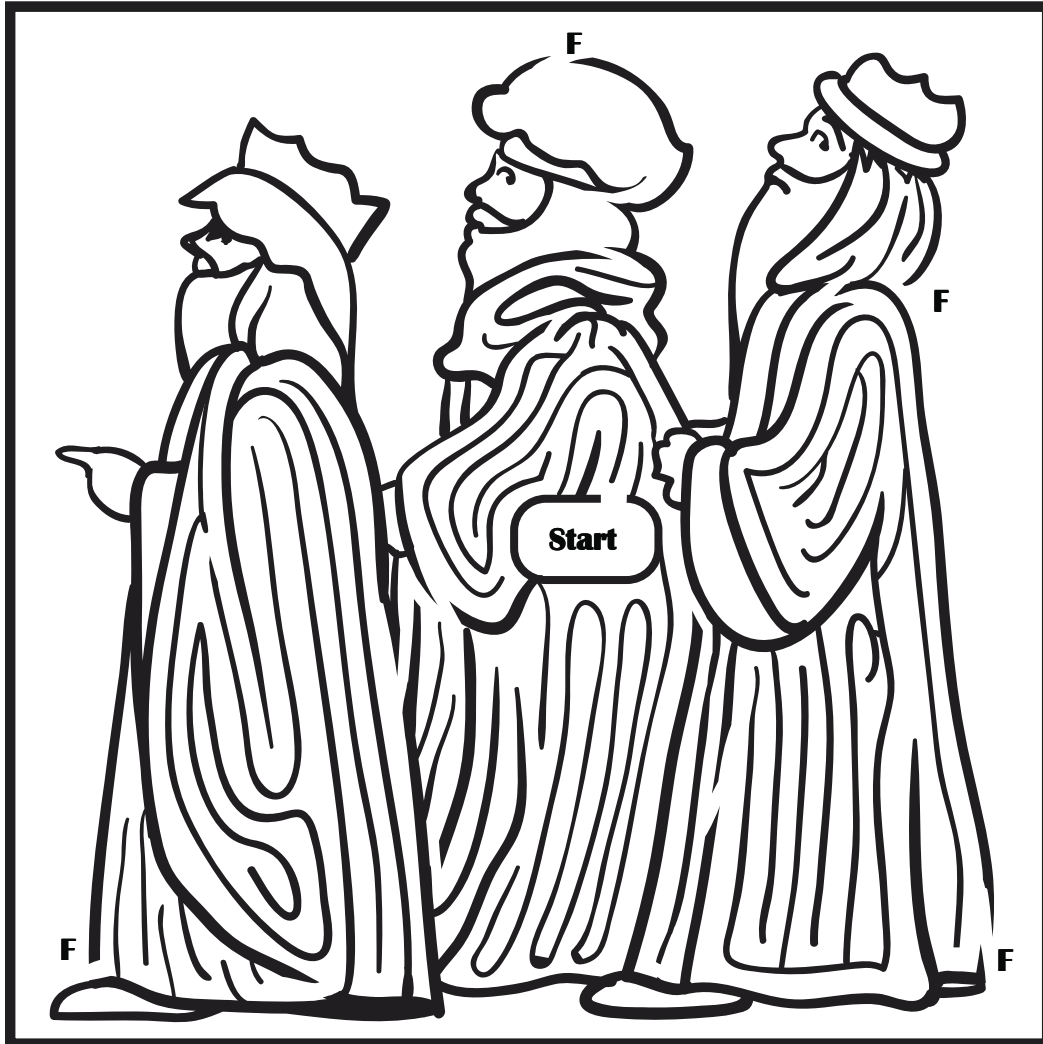


Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian
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216-321-2660 Fax: 216-320-1214
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Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor
Rev. Clover Reuter Beal, Assoc. Pastor
Rev. Tricia Dykers-Koenig, Parish Assoc.

Anne Wilson, Ministry of Music
Liz Wollaeger, Dir. Of Chr. Education
Kristen Otte, Director of Youth Ministries

Service of Worship

January 8, 2012 at 11:00 a.m.

Celebration of Communion

Epiphany of the Lord

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship.

