

*Service of Worship*

*September 23, 2012 at 11:00 a.m.*

*Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship.*

If you are visiting, please join us in wearing a name tag so that we might greet you. Our ushers are ready to help! They have large print editions of the Bible, Hymnal, and today's bulletin; hearing devices; activity bags with quiet activities for older children staying in worship; and directions to our safe, loving nursery in our Monticello Wing for babies and young children.

**Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian**

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■■■ *Prayer of Preparation*

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the Universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

Improvisation on the sound of a shofar

■■■ *Greeting Our God with Joy*

**Call to Worship** (Psalm 47)

Gary Sampson

**Leader:** Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

**People:** **For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.**

**Leader:** He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.

**People:** **He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

**Leader:** God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

**People:** **Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.**

**Leader:** For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

**People:** **God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.**

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

Leader: The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted.

### The Shofar Blast with Blessings

From the Jewish liturgy for Rosh Hashana, the people are called to awaken to the presence of God. A shofar sound, the powerful throaty blast from a ram's horn, brings about a feeling of awe, of lofty majesty. Mere mortals stand humbled before this representation of God's might.

### \* Processional Hymn No. 488

"The God of Abraham Praise"

### ■■■ *Renewing Our Relationship with God*

#### Prayer of Confession

Dr. John Lentz

**Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. AMEN.**

#### Time of Silent Confession

**Kyrie eleison** (*Lord, have mercy*)

Estonia

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

#### Assurance of Pardon

#### \*Gloria, Gloria No. 576

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

*2<sup>nd</sup> time, men begin; women begin 2 measures later;*

*Children and youth begin 2 measures after that.*

#### Anthem

trad.

"All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir"

Soloists: Dr. Lentz, Zoe Hartz, Jalen Bailey,

James Birdsell, Michael Duncan

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

#### Family Meditation

Dr. Lentz

*Children in Pathways may leave following the meditation*

#### Scripture Lesson

Romans 4: 1-5, 13-22

*After the reading*

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### \* Hymn No. 289

"O God of Every Nation"

*Prayer requests may be passed to the ushers during this hymn*

#### Sermon

Rev. Clover Reuter Beal

"The Faith of Abraham"

#### 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.**

**Ritual of Friendship**

all are asked to sign as a record of attendance

**Offertory**

Aaron Copland; arr. Glenn Koponen  
"Zion's Walls"

**\* 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.**

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

**\* Closing Hymn No. 537**

"Shalom, Chaverim"

**\* Commission and Blessing**

**Benediction**

*One long shofar blast*

**\* Passing of the Peace**

■ ■ ■ *Postlude*

J. S. Bach

"Prelude in A Major"



***Welcome Visitors!***

We look forward to greeting you and answering any questions you may have. Welcome bags are available throughout the building. Take one home with you!

■ ■ ■ *Congregational Notes*

**Chancel Flowers**

The flowers today are given by Kate Monaghan in celebration and welcome to our visitors and guests this morning; by Marge Drollinger in honor of John and Deanne Lentz's 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary; and by Margaret and George Sentell in memory of loved ones.

**Congratulation to Beth Smith-Polderman and Erik Zelnik**, who were married September 15, 2012. Dr. Lentz officiated. Beth, an FHC member, is the daughter of Ron Polderman and Carol Smith.

**Prayer Concerns this Week**

*In Memoriam We Remember  
Marilyn Canfield Gifford  
Who died September 18, 2012  
I am the resurrection and I am the life, says the Lord*

**Prayers are requested this week for the following:**

Dick Bloomquist, Ruth and Arthur Brickel, Bill Currie, Marian Frederick, Iris Gilbert, Barbara Harvey, Ron and Florence Klein, Graham Peters, Arlene and Jack Quinn, Elaine Tapié, Debbie Ungemach, Pat Weissbrod.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:**

Pat and Fran Drake, Betty Farnfield, Dorothy Hales, Elizabeth Kosnik, Emelia McGuire, Merdine T. Morris, Joyce Peters, Anne Taylor.

**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**

Scott Peters, Lead Usher; Tish Van Beers-Klein, assistant lead; Amy Davis, Chris Davis, Brian Klein, Jim Roosa, Ayodele Solaru. Roger Heineman, Head Usher

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

**Attendance last week (including Christian Education children): 234**

#### ■■■ *Announcements*

##### **TODAY**

#### **Brief Congregational Meeting**

There will be a brief meeting of the congregation today immediately after worship to elect Kermit Lind to serve as Elder on the Ministry of Education and Spiritual Formation, and Barbara Cloud and Carol Leslie to serve as Deacons. They will be ordained/installed on September 30 during worship.

