Forest Hill Church Service of Worship

July 12, 2020 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God! Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

https://youtu.be/FUJP3Gj65gw

Centering Words

BREATHE! Deeply. Know that God loves you.

PRELUDE

O Virgo Splendens Anonymous 13th century Anna O'Connell, harp and Malina Rauschenfels, flute

WELCOME

Henry Purcell **CHORAL INTROIT**

> Sound the Trumpet Anna O'Connell, soprano and Malina Rauschenfels, soprano

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP (FROM PSALM 95)

O come, let us sing to the Lord;

Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;

Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord with songs of praise.

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

For God is the Lord and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

HYMN NO. 353

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid, Rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace; In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. On Christ, the solid Rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand; All other ground is sinking sand.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

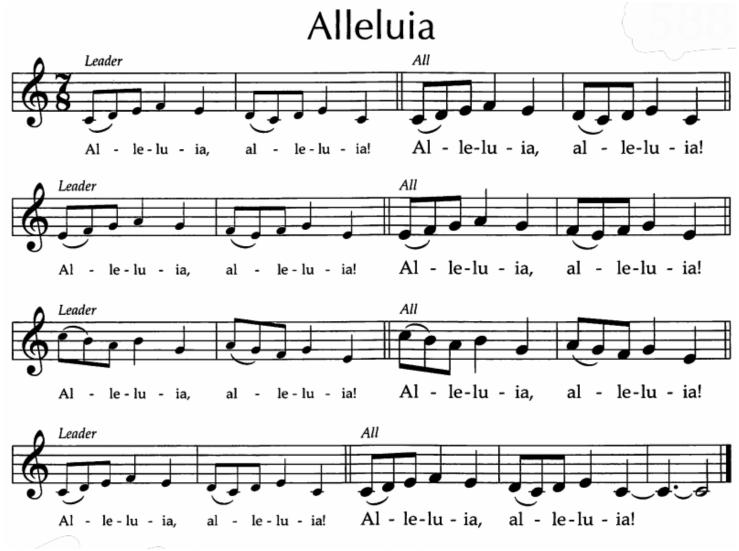
Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.



ANTHEM J.W. Pepper

You are the Salt and Light
Anna O'Connell, soprano and Malina Rauschenfels, alto

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

FROM THE LIVING WORD

Psalm 1:1-3

Happy are those

who do not follow the advice of the wicked,

or take the path that sinners tread,

or sit at the seat of scoffers;

but their delight is in the law of the Lord,

and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water,

which yield their fruits in its season, and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.

Psalm 18:1-3

I love you, O Lord, my strength.

The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer,

My God, my rock in whom I take refuge,

My shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised,

So I shall be saved from my enemies.

Matthew 7:24-25

Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise person who built their house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

Shepherd Me, O God **HYMN NO. 473**

Refrain: Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

(Refrain)

Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of your name.

(Refrain)

Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are at my side, Your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.

(Refrain)

Sermon Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

Of Roots and Rocks

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.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

To participate in our online Friendship Register, please leave a comment in the Live Chat box listing the names of those participating in this morning's Live Worship or email the office.

OFFERING

Virtual Giving and Offering options are available on our website

OFFERTORY

Stella Splendens from 14th century Catalonian "Llibre Vermell" Anna O' Connell, voice and harp Malina Malina Rauschenfels, voice and flute Qin Ying Tan, percussion

Translation:

All joyous people come together: rich and poor, young and old, climb the mountain to see with their own eyes, and return from it filled with grace.

Radiant star...

Rulers and magnates of royal stripes, the mighty of the world, possessing grace, proclaim their sins, beating their breast, and call on bended knee: Ave Maria.

Radiant star...

All these groups assemble here to present themselves, To remember their vows and keep them as well By enriching this temple, adorning it with jewels So that all may see and return in joy, partaking of salvation. Radiant star...

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God's People CLOSING HYMN 821

My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep from Singing?)

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation,
I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing.
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

BENEDICTION

Be still and know that I am God

Be still and know that I am

Be still and know that I

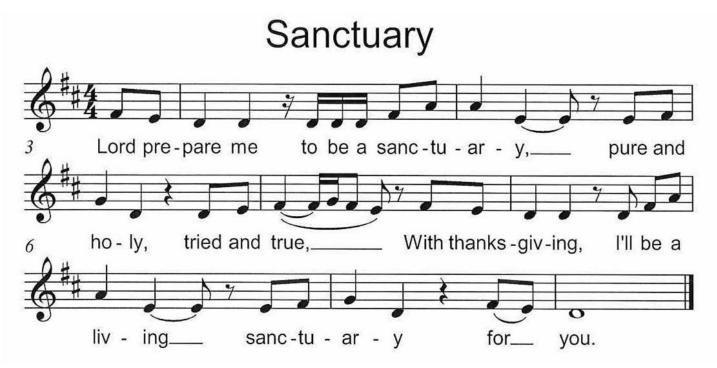
Be still and know that

Be still and know

Be still and

Be still

Be



Verse two of sanctuary:

Consecrate me to do Your chosen ministry. Show me all you'd have me do—Your light possessing, make me a blessing, sharing works through new life in you.

