

*Forest Hill Church
Service of Worship*

August 9, 2020 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/VJ0vaKkKdxY>

Centering Words

Christian life is often like a storm-tossed sea. Doubts emerge like clouds, hiding the horizon and with it the hope of reaching a haven. Then a hand reaches out: "Have no Fear."

PRELUDE

Johann Sebastian Bach

Prelude and Fugue in C major

Irwin Shung, organist

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Over My Head

Michael Hives, soloist

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP (Romans 10)

The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart.

If we confess with our lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in our hearts that God raised him from the dead, we will be saved.

For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Let us worship God!

HYMN NO. 641

When In Our Music God Is Glorified

1 When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried:

Alleluia!

2 How often, making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound

Alleluia!

5 Let every instrument be tuned for praise!

Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!

And may God give us faith to sing always:

Alleluia!

Renewing Our Relationship with God

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

O God, when storms beset us it is natural to fear. You call us to be courageous, to take risks, but we confess our complacency as we ignore injustice in hopes that it will subside. You have shown us how you are a God to be trusted, faithfully forever leading your people. Forgive our reluctance to believe in your guidance, and grant us the wisdom to walk with Jesus on the stormy waters of our time, for Christ alone is our peace and refuge. Hallelujah!

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

“O you of little faith, why do you doubt? In or out of the boat, it is Christ who calms the sea. You are forgiven. Your witness is needed and affirmed by God.

Thus, we take Christ’s hand empowered to walk on stormy seas. Hallelujah! Amen!

Alleluia

The musical score for 'Alleluia' consists of four staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a 7/8 time signature. The first two staves are marked 'Leader' and the last two are marked 'All'. The lyrics are: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!'.

ANTHEM

Jerbrel M. Bowens

My Trust Is in You
Michael Hives, soloist

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD

Matthew 14:22-33

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'²⁸ Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.'²⁹ He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

1 Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:
2 Beneath the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.
REPEAT VERSE 1

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

Storm Walkers

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

Blessed Assurance

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God’s People

CLOSING HYMN 404 (African American Heritage Hymnal)

Hold to God’s Unchanging Hand

1 Time is filled with swift transition.
Naught of earth unmoved can stand.
Build your hopes on things eternal.
Hold to God’s unchanging hand.
Refrain:
Hold to His hand, God's unchanging hand.
Hold to His hand, God's unchanging hand.
Build your hopes on things eternal.
Hold to God’s unchanging hand.
2 Trust in Him who will not leave you.
Whatsoever years may bring.
If by earthly friends forsaken,
Still more closely to Him cling. [Refrain]

BENEDICTION

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.
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.
(2nd verse by Rev. Ann Jefferson)

POSTLUDE

William Harris

Allegro ma non Troppo



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). The on-call phone is operational after office hours and from Friday through Sunday morning.

Prayers are requested this week for: Mark Davidson, Marcie Denton, Rita Grube, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Bill Ladebue, Baldwin Sawyer, the family of Margie Stauffer, and the family of Harold Thomas.

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

Care Group: *The Nazareth Care Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **August**. 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, Sheryl Dugard (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.

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. 45:1-15; Ps. 133; Rom. 11:51-2a, 29-32; Matt. 15: 10-28.**

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: August 9-16

<p>Sunday, August 9: 11:00 am Worship (online)</p> <p>Monday, August 10: 6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection 7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There's Hope</p> <p>Tuesday, August 11: 11:00 am Abundance Pantry Registration and Distribution 5:00 pm Bulletin and Weekly Email Deadline</p> <p>Wednesday, August 12: 7:30 am Bible and Bagels (online) 12:00 pm Staff Meeting (conference call)</p>	<p>Thursday, August 13: TOWER DEADLINE 8:00 am Census Training</p> <p>Friday, August 14: 10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand</p> <p>Saturday, August 15: Activities are postponed until further notice</p> <p>Sunday, August 16: 11:00 am Worship (online)</p>
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Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines, Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Co-Pastors
Qin Ying Tan, Interim Director of Music