

Forest Hill Church PRESBYTERIAN



*Discovering God's call, celebrating the Spirit's presence,
Witnessing to Christ's transformative power!*

Pastor

John C. Lentz, Jr., M Div, PhD

Associate Pastor

Director of Lay Leadership
Clover Reuter Beal, M Div

Ministry of Music

Anne Wilson, MM, FAGO, ChM

Director of Christian Education

Liz Wollaeger, CACE

Director of Youth Ministries

Kristen Sloan

3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts OH 44118

216-321-2660

Fax: 216-320-1214

Email: office@fhcpresb.org

Website: www.fhcpresb.org

Service of Worship

March 20, 2011 at 11:00 a.m.

The Second Sunday in the Season of Lent

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*

Every moment is a gift, from you, Keeper of our lives. When we would foolishly slip away from your side, you take our hands, and lead us into that adventure we call faith. Amen.

Welcome

Prelude

"Herzliebster Jesu" (Op. 122 No. 2)

Lynn Balaze, guest organist

J. Brahms

Choral Introit

■■■ *Greeting Our God with Joy*

Call to Worship

Elder Diana Woodbridge

Leader: I raise my eyes up to the hills. Where will my help come from?

People: My help will come from the LORD, the one who made heaven and earth,

Leader: the one who will not let your foot be moved; the one watching over you while you sleep.

People: Indeed, the one keeping watch over Israel neither slumbers or sleeps.

Leader: The LORD is the one keeping watch over you; The LORD is your shade at your right hand.

People: The sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

Leader: The LORD is the one watching over you against all evil; watching over your life.

People: The LORD is the one watching over your coming and going from now and forever. AMEN.

*** Processional Hymn No. 488**

"The God of Abraham Praise"

■ ■ ■ *Renewing Our Relationship with God*

Prayer of Confession

Dr. John C. Lentz

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison (*Lord, have mercy*)

Greece

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

Assurance of Pardon

*** Response**

"Be Still and Know"

All sing first time; second time, men begin and women enter one measure later

Anthem

"Journey Song"

Sung in honor of those traveling to Greece and Turkey this week

J. Bell

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

Family Meditation

Dr. Lentz

*** Hymn No. 350**

"Fill My Cup"

Children in Pathways may leave during the hymn

Prayer requests may be passed to the ushers during this hymn

Scripture Lesson

Genesis 12: 1-9

After the reading

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Clover Reuter Beal

"Stage by Stage"

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

please use debts, debtors

Ritual of Friendship

all are asked to sign the tablets as a record of attendance

Offertory

J. Stainer

"God So Loved the World"

*** The Response**

Hymn No. 428

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;

All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

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

*** Closing Hymn No. 339**

"Be Thou My Vision"

*** Commission and Blessing**

*** Choral Benediction**

*** Passing of the Peace**

■ ■ ■ *Postlude*

J. S. Bach

“O Whither Shall I Flee” (Schubler Chorale No. 2)



■ ■ ■ *Parish Notes*

Chancel Flowers

The flowers today are given by Graham, Roz and Joyce Peters in loving memory of parents Evelyn and Vladimir Peters, grandparents of Scott Peters and Deborah Peters and great-grandparents of Alexandra, Mackenzie, Cameron, Caleb and Aiden; and by Don and Nancy Grube in honor of their anniversary.

Prayer Concerns this Week

Prayers are requested this week for the following:

Mary Ball, Bob Bielek, Don Clark, George Dean, Joy Ferguson, Janet Kickel, Debbie Ungemach

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Pat and Fran Drake, Rose Eaton, Betty Farnfield, Hazel Grant, Marilyn Gifford, Mary Jean Kent, Elizabeth Kosnik, Mary Lewis, Merdine T. Morris, Joyce Peters

Please keep Nancy and Bill Burcham and their family in your prayers; Nancy’s mother Ethyle Louise Osborne died March 11, 2011.

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, Scott Duncan, Jean Duncan, 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.

■ ■ ■ *Announcements*

*Please look for your TOWER
on the table near the courtyard ramp entrance
before you leave today*

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.

Please welcome guest organist Lynn Balaze. Lynn is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music and the mother of a charming toddler (with a baby due next month). Anne Wilson is in NYC, on tour with the Heights choirs this weekend. (This morning she is worshipping at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.) Many thanks also to Ginie Mast, a member of the Chancel Choir and a conductor of community choruses, who is conducting the choir today.

