

Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian



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

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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

Keon Abner, Dir. of Youth Ministries

Dacia Prins, Dir. of Children's Ministries

Service of Worship

September 21, 2014 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 have large print editions of the Bible and today's bulletin;
hearing devices; activity bags with quiet activities for children staying in worship;
and directions to our Monticello Wing nursery for babies and young children.

■ ■ ■ *Prayer of Preparation*

For you are all God's children through faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Gal. 3: 26-28

Welcome

Prelude

J. S. Bach

"Prelude in E Major"

■ ■ ■ *Greeting Our God with Joy*

Call to Worship

Elder Jennifer Blakeney

Leader: Choose this day whom you will serve.

People: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Leader: Cry aloud, and call upon God's name.

People: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Leader: Declare God's glory among the nations.

People: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Leader: Sing to the Lord, and bless God's name.

People: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

*** Processional Hymn No. 267**

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

■ ■ ■ *Renewing Our Relationship with God*

Prayer of Confession

Elder Barry Hartz

Leader: Holy God, Maker of all

People: Have mercy on us.

Leader: Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor

People: Have mercy on us.

Leader: Holy Spirit, breath of life

People: Have mercy on us.

Leader: Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

A Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)

Appalachian folk melody, arr. Richard Wetzel

You are the Lord, giver of mercy.

You are the Christ, giver of mercy.

You are the Lord, giver of mercy.

<p>Congregation joins choir second time through</p>
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Leader: Before God, with the people of God, I confess my brokenness to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

People: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the spirit enable you to grow in love.

Leader: AMEN.

People: Before God, with the people of God, I confess my brokenness to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

Leader: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the spirit enable you to grow in love.

People: AMEN.

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

* **Response**

Paul Vasile

“Glory to God”

3 Glo-ry to God, whose good-ness shines on me, and to the
6 Son, whose grace has par-doned me, and to the Spir-it, whose love has
8 set me free. As it was in the be-gin-ning, is
now and ev-er shall be. A-men.

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a time signature of 12/8. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with measure numbers 3, 6, and 8 indicated at the start of their respective lines. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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

Family Meditation

Dacia Prins, Director of Children's Ministries

* **Hymn No. 819**

“Be Still My Soul”

Children in Pathways may leave during the hymn

Prayer requests may be passed to the ushers during this hymn

Scripture Lesson

Galatians 1: 1-24; 2: 1-10

After the reading

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Clover Reuter Beal

“Called to Freedom”

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

Offertory

John Rutter

“This Is the Day”

* Response

South African song

“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises!”

Ha - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our
3 hearts with glad - ness are filled. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your
6 prais - es, all our hearts with glad - ness are filled. Now he
9 sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt, strong of
13 faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful Good News. *repeat first part*

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

* **Closing Hymn No. 691**

"Lord, When I Came into This Life"

* **Commission and Blessing**

* **Choral Benediction**

* **Passing of the Peace**

■ ■ ■ *Postlude*

J. S. Bach

"Prelude in A Major"

**please stand if able*



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! Be sure to visit our website, www.fhcpresb.org, to find a complete list of upcoming events, education programs for all ages, and texts and audio of past sermons.

■ ■ ■ *Congregational Notes*

Chancel Flowers

The flowers today are given by Joy Stang in memory of her husband Lou and in honor of her four children and ten grandchildren; and by Carol and Tim Gifford in memory of Marilyn and Dick Gifford and in honor of Mary and Robert Sacha.

Prayer Concerns this Week

Prayers are requested this week for the following:

Mykeltie Ball, Kay Currie, Flora Dannemiller, John Dugard, Jean Duncan, Mary Lewis, Connie Sekerak, Margaret Sentell, Debbie Ungemach.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Dick Bloomquist, Bill Currie, Pat Drake, Marge Drollinger, Betty Farnfield, Iris Gilbert, Ron and Florence Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, Elaine Tapié.

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

Jim Roosa, Ayodele Solaru. Roger Heineman, Head Usher

Interested in joining an usher team?

See Roger Heineman.

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

Attendance last week (including Pathways children): 244

■ ■ ■ *Announcements*

TODAY

Family Promise Host Week Sign-up

Family Promise team members will be in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour to sign you up to help host families from Family Promise during the week of September 28. Look for the table!

