

#3



# PROJECT NEBO

A PROGRAM TO ADDRESS GENERATIONAL TRANSITIONING  
AND CALL EACH GENERATION TO LEADERSHIP.

## Team Joshua

Sunday, January 28 | 8:30 & 11:00am



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PENSACOLA, FL.





## Welcome to First Church

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us this morning! This Methodist congregation was founded in 1821. We are the oldest Protestant church in the area and the mother church of Methodism in Florida. We've been here for over 200 years, and we're looking forward to 200 more! It's an historic church that preserves the past and embraces the future, and there's a place here for you.

Today we are in the third week of our series called Project Nebo. During this season after the Epiphany, our church is trekking up Mt. Nebo. In scripture, Nebo is a place of transition. On the mountain, the Lord revealed the promised land to Moses and passed the leadership baton to Joshua—a symbolic transition from one generation to the next. Project Nebo is our response to the recognition of another generational transition in our society and in the Church. Through this program we hope to collectively focus on the future and its challenges, discern God's calling for us, and trust the Holy Spirit to lead us to where God has called. We'll be using the theme of mountain trekking during the series. And today we focus on our second trekking team—Team Joshua. For more on the project and Team Joshua, you can read the "Field Notes" in the back of the bulletin and visit the Project Nebo page on our website. Let us learn to be strong and courageous, and let us worship the Lord in spirit and in truth.

# Our Worship of God

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Project Nebo: Team Joshua

8:30 and 11:00am

*Entrance*

## GATHERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

“Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho” *arr. Lloyd Larson* ..... Dr. Rick & Heidi Branch

### TRINITY CHIME \*

### CALL TO WORSHIP \*

8:30, Rev. Brandon Bures

*Leader:* Lord, you have been our  
dwelling place in all generations.

11:00, Rev. Emily Kincaid

***People:* Young men and women alike,  
old and young together praise the Lord!**

Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for his name alone is exalted;

**the Lord's glory shines greater than anything above or below.**

The Lord has raised up a horn for his people,  
praise for all his faithful.

**Our God has made his people strong;**

**Praise the Lord!** [from *PSALM 90 and 148*]

### OPENING HYMN \*

“Forward Through the Ages” ..... **no. 555**

### COLLECT \*

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*\* Stand as you are able*

**HYMN \***

“Here I Am, Lord” ..... **no. 593**

**WELCOME & REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE**

*Please register your attendance on the registration pads. If you are visiting with us, we're glad you're here! Please include your address, phone number, and email so that we may welcome you in a more personal way.*

**ANTHEM**

8:30, “God of Grace and God of Glory” Joel Raney ..... Piano, Organ *duet*  
11:00, “God Is Our Refuge and Strength” Allen Pote ..... Sanctuary Choir

*Proclamation and Response*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

*Children are invited to come down to the front as we sing.*

**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**  
**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**FIRST LESSON**

**2 Timothy 1:3-7**

8:30, Deb Hild  
11:00, Joel Stump

*Thanksgiving and Encouragement*

<sup>3</sup> I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup> Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup> I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. <sup>6</sup> For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, <sup>7</sup> for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.



## SECOND LESSON

### Joshua 1:1-9

#### *God's Commission to Joshua*

**1** After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses's assistant, saying, **2** "My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. **3** Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. **4** From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. **5** No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. **6** Be strong and courageous, for you shall lead this people to possess the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. **7** Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. **8** This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. **9** I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

## SERMON

Dr. Geoffrey Lentz

### *"Team Joshua: Courage to Lead"*

#### *Response:*



WORDS: Samuel Stennett (1787); MUSIC: *The Southern Harmony* (1835); arr. Rigdon M. McIntosh (1895)

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD \*

"The Apostles' Creed"

no. 881

## **GLORIA PATRI \***

**no. 70**

**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.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Rev. Emily Kincaid

### **INVITATION**

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,  
who earnestly repent of their sin  
and seek to live in peace with one another.  
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

### **CONFESSION AND PARDON.**

**Merciful God,  
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have failed to be an obedient church.  
We have not done your will,  
we have broken your law,  
we have rebelled against your love,  
we have not loved our neighbors,  
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Free us for joyful obedience,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All pray in silence.*

*Leader to people:*

Hear the good news:  
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;  
that proves God's love toward us.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

*People to leader:*

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

*Leader and people:*

**Glory to God. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY**

8:30, “Lord, I Believe” *Shane Keister* ..... Libby K. Hargrave, *solo*  
11:00, “Come to the Table” *Allen Pote* ..... Sanctuary Choir

**DOXOLOGY \*** **no. 95**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise him, all creatures here below.  
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Thanksgiving and Communion*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** **no. 15**

**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.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

*You are also invited to receive the elements of Holy Communion. Gluten-free wafers are available at each communion station for those who need them.*

“Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup” ..... **no. 628**

*Sending Forth*

**CLOSING HYMN \***

“God of Grace and God of Glory” ..... **no. 577**

**BENEDICTION \***

**GOING FORTH & POSTLUDE \***

“Jesus Shall Reign” *arr. Alice Jordan*

## HOLY COMMUNION

Everyone is invited to receive communion in the United Methodist Church. The method for receiving communion here is *intinction*; it is the ancient Eucharistic practice of (1)*receiving* the consecrated bread into your open hands and then (2)*dipping* it into the consecrated grape juice before (3)*consuming*. If you need communion brought to you, please let an usher know and communion will be served to you in your seat. Gluten free wafers are available at the each station for those that need them. After you receive communion please feel free to kneel and pray at the rail as long as you like. Any offerings given during communion will go to the pastor's discretionary fund.

