

*Forest Hill Church
Service of Worship
April 12, 2020 at 11:00 am
Easter Sunday*

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1XI9U1MdP8&feature=youtu.be>

You are invited to participate in the Live Chat box to the right of the video screen if you so wish.

Those who find Chat distracting may select the Hide Chat option at the bottom of the Chat box.

To access the Bulletin link and the Giving link, look in the Comment section found directly below the video screen.

Centering Words

"He is risen."

Matthew 28:6

"We proclaim the resurrection of Christ when his light illuminates the dark moments of our existence."

Pope Francis

"The story of Easter is the story of God's wonderful window of divine surprise."

Carl Knudsen

Welcome

Choral Introit

Marty Haugen

"Easter Alleluia"

Sydney Ball and Carl Jenks

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship

Shout for joy! **The tomb is empty!**

Dance and sing! **Christ is risen!**

Christ is risen indeed! Let us worship God!

Hymn No. 232

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

Jesus Christ is risen today, Al-le-lu-ia!

Our triumphant holy day, Al-le-lu-ia!

Who did once upon the cross, Al-le-lu-ia!

Suffer to redeem our loss, Al-le-lu-ia

Sing we to our God above, Al-le-lu-ia!

Praise eternal as God's love. Al-le-lu-ia!

Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Al-le-lu-ia!

Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Al-le-lu-ia!

Renewing Our Relationship with God

God of mystery and might, your wondrous love always seems to catch us off guard. We come to the tomb looking for death, but find life instead. As we behold the glory of our salvation, take us back to that moment of discovery – when grief and loss gave way to a glimmer of hope. Before we shout our alleluias, remind us of the moment when despair was transported into glimpses of new possibilities. In the holy awe of Easter morning. We take a moment of silent gratitude that Christ calls each of us by name.

(Silence)

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

Alleluia

Jeannette Sorrell

5 Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Al -
- le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

From the Living Word (NRSV)

Luke 24:13-35

¹³Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. ²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

Hymn No. 240

“Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks”

Refrain: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, give thanks to the risen Lord
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, give praise to God’s name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth, He is the King of creation. *(Refrain)*
Spread the good news o’er all the earth; Jesus has died and has risen. *(Refrain)*
Come let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior. *(Refrain)*

Sermon

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

“Out of the Wilderness and On The Way”

Friendship Register

To participate in our online Friendship Register, please leave a comment in the Live Chat box indicating how many people are participating in this morning's Live Worship.

Offering

[Click here to donate to One Great Hour of Sharing](#)
[Click here to donate to FHC via PayPal](#)

Offertory

trad. Caribbean

“Halle, Halle, Halle”

*Prayer of Dedication

Loving God, may our offerings bring to others the promise of new life. Accept the gifts we offer to proclaim your love. Use our talents in ways that will set others free, that the liberating truth of Christ’s gospel be heard, and seen, and felt.

The Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

(You are encouraged to bring bread and juice or even a cracker and water to join us in the celebration feast of communion)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

And so, with all creation, with all the needy and the hungry ones, with all those who have enough and plenty, with creatures large and small, with sun and moon and stars, and with the saints of every age, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Prayers of the People and 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.

Communion of the People

Music during Communion

John Bell (Iona Community)

“Alleluia”

Prayer after Communion

Living Christ, as you open the scriptures to us you make yourself known in the breaking of the bread. Fed at your table and filled by the Spirit, may we walk with you all the days of our lives, and proclaim the glory of your resurrection to all the world. Amen.

Going Forth to Live as God's People

*Closing Hymn No. 246

“Christ Is Alive!”

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
And find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
Till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love and praise.

Benediction

“After Easter”

(Shaped by the words of Howard Thurman)

When the lilies lose their petals,
when trumpets are quiet, new shoes scuffed,
chocolate eggs melted by small fingers,
bunnies returned to the shelter,
and sermons start to doubt themselves,
the work of Easter begins —
to offer spring cleaning or garden care,
errands for someone observing “stay at home”
to learn Narcan and carry it always,
to offer deep and tender comfort
especially to those who do not expect it,
mourning a miscarriage,
an elder with dementia,
a long-time companion animal,
to name resurrection in the midst of life
for the poor, the refugee,
the vulnerable,
and the groaning creation —
Justice is risen,
Compassion is risen indeed!
and, as for music —
to make Hosannas beyond the church,
and Alleluias in the heart.

Christ has risen! He has risen indeed! Alleluia!

Postlude

G. F. Handel

Hallelujah Chorus

* Passing of the Peace



Notes & Announcements

Prayer Requests:

If you would like to request prayers for a personal concern, please send an email to Pastor Lentz (pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org) and Pastor Goines (pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org). The pastors will include them in next week's congregational prayer.

Prayers are requested this week for the following: Mark Davidson, Marcie Denton, Beth and Dave Garrett, Rita Grube, David Hunter, Joanna Klingenstein, Elspeth Peterjohn, Graham Peters, and Dean Sieck, Harold Thomas, the family of Lorian Thomas, Carolyn Vrtunski, Sharon Wiggins and Dene Young.

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

Care Group: *The Jordan Care Group* will assist our pastors in meeting members' needs during **April**. 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, Bader Boland**.

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

The deadline for the bulletin and weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **(4/16/20) 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.

Coming Up

TODAY

Forest Hill Softball Season is here. The team needs a few more players for the upcoming season. Games are played on Sunday afternoons. Anyone 16 and over can play! We don't know when the season will begin given the current health crisis, but if you are interested in joining the team, **please contact Jason Hidek at 440-264-3296 or jason.hidek@att.net**.

Easter lily donation: Thank you for your lily donations, Nancy Burcham (in thanksgiving for all volunteers keeping our pantry going during these overwhelming times), Marina B. Grant (in memory of loved ones), Linda and David Rainey (in honor of the health care providers and the health of the world) and Derry and Kathy Stauffer (in memory of loved ones).

THIS WEEK

Bible and Bagels (Bible Study) discusses next Sunday's texts on Wednesday mornings (virtually) from 7:30 am to 8:30 am. The lessons for this week are: **Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Ps. 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; and John 20:19-31**.

Giving/donation options- Friends and family of FHC, during this time, you may give monetary donations using our website (www.fhcpresb.org) and click the PayPal link, or send payments using auto bill pay through your banking system. You may also mail in a check to the church (3031 Monticello Blvd. Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118).

Calendar: April 12-19

Sunday, April 12: Easter Sunday

9:30 am Children's Worship (online)

11:00 am Worship (online)

Monday, April 13:

6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection

7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There's Hope

OA Big Book Meeting

Tuesday, April 14:

11:00 am Abundance Pantry

Registration and Distribution

5:00 pm Bulletin and Email Deadline

Wednesday, April 15:

7:30 am Bible and Bagels (online)

12:00 pm Staff Meeting (conference call)

Thursday, April 16:

8:00 am TOWER DEADLINE

Friday, April 17:

10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand

Saturday, April 18:

1:00 pm Judy Sieck Memorial cancelled

Sunday, April 19:

9:30 am Children's Worship (online)

11:00 am Worship (online)

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**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**