Labre Project

There is a meeting in Bodwell Hall today immediately after worship. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

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 lessons this week are **Galatians 2: 11-21 and Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16.**

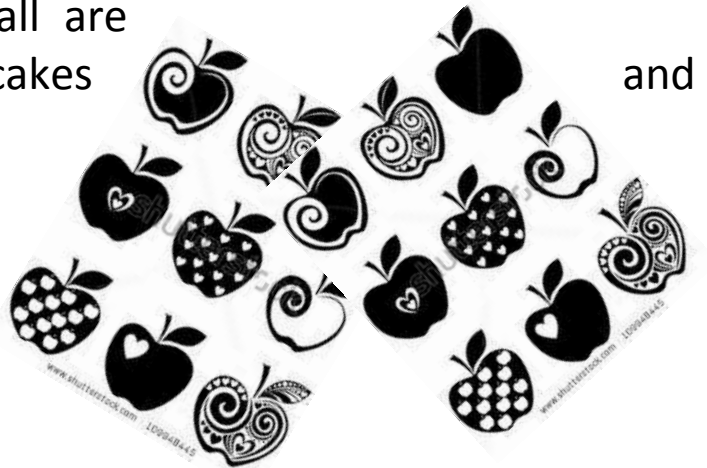
NEXT SUNDAY
Adult Education, 9:30

The study of Galatians continues in small groups through November 16. There's still time to register – see Pastor Beal.

Fall Festival

The Fall Festival is next Sunday – all are welcome to stay for lunch, games, cakes and apples!

If you plan to bake a cake for the Cake Walk, please bring it to the kitchen Sunday morning.



ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

All-Church Book Discussion: The Screwtape Letters

The discussion of ***The Screwtape Letters*** has been rescheduled for Sunday, October 5 at 5 pm. You have plenty of time to read the book and join the discussion!

Social Groups and Circles
Young Adults (20s-30s)

Gathering at the Beals' – Tuesday, September 30, 7:30 pm

Join us at Clover and Tim Beal's home (2884 Warrington, Shaker Hts) to kick off the year! We will get to know each other, discuss possible outings, and plan a study series for the future, to be facilitated by Tim and Clover. **Bring a friend! Bring a dessert to share! Beverages will be provided.** RSVP to Clover at pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org.

Care Group

The Jordan 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:

Mary McMillan, Deacon Leader	Neil & Kathy Molyneaux
Debbie Adrine	Jon Newton
Betsy & Joe Andrews	Linda Rainey
Mike & Danielle Cosgrove	John & Kara Schellenberg & family
Dale & Elaine Dannefer	Jim & Pat Seeders
Sally Davis	Dan & Kristin Smith
Ralph & Kathy Dise	Dalma Takacs
Ron & Marcia Grant	Grace Uhle
Roger & Consuelo Heineman & family	Tori Weisberg & family
Dorothy Herd	Becky & Brian West & family
Carl Jenks	Marilyn Wilk
Ellen McChesney	Diana Woodbridge

■ ■ ■ *Youth News*

Every Sunday

- Mid and Sr High classes meet from 9:30 – 10:30 am.
- Youth Fellowship meets at 5 pm

Today

- Sine Nomine Choir will rehearse in the chapel immediately after worship.
- All youth (gr 6-12) are invited at 5 pm for food, games, worship and discussion – Keon says COME!

■ ■ ■ *FHC Staff Emails and Phone Extensions*

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**TOWERS ARE READY TO BE
PICKED UP!
PLEASE LOOK FOR YOURS IN THE
GARDEN COURTYARD FOYER.**

Look in the October TOWER for
information about

- ✦ **The Blessing of the Animals,**
October 4
- ✦ **Shifting Gears in the Second Half
of Life,** Oct. 5 – Nov. 2
- ✦ **“Cleveland Hts Activists Build an
Integrated Community,”** Oct. 7
- ✦ **Kingdom Party!** October 11
- ✦ **Forest City String Band,** Oct. 12
- ✦ **Christianity for Seekers,** Oct. 19 –
Nov. 23

The Fall Festival



Next Sunday, September 28 FHC will celebrate fall with an Apple Festival!
The Deacons are planning apple activities for everyone. Come to church and stay for lunch, fun and festivities! All are welcome.

We need cakes for the cake walk! Bring your contribution to the kitchen Sunday morning.

The Blessing of the Animals Saturday, October 4, 5 pm

Bring your pets (leashed or caged) to be blessed in a St. Francis Day service that celebrates the presence of pets in our lives. Weather permitting, we will be outside the church for prayers, "All God's Critters," and individual pet blessings.



The Kingdom Party Saturday, October 11, 7-10 pm

Come to the Kingdom Party celebrating Pastor John Lentz's 20th anniversary as senior pastor of Forest Hill Church. There will be dancing (with LaDon Headen as DJ), storytelling, refreshments and much more.



