

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
"Bringing People to Christ and Christ to People"

March 22, 2026

9:45 a.m.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE (*Please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.*)

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

WELCOME – *Hearing assistance and large print materials are available. See an usher.*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (**Please rise in body or spirit.*)

Leader: The Spirit of God has brought us here.

People: The Lord has set us down here, though our bones are tired.

Leader: Can these dry bones live?

People: Yes! The Breath of God will revive us! The Word of God will awaken us!

Leader: Today, we come together to experience new life.

People: Let us give thanks to the Wild, Life-Giving Spirit of God!

written by Amy Loving, and posted on [The Worship Closet](#) website

***HYMN** *Lord of the Dance (vs 1-3)*

UMH 261

SCRIPTURE READING

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! ⁵This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.'" ⁷So I prophesied

as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army. ¹¹Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.'" ¹²Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.'"

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 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.

*BLESSING THE OFFERING

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

UMH 881

*GLORIA PATRI

UMH 71

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.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN *In the Garden*

UMH 314

SCRIPTURE

John 11: 1-45 Summary

MESSAGE

"Dead End?"

***HYMN *Trust and Obey* (vs 1-3)**

UMH 467

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BENEDICTION**

CHORAL BENEDICTION *He Is Lord

UMH 177

EXTINGUISHING OF ALTAR CANDLES

POSTLUDE

Music Director: Mike Nelson

Videographer: Roger Vandegrift

Liturgist: Lori Nelson



DRY BONES COME ALIVE

Ezekiel 37:5

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☞ ANNOUNCEMENTS ☞

WEEKEND FOOD BAGS – Will be packed today after the service

BIBLE STUDY – Meets on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. There is still time to join. See the Pastor for a copy of the book.

OUTSIDE CHURCH SIGN – Please see Roger if you would like to donate and support the purchase of the new sign.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

- Maundy Thursday (April 2) at St. John's at 6:00 p.m.
- Good Friday (April 3d) at St. John's at 6:00 p.m.
- Good Friday (April 3) at Trinity UMC at noon

EASTER SUNDAY (April 5) – Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. prior to the service. After the service, the children will enjoy an Easter Egg hunt and there will also be the regular fellowship hour.

EASTER EGGS – Empty Easter eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt are in the vestibule. If you can fill a dozen with candy (no chocolate please!) or other treats, please take a bag, return March 29.

FIRST BAPTIST FOOD BANK – Requests include canned vegetables (potatoes, corn, green beans, carrots), canned meats, corn bread, and spaghetti sauce. Please bring donations by the first Sunday of the month.

APRIL DINNER GET TOGETHER – Will be Monday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m. at Bob Evans. Let Jean know if you will attend.

PRAYER CHAIN – Call or text Pat Kern at 443-783-6423

NEWSLETTER – Submit information to Paul Nelson at pnelson37@gmail.com

SOCIAL HOUR – See Buddy Pennewell or Cathy Grim to help.

Memorial Service for Frances Jean Tull

Sat., April 11 at 11 a.m. at Mt. Pleasant Mennonite Church,
2041 Mt. Pleasant Rd. Chesapeake, VA 23322