

Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian



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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 6, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.
Celebration of Holy Communion
The Epiphany of the Lord

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship.

This morning we celebrate the Eucharist (the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion). We celebrate the Eucharist by intinction (dipping the bread into the cup). We also provide a gluten-free alternative, so that all may freely partake. After receiving the elements you may come to the railing to receive a blessing from the pastors.

■ ■ ■ *Prayer of Preparation*

Lord God, you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now in faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Welcome

Prelude

Paul Manz

"How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"

Choral Introit

■ ■ ■ *Greeting Our God with Joy*

Call to Worship

Elder Todd Webster

Leader: Arise! Shine! For your light has come.

People: And the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Leader: Nations shall come to your light.

People: And rulers to the brightness of your rising.

Leader: Let us worship God.

*** Processional Hymn No. 68**

“What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright”

■ ■ ■ *Renewing Our Relationship with God*

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Clover Beal

God of grace, you have given us Jesus, the light of the world, but we choose darkness and cling to sins that hide the brightness of your love. Immersed in ourselves, we have not risen to new life. Baptize us with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may preach your word to the nations and tell of your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Light forevermore.

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison (*Lord, have mercy*)

Merbecke

■ ■ ■ *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*

Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Matthew 2:1-12

After the readings

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Dr. John Lentz

“A Light Amidst the Darkness”

Ritual of Friendship

all are asked to sign as a record of attendance

Offertory

Puerto Rican carol

“From a Distant Star”

* 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

Felciano

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

plainsong

“Agnus Dei”

Prayer after Communion

God of majesty and light, we thank you for revealing Jesus to be your Son, and for claiming our lives in baptism to be his glad disciples. By your Spirit, may peace descend upon us that we may follow him with grateful hearts. Take us and all we have to be useful in your service, God of all nations, in the gracious name of Jesus and by the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

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

Closing Hymn No. 66

please remain seated

“We Three Kings”

Soloists: Michael Judge, Paul Weissbrod, Laura Minder

*** Commission and Blessing**

*** Choral Benediction**

*** Passing of the Peace**

■ ■ ■ *Postlude*

Johann Pachelbel

“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”



Welcome Visitors!

We look forward to greeting you and answering any questions you may have. Visitor welcome bags are available in the foyers and the narthex. Take one home with you!

■ ■ ■ *Congregational Notes*

Chancel Flowers

The flowers today are given by the Klein family in honor of Florence, mother and grandmother. Happy Birthday!; and by Molly Bergman in memory of Ken Bergman and all others who provide time and effort making our church a better place.

Prayer Concerns this Week

Prayers are requested this week for the following:

Ruth and Arthur Brickel, Bill Currie, Dorothy Hales, Marian Frederick, Iris Gilbert, Ron and Florence Klein, Karen Loughridge, Lissa McKinley, Dave Neff, Chris Patterson, Arlene and Jack Quinn, Charles Sawyer, Debbie Ungemach.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Dick Bloomquist, Pat and Fran Drake, Marge Drollinger, Betty Farnfield, Elizabeth Kosnik, Emelia McGuire, Merdine T. Morris, Joyce Peters, Anne Taylor, Elaine Tapié.

Please pray for Jeremy Ryman and Diane Troyer and their family; Jeremy's mother Mary Ann Ryman died on December 30.

This Month's Ushers

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.

Attendance last week: 128

Please contact the church office if you need to reach someone associated with a church activity

■ ■ ■ *Announcements*

TODAY

The Three Kings

Today our three kings (Michael Judge, Paul Weissbrod and Laura Minder) welcome the Christ Child as they walk down the aisle singing “We Three Kings.” The Magi costumes are a gift to the church by the Tapié and Fay families in memory of William Constant Tapié, who died November 16, 2005.

Today Is Hunger Sunday

Any cash or checks in envelopes marked Hunger will be used 100% for support of hunger programs. Each month we send the money to the Hts. Emergency Food Cupboard (Disciples Church, Cleveland Hts.), the New Covenant Lutheran Church Hunger Center (East Cleveland), and the Presbyterian Hunger Program in Haiti.

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 **Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22.**

Pacesetters’ Planning Party

Attention, Pacesetters – come to the Bells’ (3040 Scarborough, Cleveland Hts) on Saturday, January 12 at 7 pm to plan our 2013 activities. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. RSVP to Chris or Dave Bell.

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education in January and February

“Growing in the Life of Faith”

9:30 am in South Hall

January 13	Children’s spiritual growth
January 20	Adolescents’ spiritual growth
January 27	Young adults’ spiritual growth
February 3	Mid-life and spiritual growth
February 10	Retirement and spiritual growth

Mondays, 7:30 pm: “Early Christianity and Rome”

Four sessions will be offered as we prepare for the pilgrimage to Rome. All are welcome to attend on January 7, 14, 28 and February 11. The topic on January 7 is “Empires – the Roman Empire in the First Century.”

LOOKING AHEAD

Family Promise Host Week: January 27 – February 2

The next Family Promise host week begins on January 27. Contact Julie Lusic to sign up.

Care Group

The Deacons of Forest Hill Church are 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 leader.

✦ FHC Deacons are:

Debbie Adrine	Daryl Musick
Mary Ball	Dick Peterjohn
Barb Cloud	Carol Phillips
Carol Hopkins-Lutz	Ahren Stock
Carol Leslie	Julie Waring
Robin Mervine	Nancy Wyss

Labre Ministry

On the LAST Sunday of every month (January 27) the FHC Labre Ministry group will partner with the Salvation Army canteen to deliver meals, hygiene kits, blankets, clothes and fellowship in East Cleveland. Donations may be placed in the Labre donation basket in Fellowship Hall. For more information, contact Mary Ann or Jack Breisch.

