

Centenary United Methodist Church 2300 W. Friendly Ave. Greensboro, NC 27403 February 26, 2023

First Sunday of Lent

Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor

Anita Trumpler-Rich, Music Director

Welcome friends, family, and visitors. May your hearts be touched by the Holy Spirit as we join in worship with devotion, songs, and prayer.
Our Mission: To experience God's life-changing love and take God's love into the world. Our Vision: To be a church where everyone is involved in ministry. Gathering Music

Abiding Love

Dorothy Wells

Announcements for Missions and Ministry

Choral Call to Worship	Beneath the Cross of Jesus	Choir
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Call to worship:

Leader: We come to worship the God that walks with us through every challenge. **People: We come to remember what Jesus did when he was faced with the wilderness.** Leader: When Israel wandered through the wilderness, she was not alone, God was there! **People: If you are walking through the wilderness, you are not alone, God is with you!**

All: We come today to worship our God, who gives us strength for every journey, and courage for every test!

Prayer: When We Are Tested

God, give us wisdom when we are tested. Teach us when to speak and when to be silent, when to ignore and when to respond with a shout from the rafters! When the Tempter comes, teach us to discern things important from mere distractions from your plan for our lives. Teach us, O God, how to respond with wisdom when we are tested. Amen. ⁺Hymn Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days **UMH 269** Lenten Wreath Reading and Extinguishing of Candle Linda and Harold Billings Joys and Concerns Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer Anthem Lamb of God Twila Paris Choir John 6: 68-69 Scripture: Sermon Series: The Characters of Easter; The Failure: Peter **Rev. Kelley Groce**

Lenten Creed

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.

- from Traveling to Easter with Jesus as our Guide, posted on the website of Patmos Abbey—The Order of Saint Columba. http://www.patmosabbey.org/

Hymn	Great is Thy Faithfulnes	S	UMH140 (1&3)
We Worship v	with God's Tithes and our Offering.		
Offertory			
+Doxology			
†Hymn	Amazing Grace		UMH 378
+Benediction			
+Postlude			
+Blessing and	Benediction		
*Postlude	Les muletiers devant Le Christ de Llivia	Deodat de Severac	James Esterline Piano

[†]Please stand as you are able and silence your cell phones.

"Our deep thanks to James Esterline for his beautiful piano music in today's worship!"



As you engage your 'Prayer Life' this week, please remember these prayer concerns: If you have a prayer concern or praise, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643, or call Kelley at the parsonage 336-285-5081. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation.

Prayer Requests: Andreas Daiber. Gretchen Crabtree. Betty Pleasants. Dave Blackman. Susan Carrick. Sheridian Wacker. Lori Johnson. Lori Eaton. Peggy Harris. Diane, Jim & Scott Stanley. Anne Murr. Trudy Sillmon. Don & Clara Ellis. Aly Saunders. Rachel Dykes. Till West (David Groce's aunt). Tricia Wurst (Faye Elliott's sister).

We extend our sympathy to the family of Howard Fulcher who passed away on February 18th.

Announcements and Calendar of events



February Birthdays - John Pugh (27). Susan Lee, Cynthia Michael (28). **March Birthdays** – Jim Wilson (1). Chrissy Verchick (2). Frazier Robinson (3) Estelle

Cranford (7). Dottie Rayburn (10). Rachel Sheppard (11). Pat Stevenson, Alan Rayburn (15). Kristina Kinard (16). Harold Billings (19). Charlie Sartore (22) Doris Pruitt (24). Andrew Snider (25). Cindie Sillmon (29). Caryn Hull, Michael Townsend (31).

Ad Council – Rescheduled to March 12th in the Conference Room.

February 26th- Today - 3:30pm Centenary Concert Series in Sanctuary.

February 28th – 6:30pm – Lenten Bible Study. "The Passion Play" by Rob Fuquay. Books are available for \$15.00 in the church office.

March 19th St. Patrick's Day Celebration - Chili Lunch and Program from Barbara Danais and Barbara Albright after worship. All are invited!

Wednesdays at 6:45pm- Choir Practice. All are welcome to join. See Anita if you have any questions.

Sunday School at 9:45am – in the Fellowship Hall. Study: Season 3 of "The Chosen".

Undie Sunday. The first Sunday of each month. Needed black and white socks for men and women. New packaged underwear for men and women, all sizes.

Light Up the Sanctuary Campaign continues. If you would like to contribute to the causeplease gift to Light Up the Sanctuary Campaign and designate as such.

The Altar Flower Calendar is posted. There are dates still available. The cost is \$65.00/Sunday if we order from the florist. If you are interested in a less expensive option, please call the church office (336-299-9643).