Inspirational Stones

The current Pathways to the Promise Land rotation theme is *The Woman with the Alabaster Jar*. The story, found in all four gospels, focuses on inclusion, which is expressed by Jesus throughout his ministry. The children have been making inspirational stones to offer to the congregation as a reminder of our personal relationship with God. Please feel free to choose a stone or several to keep in your pocket or pass on to someone as a keepsake and reminder of God’s covenant.

THIS WEEK

Bible and Bagels

Bible and Bagels will meet Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Jin Room. All are welcome! The lesson this week is **Romans 5: 1-11**. The class will not meet on March 30.

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education: 9:30 in South Hall

March 27 Homelessness in Greater Cleveland: Discovering Realities

Spend an hour learning about the causes of and basic issues of homelessness and hear what it's *really* like to be homeless in Cleveland.

April 3 Homelessness in Greater Cleveland: Responding with Compassion

Spend an hour learning about the many opportunities to make a difference in the lives of those who are homeless in the Greater Cleveland area and discover innovative ways to contribute meaningfully.

These sessions are presented by the Ministry of Justice and Mission

LOOKING AHEAD

Care Group

The Jericho Care Group is responsible for meeting members' needs during March. 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:

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|--|---------------------------------|
| Jennifer Blakeney, Deacon and Leader | Al Gilbert |
| Janet Banis | Tom and Paula Harvey |
| the Baumgartner family | Candice Hoke and George Taylor |
| Jennifer Blakeney and Marius Juodisius | and family |
| and family | Carol Hopkins-Lutz |
| Jack and Mary Ann Breisch | Alex and Nancy Jamieson |
| the Brock family | the Lindquist family |
| the Burleigh family | Carol Phillips |
| Jim and Carol Conway | the Sampson family |
| Joseph and Janet Dauer | Jean Seeley |
| Marge Drollinger | Chuck and Lora Smith and family |
| Elizabeth Farnfield | Sarah and JT Tan and family |
| Beverly Gairing | Ann Tutton |
| | the Wollaeger family |

Today's CARE Group volunteers: Mary Ann and Jack Breisch (Continental Breakfast); Jennifer Blakeney (Coffee Hour); Betty Clark and Rosaneil Schenk (Greeting Cards); Sampson Tedunjaiye, Victoria Sampson and Paula Harvey (Greeters)

Softball Season!

Softball season is here! Are you looking for fellowship, great cookouts, chicanery, exercise, and oh yes, some fun competitions with local churches? The Forest Hill softball teams are looking for members, visitors and guests (16 and over) to join this spring. Games are played Sunday late afternoons and evenings at local parks from April thru the end of July. Please contact Jason Hidek at jason.hidek@att.net or 440-646-9093 if you are interested.

Buy Stock in Our Youth

Thanks to everyone who purchased youth stock. At the end of March, the sale of youth stock will close. Those who purchased stock will receive a letter and certificate in the mail in early April detailing their investment. If you haven't bought stock and would like to invest, visit the Stock Table in Fellowship Hall after worship. Thanks for your support!

■ ■ ■ *Youth News*

Today

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

Next Sunday

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

Sine Nomine Choir will meet in the chapel immediately after worship.

Sr High OTL at 1 p.m.: BD's Mongolian Grill on Coventry

■ ■ ■ *The Lessons*

Next Sunday: Exodus 17: 1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5: 1-11; John 4: 5-42. 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 March" 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 Sloan / kristens@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

