

*Forest Hill Church
Service of Worship*

September 13, 2020 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/DDrRKKYEvTQ>

Centering Words

*“Organized, communal worship...is a setting for imaginative,
creative speech that forms new worlds for us.”*

--Walter Brueggemann

In the Preface to Spirituality of the Psalms

PRELUDE

Stuart K. Hine

How Great Thou Art

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Michael O' Shields

I will Call Upon the Lord

Laura Minder, Julie Minder, Melody Obery, Clayton Minder, Linn Obery

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the presence of God the sea shall flee, the mountains shall skip like rams and the hills like lambs.
We are bold to approach you and call you our God. We come into your presence with singing and into your courts with praise. Let us worship God!

HYMN NO. 451

“Open My Eyes that I May See”

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my eyes; illumine me,
Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear.

And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my ears; illumine me,
Spirit divine!

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Gracious God, we are mindful that each time we come into your presence how willing you are to forgive seventy times seven. Yet when hurt and harmed by others, we do not hasten toward reconciliation even when we would rather things were less stressful and tense. Forgive us when we fail to emulate your example and help us to seek the peace of Christ. We also ask forgiveness for holding to the designations ascribed by others, for being enslaved to erroneous definitions of who we are. Let us follow our liberator Jesus Christ in casting off all that is not your vision for us, and walking anew in freedom.

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. God spares nothing to redeem us, even the lifeblood of Jesus Christ, poured out on our behalf. Our Creator meets us where we are—in wilderness, in crowded places, at work, or at worship—with saving grace. God leads us on a new and level path. We are set free to live fully as God intends. **Praise be to God. Amen.**

Alleluia

The musical score for 'Alleluia' consists of four staves of music in 7/8 time. Each staff is divided into two parts: 'Leader' and 'All'. The lyrics for each part are 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!'. The melody is simple and repetitive, using eighth and quarter notes. The 'All' sections are marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Dr. Amy Wheatley

ANTHEM

Mark Miller

Roll Down, Justice!

Laura Minder, Julie Minder, Melody Obery, Clayton Minder, Linn Obery

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD

Exodus 14:19-31

¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. ²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.' ²⁶ Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ³⁰ Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 442

"Just As I Am Without One plea"

Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!
Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

Get Out: Egypt, Forgiveness, and Liberation

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

Giving and Offering options are available on our website
You may also place your offering by texting 216-400-5300

OFFERTORY

Crashing Waters at Creation

Laura Minder, Julie Minder, Melody Obery, Clayton Minder, Linn Obery

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God's People

CLOSING HYMN NO. 726

Will You Come and Follow Me

Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?
Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?

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

Nun danket alle Gott



FHC NOTES

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 in 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 on weekdays and Saturday through Sunday morning.

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

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Doris Brandt, Marge Drollinger, Robert Kellermeyer, Florence and Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Emelia McGuire, Margaret Sentell, Elaine Tapié, Beryl and Henrietta Williams, and Warren Young.

Care Group: *The Jericho Care Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **September**. 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, Sue McCauley (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 **September 17 (for the October TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to office@fhcpresb.org.

Bible and Bagels (Bible Study) discusses next Sunday's texts on Wednesday mornings (virtually) from 7:30-8:30 am. The lessons for this week are: **Exod. 16:2-15; Ps. 105: 1-6, 37-45; Phil. 1:21-30; Matt. 20: 1-16.**

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Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines, Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Co-Pastors
Dr. Amy Wheatley, Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministries
Dr. Qin Ying Tan, Interim Director of Music
Rev. Carol Wedell, Parish Associate