##### **THIS WEEK**

#### ***Bible and Bagels***

Bible and Bagels meets Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 am in the Jin Room. All are welcome! The lesson this week is **Romans 5: 1-5, 15-21**.

##### **NEXT SUNDAY**

#### ***Adult Education, 9:30 in South Hall***

**The text for next Sunday is Romans 5: 1-5, 15-21.**

There's still time to join a Kerygma group! See Rev. Clover Beal to register, or drop in and join the group meeting in South Hall.

#### ***AWE: Alternative Worship Experience***

Our first AWE will take place next Sunday, September 30 when we welcome a group from **Roots of American Music** (Kevin Richards, director). We'll be listening to and singing traditional American songs accompanied by penny whistle, fiddle, upright bass, mandolin and guitars. We'll have fun with "The Preacher and the Bear," sing "Laid My Burden Down (Glory, Hallelujah)," sing the Cat Stevens version of "Morning Has Broken," and much more. Invite friends to this service!

### ***Fall Harvest Festival, September 30***

***See page 15 for details***

***Come enjoy food, games, sweets and fellowship!***

##### **LOOKING AHEAD**

#### ***Discover Your Story Workshop***

"Discover Your Story" is a free workshop led by Kristen Otte, Director of Youth Ministries and author, to explore your story and understand how your story is part of a much bigger story. The workshop will be held on Wednesday, October 3 from 7 - 8:30 pm; it is intergenerational and interactive so older children, youth, parents, and grandparents are welcome! Refreshments and dessert will be provided. RSVP to Kristen ([kristeno@fhcpresb.org](mailto:kristeno@fhcpresb.org) or 321-2660).

### **Care Group**

The Canaan Care Group is responsible for meeting members' needs during September. 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:

Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Deacon leader	Laurie & Eric Muller-Girard & family
Mark Chupp & Sharon Shumaker	Jeanette Nemcek
Lisa Chuppa	Vikki Nowak, Todd Webster & family
Chris & Amy Davis & family	John Prentice
Bob & Joanne Dawson	Rob Reynolds
Muriel Dean	Margaret & George Sentell
Beth & Bill Forsythe & family	Franklin & Naana Soadwa
Cathy & Don Ghiandoni	Chuck & Rosanna Sprague
Allen & Zivile Khoury	Joy Stang
Lisa & Jed Koops & family	Anne Taylor
Laurie & Keith Logan	Debbie & Don Ungemach & family
Ginie Mast	LeAnn West
	Peggy Yeager

This Sunday's CARE Group volunteers: Rosanna Sprague, Continental Breakfast; Cathy Ghiandoni, Franklin and Naana Soadwa, Greeters; Jeanette Nemcek, Coffee Hour Host; Zivile Khoury, Greeting Card Table; Lisa Chuppa, Flower Delivery.

### **Social Groups and Circles**

#### **Hilltoppers (retired singles and couples)**

On Sunday, October 7 the Hilltoppers will meet for lunch at New Heights Grill at 12:30, then go to the Suburban Symphony concert at University School Lower School at 3:30. Please contact Jean Seeley (216-321-3042) or Nancy Grube (440-461-4693) for reservations or more information.

### **The Group (singles and couples 60s – 70s)**

On Saturday, October 13 at 5:30 The Group will meet at The BottleHouse Brewery at 2050 Lee Road in Cleveland Heights. Their brewers will show us around and answer our questions. Then we can sample their products (they also have wine and bourbon) and enjoy some dinner (although The BottleHouse has a limited menu, they encourage everyone to Bring Your Own Food. So pack your own picnic or pick up something or have it delivered from one of the many Lee Road restaurants. Learn more at <http://thebottlehousebrewingcompany.com/>.

RSVP to Ron and Marcia Grant ([mgrant@us.edu](mailto:mgrant@us.edu) or 440-446-8093.)

### ■■■ *Youth News*

**Today:** Mid and Sr High classes meet from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Sine Nomine Choir (gr. 6 – college), 12:15

Presbytery Youth Outing, 2-5 pm. Meet at the church at 1:15.