If you are visiting, please print your name on a name tag and wear it so that we might greet you. Large print editions of the Bible, the Hymnal, and today's bulletin as well as hearing devices are available from the ushers on request.

■■■ *Prayer of Preparation*

Lord God, we have seen the star of your glory. The radiance of your incarnate Word pierces the night that covers the earth and signals the dawn of justice and peace. May his brightness illumine our lives and beckon all nations to walk as one in your light. We ask this through Jesus Christ your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, in the splendor of eternal light. Amen.

Welcome

Prelude

"By the Waters of Babylon"

S. Glick

Choral Introit

■■■ *Greeting Our God with Joy*

Call to Worship

Elder Karen Loughridge

Leader: God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God.

People: We bless you.

Leader: Object of the Magi's search, subject of an old man's song, fulfillment of the Baptist's preaching,

People: We bless you.

Leader: Mary's son, Joseph's son, God's only son,

People: We bless you.

Leader: Let us worship God!

* Processional Hymn No. 63

“As With Gladness Men of Old”

■ ■ ■ *Renewing Our Relationship with God*

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Clover Beal

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and baptize us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison (*Lord, have mercy*)

J. Bell

■ ■ ■ *Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria, Gloria No. 576

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

2nd time, men begin; women begin 2 measures later;

Children and youth begin 2 measures after that.

■ ■ ■ *Opening Our Hearts to God's Word*

Dedication of the Paraments

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 2: 1-12

After the reading

Leader: Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

* Hymn No. 329

“Break Thou the Bread of Life”

Sermon

Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

“By Another Way”

Ritual of Friendship

all are asked to sign tablets as a record of attendance

Offering of Our Gifts

Offertory

“Down to the River”

spiritual

* Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

■ ■ ■ *Eucharist*

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Sanctus

J. Bell

Prayers of the People

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 debts as we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Communion of the People

Music during Communion

“We Will Take What You Offer”

J. Bell

Prayer after Communion

As this bread is Christ’s body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world. Illumine our hearts, O God, with the radiance of Christ’s presence, that our lives may show forth his love in this weary world. May we befriend the lost, serve the poor, reconcile our enemies, and love our neighbors; through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit. All glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

■ ■ ■ *Going Forth to Live as God’s People*

Closing Hymn No. 66

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

Please remain seated for the procession of the kings

* **Commission and Blessing**

* **Choral Benediction**

* **Passing of the Peace**

■ ■ ■ *Postlude*

P. Manz

“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”



■ ■ ■ *Parish Notes*

Chancel Flowers

The flowers today are given by Randy and Sara Shaner in loving memory of their parents, Edwin and Evelyn Shaner, Eric and Ruth Pickersgill, and Sara’s sister, Janet Pickersgill Mueller.

Prayer Concerns this Week

Ruth Brickel, Bill Currie, Marian Frederick, Ron and Florence Klein, Debbie Ungemach, Charles White, Johanna Wilcott

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Bob Bielek, Pat and Fran Drake, Rose Eaton, Betty Farnfield, Marilyn Gifford, Dorothy Hales, Elizabeth Kosnik, Merdine T. Morris, Marilyn Oviatt, Joyce Peters, Anne Taylor

In Memoriam We Remember

James Nokes

Who died December 30, 2011

I am the resurrection and I am the life, says the Lord

We invite you to write prayer requests on a slip of paper from the envelope rack and pass it to an usher during the singing of the middle hymn, to be included in the prayers later in the service. Lists of ongoing prayer concerns are in each month’s **TOWER**.

This Month’s Ushers

Kevin Stauffer, Lead Usher; Joe Andrews, Nick Baumgartner, Charles Ishler, Jane Ishler, Kate Monaghan, Daryl Musick, Victoria Sampson. Roger Heineman, Head Usher

Nursery care for babies and young children is available on the second floor of the Monticello Wing.

The Three Kings are represented by Paul Jennings, Mist’a Craig and Willie Dycks. The robes are a gift from the Tapié family in memory of Bill Tapié.

■ ■ ■ *Announcements*

TODAY

Welcome Visitors!