## DAILY READINGS – EPIPHANY 4

The new year is a great time to commit to reading the Bible each day. These Daily Readings are taken from “The Daily Office Lectionary” in *The Book of Common Prayer*. Read the Bible each week. It will be a blessing.

	<i>Psalms</i>	<i>Old Test.</i>	<i>New Test.</i>	<i>Gospel</i>
MONDAY	64, 65	Gen. 19:1-29	Heb. 11:1-12	John 6:27-40
TUESDAY	68	Gen. 21:1-21	Heb. 11:13-22	John 6:41-51
WEDNESDAY	119:73-96	Gen. 22:1-18	Heb. 11:23-31	John 6:52-59
THURSDAY	74	Gen. 23:1-20	Heb. 11:32--12:2	John 6:60-71
FRIDAY	73	Gen. 24:1-27	Heb. 12:3-11	John 7:1-13
SATURDAY	23, 27	Gen. 24:28-38, 49-51	Heb. 12:12-29	John 7:14-36





# Field Notes .....

## RELAY RACE

In the scriptural imagination, Nebo is a place of transition. On Mt. Nebo, the Lord revealed the promised land to Moses and passed the leadership baton to Joshua—a symbolic transition from one generation to the next. In our contemporary context, the world faces a Nebo moment, characterized by a leadership crisis and the crucial hand-off from one generation to the next. Project Nebo is designed to help the church talk about the historical transition that is occurring and to help each generation discern what God is calling them to do in this season.

In the dynamics of a relay race, success hinges not on individual runners but on the seamless transfer of the baton. The true victory lies in the baton crossing the finish line, with each runner playing their part in propelling it forward. When a participant hesitates to pass or receive the baton, the entire race is at risk. Trust is the linchpin of a successful relay race.

Quoting Philippians 1:6, we are reminded that God, who initiated a good work within us, will faithfully see it through to completion. In the context of our ministry, we are participants in a relay race, passing down the baton from one generation to the next. The essence of a winning relay race is not about the individual runners; it revolves solely around the baton.

Our focal point is the baton, not ourselves; it's about Jesus. Drawing from Paul's wisdom in 1 Corinthians, we recognize that while one may plant and another water, it is God who ultimately fosters growth. Our ministry, like a relay race, involves a continuous handoff, each generation contributing to the collective movement forward.

Let us remain steadfast, keeping our eyes on the baton and understanding that our role is part of a greater legacy. In the grand relay of faith, the ultimate goal is not personal glory but the triumph of Jesus' message passed down through the generations.

### GOING TO NEBO:



The primary goal of Project Nebo is to take all generations to the mountain, symbolizing a collective focus on the future and its challenges. Congregants are encouraged to discern God's calling for the future, fostering a shared vision without predefined outcomes. By collectively gazing at the future, we trust the Holy Spirit to guide each generation at this crucial Nebo moment. The metaphor of mountain trekking is used to call each "team."

### THE SECOND TREKKING TEAM: TEAM JOSHUA



Team Joshua, representing the younger generations, is tasked with offering gratitude and respect to the older generations. Embracing leadership, they are the future leaders we need. As they navigate challenges and failures, they must choose to be strong and courageous, akin to Joshua taking the baton.

*For previous week's field notes, scan the QR code or refer to the bulletins from earlier weeks.*



THE OTHER TREKKING TEAMS



**Team Moses:** The older generations, analogous to Team Moses, have faithfully led the church through significant times. Now, facing the end of their calling, they are called to pass the baton and offer a blessing. Despite concerns about the younger generation’s capability, they must choose to trust God and lead like Moses to Nebo, rather than succumbing to fear in the desert.



**Team Rahab:** The newcomers and outsiders to the church within the younger generation, bringing fresh perspectives. As newcomers, they possess the ability to see things that insiders may overlook. Like Rahab, who became the great grandmother of David and Jesus, Team Rahab is called to welcome others into the community and be pioneers of the next phase of Church life.

PERSONAL NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Bound for the Promised Land





We hope you enjoy the service. We invite you to take this bulletin with you as you go home. Each week in this series has a unique bulletin. And you can scan these QR codes on the backs to revisit the sermon anytime. Content will be available a day or two after the service takes place.



**Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.**

6 E. Wright St. • Pensacola, FL 32501 • 850.432.1434 • [fumcpensacola.com](http://fumcpensacola.com)

For pastoral emergencies, contact the Church Office  
or Ginger Raines at 850.259.3177