

Forest Hill Church Service of Worship

November 24, 2019 at 11:00 am

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship.

Please sign in and join us in wearing a name tag so that we might greet you.

Centering Words/ Prayer of Preparation

May God's thoughts become our thoughts. May Jesus' way become our way.

And may the Spirit be our guide until love reigns through the earth.

Welcome

Choral Introit

African American spiritual

"Ride On, King Jesus!"

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship:

Lia Clement

Prepare the way of the Lord. Make your hearts ready for the coming king.

We will be merciful to prepare our hearts for the king of mercy. We will seek justice to prepare our world for the king of peace.

Prepare the way of the Lord - the one who has given the ultimate gift of love.

We will offer our very best as we help build God's kingdom of justice and joy!

* Processional Hymn No. 769

"For Everyone Born"

Sing refrain only. After stanzas 1, 3 and 5.

**please stand as able*

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession:

Jesus, remember us when you come into your kingdom. Forgive the times when we succumb to our meaner instincts. Teach us to answer acts of hate with greater expressions of love. Forgive us and free us from our fears, dear Christ, until your grace reigns in our hearts and throughout the world. Amen.

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie Eleison (Lord, have mercy)

Appalachian melody

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

The Assurance of Pardon:

We will claim these words of Jesus: "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise!" In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia!

*Gloria

Taizé

All sing first time. Second time: low voices, begin; high voices enter two measures later; children and youth enter two measures after that.

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Minute for Mission

Jessica Kelley

*Hymn No. 336

arr. Eduard Kremser

"We Gather Together"

St. 2, Will Davis, solo

During the hymn, children are welcome to come up front for a quiet activity during the sermon.

Scripture Passages

Jeremiah 23:1-6 (page 633); Luke 23:33-43 (page 859-860)

Lia Clement

After the readings

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz Jr.

"What Kind of King is Jesus, Anyway?"

Prayers of the People /The 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/ Offering

Offertory

Stephen Paulus

"The Road Home"

Sydney Ball, soprano

*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.

* Prayer of Dedication

Going Forth to Live as God's People

* Closing Hymn No. 260

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

* Commission and Blessing

* Choral Benediction No. 701

"Sanctuary"

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Sanctuary" (Choral Benediction No. 701). It is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Lord pre-pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and ho - ly, tried and true, With thanks -giv-ing, I'll be a liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you." The score is divided into three systems of music, with the first system starting at measure 3 and the second at measure 6.

*** Passing of the Peace**

Postlude

Georg Friedrich Kaufmann

“Now Thank We All Our God”



Welcome Visitors!

We look forward to greeting you and answering any questions you may have. **Welcome bags are available in the foyers and the narthex. Take one home with you!** Be sure to visit our website, www.fhcpresb.org, for a list of upcoming events, education programs for all ages, and past sermon texts and audio.

Notes & Announcements

Chancel Flowers:

- Betty Clark in memory of Don, Irma and Raymond Clark, and Betty and Herbert Fritz.
- Barb Hansen, Linda & Mark Davidson, Mark & Linda Hansen, Sharon Hansen, Jill & Kevin White in loving memory of Lamont Hansen.

Prayer Requests:

If you would like to request prayers for a personal concern, please use one of the slips of paper in the pew rack. Ushers will collect the requests during the middle hymn and pastors will include them in the congregational prayer.

Prayers are requested this week for the following: Cheryl Anderson, Mary Ann Breisch, Kathy Carr, Mark Davidson, Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines, David Hunter, Joanna Klingenstein, Keith Logan, Grace Uhle, and Carolyn Vrtunski.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Marge Drollinger, Iris and Al Gilbert, Florence and Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Judy Sieck, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Beryl and Henrietta Williams.

The Deacons encourage you to stop by the Greeting Card Table in Fellowship Hall before or after worship to sign a card for one or more of our homebound members. We will address and mail the card for you.