Please stop by the Visitor Information table in the Courtyard Foyer following worship. We’re looking forward to greeting you and answering any questions you may have. Visitor welcome bags are available in the foyers and the narthex.

KISS: Kids in Sunday Service

Children in grades 1-5 will remain in worship this morning to celebrate the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper. Worship bags and a children’s bulletin are being offered to help the children take part in the service. Please return the worship bags to the baskets as you leave the sanctuary.

THIS WEEK

Bible and Bagels

Bible and Bagels meets Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Jin Room. All are welcome! The lesson this week is **John 1: 43-51**.

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education, 9:30 in South Hall

January 15: The FHC Courageous Conversations on Race Group

LOOKING AHEAD

Social Groups and Circles

Pacesetters (singles and couples, 40s – 60s)

Chris and Dave Bell will host a planning party for Pacesetters on January 14, 2012, at 7 pm at their home, 3040 Scarborough. Bring ideas for 2012, and something to eat and drink. RSVP to Chris or Dave (216-932-6992 or chris3040@aol.com).

Care Group

The Deacon Care Group is responsible for meeting members’ needs during January. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will then be passed on to the Care Group leaders.

✦ Members of this month’s Care Group are:

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Deb Adrine | Janet Kickel | Joy Stang |
| Mary Ball | Robin Mervine | Ahren Stock |
| Jennifer Blakeney | Daryl Musick | Julie Waring |
| Al Gilbert | Cindy Newton | Nancy Wyss |
| Carol Hopkins-Lutz | Dick Peterjohn | |
| Cathie Kernich | Carol Phillips | |

Today’s CARE Group volunteers: Deb Adrine (Continental Breakfast); Cindy Newton (Coffee Hour); Daryl Musick, Ahren Stock (Greeters); Ahren Stock (Flowers)

Adult Education Schedule

January 22: Dr. John Lentz, Jr. “What did Jesus Mean by ‘the Kingdom of God’?”

Kerygma Bible Study: The Gospel of Mark

Jan. 29 - Feb. 26, large group in South Hall

March 4 - 25, small group studies

April 1, large group wrap-up

Homeless Stand Down

Many of our homeless neighbors struggle daily to find resources to meet their basic needs - toothpaste, socks, bus tickets. The Ministry of Justice and Mission has chosen to help meet these needs this year by using benevolence funds to donate coats, boots, hygiene and bus kits to the Homeless Stand Down. We will be purchasing items for at least 35 hygiene kits and 20 bus kits (which include bus tickets, socks, and handwritten notes of support), and we need your help to assemble these after church on Jan 15. We are also accepting additional donations from individuals who would like to give complete hygiene kits or items. If you would like to donate this way, please bring items or completed kits to the church by Sunday, Jan. 8. The following items are needed for a complete hygiene kit:

- shampoo and conditioner (full size), bar of soap, washcloth, toothbrush and toothpaste, shaving cream and razor (men), tampons & pads (women)
- additional items if desired: floss, mouthwash, nail file, etc.

Please contact Laura Steiner at lauramsteiner@yahoo.com or 216-870-0119 with questions or if you can plan to help assemble kits on the 15th.

■■■ **Youth News**

Today Mid and Sr High: Meet from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Sine Nomine Choir will rehearse in the Chapel after worship.

Converge! meets at 7 pm at First Baptist Church, 3630 Fairmount Blvd, Shaker Hts. The theme for January is *All Things New*. Bring a new or used children’s book for the offering.

Saturday: Tobogganing at *The Chalet!* Leave FHC at 5 pm. RSVP to Kristen.

Next Sunday: Sine Nomine Choir will rehearse after worship

■ ■ ■ *The Lessons*

Next Sunday: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10; Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20; John 1: 43-51. As part of your daily devotions, read the lessons. What image or word catches your attention? How do they settle or challenge you? Keep notes of your observations in a journal. Set aside part of each day for prayer and study. Links to the readings for each Sunday appear on the church's Facebook page, the **Upcoming Sundays** page of our website (<http://www.fhcpresb.org/worship-music/upcoming-sundays/>), and on the "Sundays in January" page of the **TOWER**.