■■■ *Calendar: September 21-28, 2014*

Sunday, September 21

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
Children in Worship
11:15 Pathways to the Promise Land
12:00 Coffee Hour
Blood pressure check
Labre Project meeting
Sine Nomine Choir rehearsal
12:50 Recital
(students of Anne Wilson)
5:00 Youth Fellowship

Monday, September 22

5:00 pm PWR Meeting, Avon Lake PC
6:00 pm Progress not Perfection (AA)
7:00 pm Al Anon
7:30 pm AA: Borton Group
Boy Scout Troop #403

Tuesday, September 23

12:00 pm Abundance Pantry lunch
and food distribution
5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class

Wednesday, September 24

7:30 am Bible and Bagels
12:30 pm Wednesday Women's AA
7:00 pm Session meeting

Thursday, September 25

1:00 pm Abundance Pantry food
distribution
5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class
6:20 pm Voices in Bronze
7:00 pm Sacred Space meeting
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Friday, September 26

9:30 am Al Anon

Sunday, September 28

9:00 Child care begins
Volunteer training
9:30 Adult education
Descant Choir
10:15 Descant Choir activity
10:30 Continental Breakfast
Chancel Choir
11:00 WORSHIP
Children in Worship
11:15 Pathways to the Promise Land
12:00 FALL FESTIVAL
5:00 Youth Fellowship
Family Promise host week begins

■ ■ ■ *The Lessons*

Today: Galatians 1: 1-24; 2: 1-10 (Common English Bible)

From Paul, an apostle who is not sent from human authority or commissioned through human agency, but sent through Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised him from the dead; and from all the brothers and sisters with me.

To the churches in Galatia.

Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. He gave himself for our sins, so he could deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father. To God be the glory forever and always! Amen.

I'm amazed that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ to follow another gospel. It's not really another gospel, but certain people are confusing you and they want to change the gospel of Christ. However, even if we ourselves or a heavenly angel should ever preach anything different from what we preached to you, they should be under a curse. I'm repeating what we've said before: if anyone preaches something different from what you received, they should be under a curse!

Am I trying to win over human beings or God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I wouldn't be Christ's slave. Brothers and sisters, I want you to know that the gospel I preached isn't human in origin. I didn't receive it or learn it from a human. It came through a revelation from Jesus Christ.

You heard about my previous life in Judaism, how severely I harassed God's church and tried to destroy it. I advanced in Judaism beyond many

of my peers, because I was much more militant about the traditions of my ancestors. But God had set me apart from birth and called me through his grace. He was pleased to reveal his Son to me, so that I might preach about him to the Gentiles. I didn't immediately consult with any human being. I didn't go up to Jerusalem to see the men who were apostles before me either, but I went away into Arabia and I returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days. But I didn't see any other of the apostles except James the brother of the Lord. Before God, I'm not lying about the things that I'm writing to you! Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia, but I wasn't known personally by the Christian churches in Judea. They only heard a report about me: "The man who used to harass us now preaches the faith that he once tried to destroy." So they were glorifying God because of me.

Then after fourteen years I went up to Jerusalem again with Barnabas, and I took Titus along also. I went there because of a revelation, and I laid out the gospel that I preach to the Gentiles for them. But I did it privately with the influential leaders to make sure that I wouldn't be working or that I hadn't worked for nothing. However, not even Titus, who was with me and who was a Greek, was required to be circumcised. But false brothers and sisters, who were brought in secretly, slipped in to spy on our freedom, which we have in Christ Jesus, and to make us slaves. We didn't give in and submit to them for a single moment, so that the truth of the gospel would continue to be with you.

The influential leaders didn't add anything to what I was preaching—and whatever they were makes no difference to me, because God doesn't show favoritism. But on the contrary, they saw that I had been given the responsibility to preach the gospel to the people who aren't circumcised, just as Peter had been to the circumcised. The one who empowered

Peter to become an apostle to the circumcised empowered me also to be one to the Gentiles. James, Cephas, and John, who are considered to be key leaders, shook hands with me and Barnabas as equals when they recognized the grace that was given to me. So it was agreed that we would go to the Gentiles, while they continue to go to the people who were circumcised. They asked only that we would remember the poor, which was certainly something I was willing to do.

Next Sunday: The Kerygma text for next Sunday is **Galatians 2: 11-21**. The lectionary texts are **Exodus 17: 1-7; Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16; Philippians 2: 1-13; Matthew 20: 1-16**. 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.

On the cover: "Testimony" © Jan L. Richardson, www.janrichardson.com