Care Group: *The Mt. Sinai Care Group* will assist our pastors in meeting members' needs during **November**. 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, Tish Van Beers-Klein**.

Thank you, Deborah Erwin and Robyn Hales, head ushers, and today's usher team.

Thank you, all office volunteers: Ellen McChesney, Cathy Ghiandoni, Lynda Bernays and Anne Smith. You are appreciated!

Thank you, sound board team: David Bell, Bader Boland and Steve Marunowski.

The deadline for the bulletin or weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **12/12/19 at 8:00 am**. You may submit your written request to office@fhcpresb.org.

To stay up to date on family programming, please subscribe to the Christian Education Newsletter: bit.ly/ceNewsletter.

Please start saving your egg cartons again! Place all donated egg cartons in the pantry shopping cart.

Coming Up

TODAY

The registration for the upcoming Adult Education class, studying 1 Samuel, begins today. Register with Pat Seeders before or after service in South Hall. Class will begin January 5.

Please pick up your TOWER after service.

Christmas Angels for Boulevard School: Located in Fellowship Hall, there is a Christmas tree decorated with paper ornaments. Each ornament is a gift suggestion for a child from Boulevard School. Please choose an ornament and sign it out. Buy the gift, wrap it and put the ornament on top of gift. **Gifts need to be at church by Sunday, December 15** at the latest. Please help give Boulevard children a Merry Christmas!

“White Fragility” Book Discussion Group: The final class will meet today from 5 pm – 6 pm in the Faith Leader Room (next to the Chapel). **Please contact Todd Webster (toddwebster1967@gmail.com) for more information.**

THIS WEEK

Bible and Bagels (Bible Study) discusses next Sunday’s texts on Wednesday mornings from 7:30 am to 8:30 am The lessons for this week are: **Isa. 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Rom. 13:11-14 and Matt. 24:36-44.**

NEXT WEEK

Adult Education at 9:30 am is located in Bodwell and South Hall. Pastor Goines and Pastor Lentz will kick off the Advent season by leading the discussion about the history and the significance of Advent.

Yoga for Women of Color: This class offers a place for women of color to learn and explore this spiritual practice, whether they attend Forest Hill Church or not. Class is led by Dawn Rivers of Daybreak Yoga and is designed for all skill levels! Classes are offered on **November 30, and December 14, 21 at 1:30 pm in Bodwell Hall.** Cost is \$12 per session. Spread the word! **For more information, contact Marcie Denton at marciedenton70@gmail.com.**

*****Forest Hill is a community, and we are here to help each other out. If the cost for any of these Small Plates could be a barrier to your participation, please contact one of the organizers. *****

Pantry Request for Gift Items and Reusable Bags

The Abundance Food Pantry here at our church would like some help in setting up a holiday gift shop again this year. This will enable our pantry guests to give gifts to the youngsters in their lives. Please help us gather things like toys, games, puzzles, stuffed animals, children’s books, crayons, wrapping paper, and Christmas decorations. These can be your own used items, goodwill items, or dollar store items. We will let our pantry guests do the wrapping. From now until Christmas, please put your items in the box marked “Pantry Gift Items” on the stage in Fellowship Hall. We also need reusable bags. If you prefer to give a donation, please write a check to Forest Hill Church and put “Food Pantry” in the memo line. **Contact Paul at jennings_paul@att.net or 440-570-6736, if you are interested in volunteering for the pantry.**

From Grace Uhle:

Your prayers, calls, cards, visits, Meal Train meals, audio CDs have lightened my heart and made me feel part of our Beloved Community although I am absent from worship. Thank you. I am getting better--but slowly. Bless you all.

