

# LENT 2025: FOLLOWING JESUS BEYOND THE WILDERNESS

In Worship on Sunday mornings during Lent, the sermons will explore stories of the ministry of Jesus in the wilderness and beyond. Jesus was sent into the wilderness after his baptism but remained there only a short time. The rest of his earthly ministry was spent out among people, healing, teaching, and transforming people and places. We'll explore what Jesus did as we travel with him beyond the wilderness and on the way to Jerusalem.

**Ash Wednesday, March 6**, marks the beginning of Lent. Rumble invites you to attend one of four short worship services: 8:15 a.m., 12:15, 4:15, and 5:15 p.m. All services are in the sanctuary and will include the imposition of ashes and an invitation to intentional spiritual practices during Lent. The 12:15 p.m. service will be live-streamed.

**Holy Week Worship will begin with Palm Sunday, April 13**, at the 11:00 a.m. service with our children leading us in with the palm processional, and special music from the Chancel Choir. Maundy Thursday worship at 7:00 p.m. on April 17, will take place around tables in the Gathering Space. On Good Friday, April 18, the sanctuary will be open from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. for personal prayer and reflection. In addition, we will also offer a self-guided time to experience the Stations of the Cross, recently installed on the Rumble and St. Mary's campuses.



**Join in a Lenten book study** of Richard Rohr's revised and updated *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life*, led by Dave McCollum on Wednesday afternoons in the Choir Room for six weeks, March 12 through April 16 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Register through the Breeze form. Mention Rumble when you order the book at Blowing Rock's new bookstore FireLight Book & Candle and receive a 10 % discount.

**Journey through Lent with CS Lewis** and his famous work *The Screwtape Letters*. Look for emails from Rumble beginning March 3, with some introductory information. The study will begin with an email on Ash Wednesday, followed by emails each Sunday during Lent, and an additional email for Maundy Thursday/Good Friday. Then we'll wrap up on Easter Sunday. You'll want to pick up a copy of *The Screwtape Letters* or read it for free online (an online search will bring up dozens of free options).

If you're a Kate Bowler fan, you can download her daily guide to Lent, *The Hardest Part: Hurts We Carry, Hope We Find*. Download for free at [katebowler.com/lent](http://katebowler.com/lent) and receive it directly from Kate.

**Join in a church-wide Lenten mission effort for Rise Against Hunger** when Rumble will join with St. Mary's Episcopal on Sunday afternoon, March 16, to pack thousands of meals for hungry children. Volunteers are needed to set up, pack meals from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., and to clean up afterwards. Sign up through the Rumble website.

**Consider a gift to One Great Hour of Sharing.** For over 70 years, Presbyterians have made special donations to OGHS during Lent and Easter. This offering helps to improve the lives of people in challenging situations with disaster assistance, hunger programs, and individual and community development programs. Gifts can be made anytime by specifying OGHS and envelopes will be available in the pews on Easter Sunday, April 20.

# AN INVITATION

**Our focus for Lent this year is Following Jesus Beyond the Wilderness. To accompany this theme, we have an invitation for you. We invite your group to live like Jesus and take on a special mission project. Our vision is that each group will plan and participate in a service activity during Lent. If you are not involved in a group at Rumble but still want to participate, take a look at the list below to see what other groups are doing. You can reach out to the contact person for the activity you're interested in and join their group for this Lenten project! We hope that your group will find joy in coming together to serve God. Reach out to Kathy, Lindsey, or Stephanie if you have any questions.**

Matthew 25:35-36 "for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink,  
I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me,  
I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me."

Missions Committee	Rise Against Hunger	March 16	Bob Stout
Creation Care Committee	Live Staking Trees with MountainTrue	March 22	Kim Kincaid
Visitation Team	"Thinking of You" cards to homebound folks, folks on our prayer list and others	March 2	Dave Henry
Men's Lunch Connection	Splitting wood at the Hunger and Health Coalition	late February or early March	Dave Henry
Friends of The Carpenter (Congregational Care)	Short-term home maintenance projects to serve Rumble members who live alone	Starting March 1	Annie Tarbutton
Circle 1	Assembling water filters for Wine to Water	March 15	Adele Dunbar
Circle 5	Working at FARM Cafe	TBD - likely March	Kathy Earley
Youth	Game Night at Brian Estates	March 2	Olivia Tarnowski
Children	Singing at Foley Center	April	Lindsey Eaton
Circle 4	Making fleece blankets for Children's Network	March 10	Betty Womack
Women Together	Thank you letters/care packages for Helene cleanup crews	March 10	Lydia Skardon
Adult Christian Education	Peru & Pizza #2	April 6	Holly D'Addurno
Personnel Committee	Focus our support for the church staff	Once per week during 6 weeks of Lent	Gary Scott