Genesis 12: 1-9

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan,

Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

Calendar: March 20 - 27, 2011

<p>Sunday, March 20: 2 Lent 9:15 Child care begins 9:30 Adult and Youth Education Mid & Sr High Youth Confirmation class Descant Choir 10:15 Descant Choir activity 10:30 Continental Breakfast Chancel Choir 11:00 WORSHIP Children in Worship; Little Explorers 11:15 Pathways to the Promise Land 12:15 Coffee Hour Blood Pressure check Teacher Training 5:00 Boy Scout Troop #409 Dinner Faith Leader Holy Conversations</p> <p>Monday, March 21 6:00 p.m. Progress not Perfection (AA) 7:00 p.m. Al Anon Sycamore Group 7:30 p.m. Borton Group (AA) Boy Scouts Troup #403</p> <p>Tuesday, March 22 7:00 p.m. Cub Scout Pack #36</p> <p>Wednesday, March 23 7:30 a.m. Bible & Bagels 7:00 p.m. Session meeting 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Bible Study</p>	<p>Thursday, March 24 4:30 p.m. Huron Hospital's Living Fit class 6:20 p.m. Voices in Bronze 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir</p> <p>Friday, March 25 Pilgrimage to Turkey & Greece leaves 9:30 a.m. Al Anon</p> <p>Sunday, March 27: 3 Lent 8:15 Nominating Committee 9:15 Child care begins 9:30 Adult and Youth Education Mid & Sr High Youth Confirmation class Descant Choir 10:15 Descant Choir activity 10:30 Continental Breakfast Chancel Choir Cherub Choir 11:00 WORSHIP Children in Worship; Little Explorers Pathways to the Promise Land 12:15 Coffee Hour Sine Nomine Choir 1:00 Sr High: OTL at BD's Mongolian Grill 5:00 Faith Leader Holy Conversations 6:00 Film screening</p>
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Dear Friends,

On Friday, March 25th, Clover and I will be leading a pilgrimage to Turkey and Greece. During this time away we will visit sights associated with the New Testament, especially ancient cities connected to St. Paul. We shall be visiting Ephesus, Corinth, and Athens, among many other exciting places.

Having both pastors away at the same time causes anxiety for some. While both Clover and I try our best not to have our absences overlap, there are times when this cannot be avoided. We are grateful for your support.

We rejoice that you do such a wonderful job of caring for each other. Lynda will be at her desk and will be able to help you and direct your questions to the appropriate people. During our absence, the Rev. Tricia Dykers Koenig (Parish Associate), the Rev. Dean Myers (Retired) and the Rev. Francis Miller (Noble Road) will be on call. The Session has also asked The Rev. Sally Wile to serve as chaplain in case of trauma, emergency or calls at the time of death. The Deacons will be notified of any other pastoral care needs during this time.

From March 25 – April 3, please let Lynda Bernays know of any information and she will direct it to the care resources available. She can be reached in the church office, or after hours at 216-337-5946 or 751-7784.

Rev. Tricia Dykers Koenig will be preaching on Sunday, March 27 and Ms. Michelle Jean Mary, chaplain at St. Vincent Charity and graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, will preach on Sunday, April 3.

On Wednesday, March 30th, Anne Wilson, Melody Obery and Jean Reinhold will be leading the Lenten Season service of healing and wholeness in the Sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. There will be a simple meal at 6:30. Watch for more information!

Pray for us as we are away, as we will pray for you. We will be back in the office at some point on Monday, April 4.

God bless you and thank you,

John Lentz

PC(USA) framing response to Japan earthquake, tsunami

IN IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH, PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE, WORLD MISSION
CHECKING IN WITH PARTNERS, MISSION WORKERS, PRESBYTERIES

By Bethany Furkin, Presbyterian News Service

LOUISVILLE — Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) staff are working to respond to the massive earthquake and resulting tsunami that struck Japan March 10, killing unknown numbers of people and sending tsunami waves across the Pacific.

The PC(USA) has 10 mission co-workers in various cities across Japan. By mid-day March 11 staff in Presbyterian World Mission had received word from four that they were safe. None of the mission workers are based close to the northern coastal city of Sendai, which has taken the brunt of the impact.

Denominational leaders have issued a call to prayer. The Rev. Gradye Parsons, stated clerk; Elder Cynthia Bolbach, moderator of the 219th General Assembly; and Elder Linda Valentine, executive director of the General Assembly Mission Council are urging Presbyterians to pray for all those affected by the disaster — victims and their families, aid workers, faith communities and leaders.

“The magnitude of this kind of tragedy is difficult to grasp. Yet, our faith leads us to affirm that in even greater measure is the presence of God in the midst of the devastation,” states the call.

World Mission staff have also contacted all of the PC(USA)’s partner churches and organizations in Japan. Yodogawa Christian Hospital in Osaka is not damaged, but sent a message.

“... our heart aches as the earthquake disasters are spreading in other parts of Japan. We are praying for God’s protection and comfort over those people in the earthquake affected areas. He is our refuge and fortress.”

Forest Hill Church will collect donations and send them to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)’s special account for relief in Japan. Please place checks with “Japan relief” in the memo line in the offering. PDA is a member of ACT Alliance, an international coalition of churches working for humanitarian aid and development.