■ ■ ■ *FHC Staff Emails and Phone Extensions*

Program Staff

- Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr. / pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org ext. 200
- Rev. Clover Beal / pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org ext 201
- Liz Wollaeger / lizw@fhcpresb.org ext. 206
- Anne Wilson / annew@fhcpresb.org ext. 208
- Kristen Otte / kristeno@fhcpresb.org ext. 207

Office Staff

- Becky Austin / beckya@fhcpresb.org ext 203
- Lynda Bernays / office@fhcpresb.org ext 202
- Stavros Gazis / office@fhcpresb.org ext 202

The paraments used during the Christmas season are given in memory of Nancy and Bob Mann by their daughter Katie Weissbrod and her family. The paraments were created by FHC member Mary Ann Breisch, who was inspired by John 1: 1-18. Mary Ann writes:

The image suggests that all is illumined in the light of the Holy. Like moving particles of dust caught in a sunbeam, we cannot make out the dust without the light, nor the light without the dust. Though we ourselves are not the light, we can be a witness to the light. Truly, "in your light, we see light." (Ps. 36:9)

■ ■ ■ *Calendar: January 8 - 15, 2012*

<p>Sunday, January 8 9:00 Child care begins 9:30 Descant Choir Adult and Youth Education Descant Choir 10:15 Descant Choir activity 10:30 Continental Breakfast 11:00 WORSHIP: Communion Children in Worship Little Explorers 12:15 Coffee Hour Sine Nomine Choir 5:00 Faith Leader 7:00 Youth: CONVERGE at First Baptist Church</p> <p>Monday, January 9 6:00 pm Progress not Perfection (AA) 7:00 pm Al Anon 7:30 pm Borton Group (AA)</p> <p>Tuesday, January 10 7:00 pm Cub Scout Pack #36 7:30 pm Reaching Hts mtg Chancel Choir rehearsal Community Emergency Response training</p> <p>Wednesday, January 11 7:30 am Bible and Bagels 4:00 pm NOVA meeting (PWR) 7:00 pm Ministries worship 7:15 pm All ministries meet</p>	<p>Thursday, January 12 6:20 pm Voices in Bronze 7:30 pm FH Swim Club mtg</p> <p>Friday, January 13 7:00 am TOWER deadline 9:30 am Al Anon</p> <p>Saturday, January 14 8:00 am Justice & Mission retreat 9:00 am CEIRS class: John the Baptist 5:00 pm Youth: Leave for Chalet – tobogganing 7:00 pm Pacesetters: Planning party (Bells’)</p> <p>Sunday, January 15 9:00 Child care begins 9:30 Descant Choir Adult and Youth Education Descant Choir 10:15 Descant Choir activity 10:30 Continental Breakfast 11:00 WORSHIP Children in Worship Little Explorers Pathways to the Promise Land 12:15 Coffee Hour Sine Nomine Choir 12:30 Justice & Mission: Assemble HSD kits 5:00 Faith Leader</p>
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If you will be elected to a new officer position in January (elders, trustees, deacons, ministry members/elected leaders, members of the nominating committee), please mark your calendar for January 21, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm for New Leader training.

Matthew 2: 1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Hospitality is the virtue which allows us to break through the narrowness of our own fears and to open our houses to the stranger, with the intuition that salvation comes to us in the form of a tired traveler. Hospitality makes anxious disciples into powerful witnesses, makes suspicious owners into generous givers, and makes close-minded sectarians into interested recipients of new ideas and insights.

— Henri J. M. Nouwen in *Ministry and Spirituality*

Forest Hill Church opens our doors to whoever chooses to come through them. Let us welcome and embrace all who grace our presence.

NEXT HOST WEEK for FAMILY PROMISE February 26 through March 3

Please look at your calendars and make time to join us during the week for meals, activities, overnights, setting up, cleaning up, or bed moving!

Sign up will begin immediately by emailing Anne Smith at annejeffsmith@yahoo.com for meals

and Julie Lusic at jlusic@gmail.com for all other jobs.

We will be in Fellowship Hall after the service on February 5 to sign up volunteers.