCDC Board

Class of 2027

Mike Buchanan—Human Resources
Monty Watson—Administration
*Bessie Fox—Faith Formation
Jordan Meyer—Mission

Class of 2025

Cathie Bishop
Margaret Floyd
*Carol Harris
Mark Nacol
Rob Raymond
Jane Treadway

Board of Deacons

*Co-Moderators

Class of 2026

Doug Bissell
Lucinda Cummins
*Allison Mickey
Melinda Nelson
Dennis Rodriguez