■ ■ ■ *Youth News*

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

Next Sunday: Converge! 7 pm at First Baptist Church

Looking Ahead: Mission Trip deposits are due **January 20**.

■ ■ ■ *FHC Staff Emails and Phone Extensions*

Program Staff

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■ ■ ■ *The Lessons*

Today's Scripture: Isaiah 60: 1-6 (New Jerusalem Bible)

Arise, shine out, for your light has come, and the glory of Yahweh has risen on you.

Look! though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples, on you Yahweh is rising and over you his glory can be seen.

The nations will come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look around: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons coming from far away and your daughters being carried on the hip.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart will throb and dilate, since the riches of the sea will flow to you, the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will fill your streets, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Saba will come, bringing gold and incense and proclaiming Yahweh's praises.

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.

Next Sunday: **Isaiah 62: 1-5; Psalm 36: 5-10; 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11; John 2: 1-11.** 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.

■ ■ ■ *Calendar: January 6-13, 2013*

Sunday, January 6

Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 Child care begins
 Budget Committee
 9:30 Adult Education
 Youth Education
 Descant Choir
 10:15 Descant Choir activity
 10:30 Continental Breakfast
 Chancel Choir
 11:00 WORSHIP: Communion
 Little Explorers
 Children in Worship
 12:15 Coffee Hour
 12:30 Confirmation Brunch
 5:00 Faith Leader

Monday, January 7

6:00 pm Progress not Perfection (AA)
 7:00 pm Al Anon
 7:30 pm Borton Group (AA
 Boy Scout Troop 403
 Early Christianity and Rome

Tuesday, January 8

7:00 pm Youth Core Team meeting
 Cub Scout Pack 36
 7:30 pm Reaching Heights mtg

Wednesday, January 9

7:00 pm Ministries meet

Thursday, January 10

6:20 pm Voices in Bronze
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir
 FH Swim Club

Friday, January 11

9:30 am Al Anon meeting
 5:30 pm Confirmation Retreat begins

Saturday, January 12

9:00 am CEIRS class: Fr. George Smiga
 7:00 pm Pacesetters:
 Planning party at Bells'

Sunday, January 13

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
 Pathways to the Promise Land
 12:15 Coffee Hour
 Sine Nomine Choir rehearsal
 5:00 Faith Leader
 7:00 **CONVERGE!**
 at First Baptist Church,
 3630 Fairmount Blvd

Interrupting Racism Workshop
Saturday, January 19th
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Bodwell Hall – Forest Hill Church

This workshop will help you increase your confidence and comfort level in dealing with and interrupting racist language and behavior that may be directed at you, neighbors, fellow congregants or others. It is designed to engage you in a meaningful conversation about race that will help you build greater personal awareness and understanding about racism so you can be better prepared to intervene when situations occur.

How prepared are you to respond to what you consider racist remarks coming from a family member, neighbor or congregant? In today's multi-cultural world we often find ourselves worshipping with, working with or living next to people whose backgrounds differ from our own.

Through interactive and thought-provoking exercises and role plays with others, we will explore some of the historical origins of racism in the U.S. and elsewhere and the lingering effects that still exist in our society today. By integrating this knowledge with our personal experiences, we can develop effective and constructive ways to respond when this behavior occurs.

RSVP to the church office. Coffee and breakfast rolls will be served starting at 8:45 and lunch (party tray) will conclude the workshop. Free-will donations will be gratefully accepted as we have no budget for food.

From the FHC – Haiti Group

Now that it has been three years since the devastating earthquake brought the world's attention to Haiti, we will be hearing and seeing assessments in the news of how badly that country has fared in the aftermath. Haiti, as we have seen for ourselves, is beset by long-term man-made disasters which weakens its people and undermines the country's capacity for recovery and advancement. Still, as we have seen for ourselves, there are rays of hope and reservoirs of resilience in the lives of survivors.

Commit yourself to taking a look at Haiti this month, at the lament over its poverty in all its forms, and also at the witness of resilience, hope and transformation that can be found.

Check the FHC Haiti website (<http://haiti-fhcpresb.squarespace.com/>) for reminders and reports of our team's initiative last year. An editorial from the New York times has been sent out by email this past week.

Let's prayerfully remember Haitians and their country.

Kermit Lind

**Empowered Parenting
with Amy Speidel**

What do YOU do when your child/teen stomps to his/her room and slams the door after yet another confrontation?

What do YOU say to your child/teen when you know they are hurting and confused?

What do YOU say to your wife/husband when you don't agree on consequences?

What do YOU do when you just don't have the "tools" to re-establish communication with your child/teen?

How do YOU show your child/teen your spirituality?

Ever felt at a loss for how to deal with power struggles and/or defiance?

Sundays, February 3, 10, 17

9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Childcare will be available.

Empowered Parenting—We upgrade cell phones and computers. Now it's time to upgrade the tools we use when helping children work through conflict and personal frustration. Learn the Conscious Discipline® principles that are based on current brain research and transform your home into a place of connection and cooperation.

Register before January 13

\$30 per couple or \$20 per person for the series

After January 13

\$50 per couple or \$30 per person for the series

Open to the public! Tell a friend.

YOU MUST REGISTER to participate in the series

Please contact Liz Wollaeger at the church.