**Looking Ahead:** Lock-in coming up on October 6-7! Watch for details.

## ■■■ *The Lessons*

### **Today's Scripture:**

#### **Romans 4: 1-5, 13-22**

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us,

as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness."

**Next Sunday: Romans 5: 1-5, 15-21** 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.

## ■■■ *FHC Staff Emails and Phone Extensions*

### **Program Staff**

**Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr.** / [pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org) ext. 200

**Rev. Clover Beal** / [pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org) ext 201

**Liz Wollaeger** / [lizw@fhcpresb.org](mailto:lizw@fhcpresb.org) ext. 206

**Anne Wilson** / [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org) ext. 208

**Kristen Otte** / [kristeno@fhcpresb.org](mailto:kristeno@fhcpresb.org) ext. 207

### **Office Staff**

**Becky Austin** / [beckya@fhcpresb.org](mailto:beckya@fhcpresb.org) ext 203

**Lynda Bernays** / [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org) ext 202

**Stavros Gazis** / [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org) ext 202



■■■Calendar: September 23 - 30, 2012

**Sunday, September 23**

8:30 Nominating Committee mtg  
 9:00 Child care begins  
 9:30 Adult Education  
 Youth Education  
 Descant Choir  
 10:15 Descant Choir activity  
 10:30 Continental Breakfast  
 Chancel Choir  
 11:00 WORSHIP  
 Little Explorers  
 Children in Worship  
 11:15 Pathways to the Promise Land  
 12:15 Congregational Meeting  
 12:30 Coffee Hour  
 Sine Nomine Choir (gr 6-college)  
 1:15 Presbytery Youth Outing

**Monday, September 24**

5:00 pm PWR Meeting at John Knox  
 PC  
 6:00 pm Progress not Perfection (AA)  
 7:00 pm Al Anon  
 7:30 pm Borton Group (AA)  
 7:00 pm Boy Scout Trp #403

**Tuesday, September 25**

7:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 36

**Wednesday, September 26**

7:00 pm Session meeting

**Thursday, September 27**

6:20 pm Voices in Bronze  
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

**Friday, September 28**

9:30 am Al Anon meeting  
 6:00 pm Faith Leader dinner  
 (at Beals')

**Sunday, September 30**

9:00 Child care begins  
 9:30 Adult Education  
 Youth Education  
 Descant Choir  
 10:00 Cherub Choir  
 10:15 Descant Choir activity  
 10:30 Continental Breakfast  
 Chancel Choir  
 11:00 WORSHIP  
 Little Explorers  
 Children in Worship  
 11:15 Pathways to the Promise Land  
**12:30 FALL FESTIVAL**

**From the FHC Deacons  
 Visitors Team**

The Deacons are establishing a Visitors Team to call upon when we have an overwhelming need for persons to visit congregants who are ill, homebound, lose a family member, have a new child join the family, or have other needs for which reaching out as a Christian community is appropriate.

Ahren Stock and the Deacon of the CARE group for the month will coordinate this work. Rev. Clover Beal will train participants for this important endeavor.

If you would like to be a part of this team of visitors, please contact Ahren Stock ( 216-691-3758).

**Calling Foodies Who Love to Share**

The Deacons have had numerous requests recently to provide meals for FHC members who have an ongoing need for help during an extended illness. We'd like to compile a list of people who can be contacted when a family needs a meal – we can email you and say "The Johnson family needs meals twice a week for a month. Would you like to help out? Here's the link to their schedule." You would then be directed to a website (Take Them A Meal or Foodtidings), click a day, and offer your assistance.

If you would like to be part of this team, please let Lynda Bernays know ([office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org) or 216-321-2660). She will contact you when someone needs meals and will let you know about accessing a website to sign up.

We can also accept portions of dishes that can be frozen (soup or casserole), stored in the church freezer, and distributed as needed.

Thanks to all of you who do so much to help out.

# Fall Harvest Festival

September 30, 2012

Our annual Fall Festival will begin with food, followed by

- Games
- Root beer floats with Sweetie Fry ice cream
- Scavenger hunt game
- Cake Walks
- Guess the number of candy corns in the jar
- Pumpkin painting
- Children's games and crafts

Join us for an afternoon of family fun.



*Donations are needed for the Cake Walk*

*Please bring cakes to Fellowship Hall before worship on September 30*