Scripture Lessons Linda Jessen

 Romans 8:31-39; I John 4:16-18

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*Singing Our Faith **# 2224** *“Make Us One”* (TFWS)

The Good News ***“Perfect Love Drives Out Fear”***

Bringing Forward God’s Tithes and Our Gifts

\*Doxology **# 95 Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all Creatures here below;** **praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

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.**

\*Singing Our Faith # **451** *“Be Thou My Vision”*

\*Blessing and Dismissal

\*Postlude

**Scatter to Serve God & Neighbor**

*Welcome to all! We gather to praise God for the innumerable blessings given to us and to grow deeper in the Spirit. Joyfully, let us lift our hearts to God.*

**Cards for Homebound Members**

Please take a moment to sign the cards for our homebound members/friends that Erin has placed in the Commons.



*C* *hestnut Hill*

 ***United Methodist Church***



*Making disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.*

*You are welcome at Chestnut Hill UMC.*

4660 Fort Avenue ~ Lynchburg, Virginia 24502

Church: 434-239-8423

Minister’s Cell: 434-944-7723, Minister’s Email: awhite@ves.org

Associate Minister’s Cell: 1-502-489-0200

Associate Minister’s Email: healingsolutions12@gmail.com

Email: chestnuthillumc@comcast.net

On the Web at chestnuthillumc.net

Find us on Facebook: Chestnut Hill United Methodist Church

*Chestnut Hill United Methodist Church*

 10:30 a.m. ~ January 28, 2024 ~Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Our ministry vision for the Virginia Annual Conference is ***“to be disciples of Jesus Christ who are lifelong learners, who influence others to serve.”***

***Welcome! Join us in worshiping God!***

Prelude

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

*Welcome in the name of Christ our Lord. Please register your attendance, printing your name, address, phone, and email, on the attendance pad provided on your pew. Thank you for silencing cell phones as we gather to worship God.*

Invocation

\*Greeting

Oh Lord God you have called us from all over this country, to this city, to this year, to this home, and to these friends.

**We are friends, we are disciples, we are your servants.**

You have called us chosen and beloved. You have given us the great gift of new life by the sacrifice of your son.

**How could we not love you Lord?**

We do love you Lord. But there are times we feel overwhelmed, we feel anxiety build in our hearts, and we are terrified of walking alone.

**You have promised that You will always be near. You walk with us …teaching, loving, assuring us of Your presence.**

You walk before us …leading us in Your way You walk behind us …protecting us.

**We trust you. We trust that You will strengthen us and help us and hold us up with Your righteous right hand.**

Anything or anyone who chooses to war against our spirits will have to fight You first.

**No one is too big for You! We are safe in your hands.**

You are the God of the universe, mighty and powerful, wise and compassionate. You are everywhere and in every moment. And we trust You.

**Our fear is swept away in Your glory. Our fear is bound in Your strength.**

Perfect love casts out fear. Our fears disappear in the wonder of Your love. *(We will not Fear written by Tami Rudkin)*

\*Singing Our Faith **# 127** *“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”*

\*Opening Prayer

**Peace-giving God, we are your people, and we belong to you. While we are not of this world, we do live in this world with its challenges and obstacles. Often our fears and our anxieties overwhelm us. In our humanness we come before you, seeking the strength and courage that only you can provide. We come to grow in our confidence in you so that our faith will overcome our fears. We come to relinquish our worries and be freed from our burdens that we may fully experience your peace and joy through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

Special Music

Greeting Friends and Neighbors

Prayer for Illumination Linda Jessen

**O God who cried for relief in the garden. Your tears have shown me that faithfulness does not mean fearlessness. Help me see my fear as the seedbed of faith. Uncurl my fingers to sow my anxieties in the soil of your trustworthiness. Remind me that this dirt where I kneel, to tend to both my ordinary needs and my extraordinary hopes for myself and for the world, is a place you kneeled before me. Help me plant peace where others sow suspicion. Grow my love for wholeness to be fiercer than my fear of evil. Open my eyes this day to see both the news and my needs as sacred ground. Together, we will plant gardens. Amen.** *(KJ Ramsey)*

***\*\*Calendar \*\****

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Friday, 2/2 | 10:00 a.m. | *Homeschool* |

***\*\*Looking Ahead on the Calendar \*\****

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sunday, 2/4 | 10:00 a.m. | *Choir* |
|  |  |  |
| Sunday, 2/11 | 11:45 a.m. | *Stewardship/Valentine Lunch*We will celebrate our pledges to CHUMC for 2024. This will be a covered dish meal. RSVP forms are in today’s bulletins. Place them in the basket provided in the Commons. |
|  |  |  |
| Wednesday, 2/14 | 5:00 p.m. | *Ash Wednesday Service* |
|  |  |  |
| Thursday, 2/15 | 10:00 a.m. | *Merry Martha’s Circle* |

**Souper Bowl of Caring**

We are participating in ***Souper Bowl of Caring***, to benefit Meals on Wheels, for the month of **February**. For donations please use a pew envelope. Make checks payable to “Chestnut Hill UMC” and mark it for *“Meals on Wheels”*.

**For the Grocery Cart: January/February**

Pop-top cans of meats, soups, pasta dishes, vegetables, and body wash. Place donations in the grocery cart, located in the Commons.



***DIRECTORY OF CHESTNUT HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sue Haupert-Johnson |  Richmond Area Resident Bishop |
| Denise Bates | Mountain View District Superintendent |
| Adam White | Minister |
| Erin Long | Associate Minister |
| Monica Campbell | Administrative Assistant |
| Heather Wilson | Director of Music Ministry |
| Judy Martin |  Bookkeeper |
| Judy RobertsonElizabeth Nichols | Lay Leader Missionary in Henry County |

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