On behalf of God Before Guns, I want to thank FHC for your wonderful support and hospitality for The Rev. Sharon Risher's "For a Time Such as This" event. Our ministers were enthusiastic supporters. The Ministry of Justice and Mission graciously co-sponsored the event. Our staff and Morag Keefe went above and beyond to make the day very special. One of the reasons I have become a proud member of the church is the welcome we extend to all people. I am deeply impressed and happily involved in the work that this congregation is doing to create racial equity in our community and world. The Rev. Risher spoke eloquently of the dangers of racism in our history and our time, and of the inordinate suffering of people of color from gun violence in particular and violence in general. I pray that her inspiration will keep all of us working to 'bend the arc of the moral universe towards justice.'

Thank you, Cynthia Lehman

Our Family Home Center/ Labre Gifts and Gloves

The ministry of Justice and Mission is looking to raise \$550 to give presents to 57 children at Our Family Home Center in East Cleveland, Ohio. Your financial support will allow us to provide gloves and a small gift for our friends and neighbors at OFHC. With your help, we can reach our goal of distributing over 100 gifts for families in need this Christmas. Please visit our table located in Fellowship Hall before or after service to place your donation in the box. **For more information please contact Jennifer Blakeney (216-526-8744), Ajah Hales (216-401-3412) or Jessica Kelley (410-562-1797).**

Please join our knitting, sewing and crocheting group, "Fiber and Fellowship". The next meeting is **November 26 at 10 am**. Please contact **Carol (216-598-9730) or Chris (chris3040@aol.com)** for more details.

**Cookie Carnival and Parenting Musically Event:
Saturday, December 7 from 5:00 pm-7:30 pm**

Join us for a family Christmas party led by Dr. Lisa Koops in celebration of her new book: *Parenting Musically*. Come decorate cookies, sing, dance, and make a joyful noise! Families will receive music bags to take home. All are welcome! We will provide pizza and cookie supplies and ask families, as they are able, to bring some kind of side dish to share. **Please RSVP to David Wigger by Wednesday, December 4: CE@fhcpresb.org.**

Youth Christmas Party

Joy to the World! Please mark your calendars for our upcoming FHC Youth Christmas Party on Sunday, **December 15 from 5 pm - 7:30 pm** in Fellowship Hall. We will celebrate the birth of our Heavenly Father with decorations, dinner, cake, eggnog, fellowship, music and karaoke, and more games! Happy Birthday Jesus!

Adult Education's Advent Program
Advent: It's not just a WREATH; what are you waiting for?

December 1: What are we waiting for? The History and Significance of Advent.

December 8: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel": Depression, Generalized Anxiety, and Seasonal Affective Disorder: Exploring the spiritual and psychological implications of Advent.

December 15: Advent in the Bible: A panel discussion of the lectionary texts.

December 22: Music of Advent, both old and new.

December 29: Christmas Celebration! A breakfast for the entire church family at 9:30 am. Main entrée will be provided. Bring a sweet treat to share with your church family.

Please contact Pat Seeders (216-832-7915 or @plseeders@gmail.com) for more information.

Pacesetter Christmas Party (All are welcome!)

Saturday, Dec. 14 – 7:00 pm at the Bell's

Join with friends (old and new), including adult children, as we welcome the season, sharing food and fellowship. No gifts. Please bring: an appetizer, beverage or dessert to share, and an item or two for the food pantry. Some soft drinks will be provided. RSVPs not necessary. (Because this group is just that good!) Questions? Call Chris or Dave Bell at 216-932-6992. See you Dec. 14 – 3040 Scarborough Rd., Cleveland Hts.