--lyrics by the Rev. Ms. Ann Jefferson

POSTLUDE Elizabeth de la Guerre

Jepthe

Anna O'Connell, soprano and Malina Rauschenfels, soprano

(Translation by Malina Rauschenfels)
Jephthah returns, full of glory
Memorable day, happy day!
The people sing his glory
The echo even sings with them.



Notes & Announcements

Prayer Requests:

To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz (pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org) or Pastor Goines (pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org) no later than Thursday afternoon of each week for inclusion next week's congregational prayer. Please direct all prayer concerns that arise between Friday and Sunday morning to the Pastor's on-call phone line (216-319-3596). This will ensure that your concerns are received in a timely manner. The on-call phone is operational after office hours and from Friday through Sunday morning.

Prayers are requested this week for: Mark Davidson, the family of Joanne and Bob Dawson, Marcie Denton, the family of Al Gilbert, Rita Grube, Deborah Howard, the family of David and Anne Hunter, Joanna Klingenstein, Mamie Peterson, the family of Baldwin Sawyer, and Harold Thomas.

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

Care Group: The Bethlehem Care Group will assist our pastors with members' needs in July. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will be passed on to the Care Group leader, Kitty McWilliams (deacons@fhcpresb.org).

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

The deadline for the bulletin and weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is August 13 (for September TOWER) at 8:00 am. Please submit your written requests to office@fhcpresb.org.

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

Coming Up

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: Gen. 28:10-19a; Ps. 139:1-12, 23-24; Rom. 8:12-25; Matt. 13: 24-30, 36-43.

Call for Voices!



In this strange time of worship, we are trying creative and different ways to get together virtually to worship and sing "together". If you are interested in participating in our virtual choir projects, let me know! I also warmly invite anybody to come and sing with us on Sunday mornings during worship. We practice strict physical distancing. If you have *any* interest in joining us—or if you just have questions about the music program—please contact Ying (music@fhcpresb.org).

Calendar: July 12-19

Sunday, July 12:

11:00 am Worship (online)

Monday, July 13:

6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection 7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There's Hope

Tuesday, July 14:

11:00 am Abundance Pantry

Registration and Distribution

5:00 pm Bulletin and Weekly Email Deadline

6:30 pm Nominating Meeting (conference call)

Wednesday, July 15:

7:30 am Bible and Bagels (online)

12:00 pm Staff Meeting (conference call)

Thursday, July 16:

Activities are postponed until further notice

Friday, July 17:

10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand

Saturday, July 18:

Activities are postponed until further notice

Sunday, July 19:

11:00 am Worship (online)

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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

Qin Ying Tan, Interim Director of Music

This week's service features a selection of unique music! We will sing and play meditative music from the 14th century. Our harp and flute players will also sing some duets from the 18th century by Georg Frideric Handel and relatively unknown female composer, Elisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre.

Both the prelude and offertory will offer space for meditation and reflection with selections from The *Llibre vermell de Montserrat*. This collection is home to some of the most illustrative songs of pilgrimage in the 14th century, featuring songs about the pilgrim's journey, the celebration of reaching a beautiful monastery just outside of Barcelona at the top of a mountain, and of the glories of God, and collected by the monks at the top of the mountain. *O Virgo Splendens* is a particularly beautiful chant that can be done in canon, where new voices enter with the same music, one after the other. Not only illustrative of the miraculous birth of Jesus, the piece it resembles the rise and fall of the craggy mountains that the pilgrims sang about on their journey. *Stella Splendens* is written from the perspective of an observer remarking, "Here comes *everybody!*" All to gather at the table of the Lord, we see an array of worshippers, from the mightiest king to the merchants in the market filing past.

The anthem, *The Lord is My Soul and Strength*, a duet from Georg Frideric Handel's oratorio *Israel in Egypt* is a musical depiction of the Exodus. At this point in the narrative, the Israelites had narrowly missed re-capture after crossing the Red Sea. Safe after a series of sufferings, this song is a declaration of praise that expresses the Israelites' gratitude and devotion to God.

The postlude, a celebratory song, proclaims the return of Jepthe where people are welcoming him home triumphantly. We sincerely dedicate this piece to John, welcome back!

We hope you enjoy this week's unique music, and may you feel refreshed and grounded on Sunday!

In peace,

Ying music@fhcpresb.org

*Notes of music are written and compiled by Anna O'Connell, Malina Rauschenfels, and Qin Ying Tan.