Group/Hilltoppers

We are having a CHRISTMAS PARTY at the home of Diana Woodbridge. On **Saturday, December 14, at 6:30 pm**. We will enjoy appetizers, desserts (please bring your own beverages) and celebrate our Boulevard family that we are supporting for Christmas this year. This year we will help a great-grandmother raising four children attending Boulevard School, two girls and two boys, ages 5 to 13. We will buy clothes and toys for the children and gift certificates for the great-grandmother and the family. **Specific purchase information will be given when you RSVP to Cathy Ghiandoni at ghiandoni.c@gmail.com or 216 691-1905.** Help us give this family a blessed Christmas and join the holiday festivities with Forest Hill Church friends.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Did you know, every 2 minutes someone needs blood and just 1 pint of blood can help up to 3 people in need? FHC will be sponsoring a Blood Drive on **Sunday, December 22 from 12:15 pm – 5:15 pm** in South Hall. The FHC Blood Drive will be in memory of Connie Reynolds, FHC Member Rob Reynolds' mother. Connie received blood from the kindness of strangers during her 5-year battle with cancer, which she lost 3 years ago. Everyone in good health is encouraged to donate; online appointments are encouraged. You can make your life-saving appointment at RedCrossBlood.org and typing in the Sponsor Code – FHC. **If you have questions about making your appointment, or about the blood donation process, please contact Rob Reynolds (robert.reynolds@redcross.org).**

“Reconnecting with God’s Creation” is back for a third year! The course is one of several “small plates” offerings by the Ministry of Education and Spiritual Formation. Classes consist of readings, mixed media presentations, small group discussion, adoption of a place for nature observation, and field trips. Through the course, you will more clearly understand the deep connections between humans and nature and explore how you can act on your responsibility as a Christian for stewardship of the natural world.

The 10 classes are focused around 4 themes: preservation and protection, stewardship, wonder and magic, and restoration. Environmental justice and climate change will be emphasized throughout the course. By the end of the course, you will draw closer to, learn from, and be empowered to serve God’s creation. A suggested \$10 donation by participants would be appreciated to offset the cost of class materials and facility rental fee at one of the field trip locations. Please sign up soon as the course is limited to 12 people.

Classes will take place on Sundays from 4-6 pm March 15 to June 7, 2020 *excluding* Easter (April 12), Mother’s Day (May 10) and Memorial Day (May 24). They will be held at FHC in South Hall or will include field trips to nearby parks/nature preserves. **If you have any questions and/or are interested in participating please contact Kemp Jaycox (kempjaycox@yahoo.com; 216-785-5375) or Steve Sedam (Goldens101@aol.com; 614-783-4467).**

Poinsettia Order form – 2019

Orders are due by December 20 at 8 am

Feel free to mail your payment along with this order form.

Name: _____

Phone or email: _____

Number of poinsettias @ \$15 each _____

Would you like to donate or take the arrangement? _____

Dedication: in memory of, in honor of, in thanksgiving for, to celebrate WHOM or WHAT.



Calendar: November 24-December 1

Sunday, November 24:

12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation
4:00 pm Messiah Chorus Concert
5:00 pm Book Discussion (Small Plates)
7:00 pm Promises on Sunday

Monday, November 25:

6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection
Recording Session
7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There's Hope
OA Big Book Meeting
7:30 pm AA: Borton Group

Tuesday November 26:

10:00 am Fiber and Fellowship
12:00 pm Abundance Pantry
Registration
5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise
Bulletin and Email Deadline

Wednesday, November 27:

7:30 am Bible and Bagels
~~12:00 pm Staff Meeting~~
12:30 pm Wednesday Women's Group
7:00 pm Speak Life Bible Study

Thursday, November 28: Office Closed

Friday, November 29: Office Closed

10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand

Saturday, November 30:

1:30 pm Yoga (Small Plates)

Sunday, December 1: Advent

9:15 am Childcare begins
9:30 am Adult Education
Youth Education
Descant Choir
10:10 am Pathways
10:30 pm Continental Breakfast
Chancel Choir
11:00 am Worship and Children's
Worship
12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation
Usher Training
7:00 pm Promises on Sunday

3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts. OH 44118

216-321-2660

Fax: 216-320-1214

Email: office@fhcpresb.org

Website: www.fhcpresb.org

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines, Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Co-Pastors
Rev. David Wigger, Interim Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministries
Tara Beverly, Youth Leader
Anne Wilson, Director of Music