

*Forest Hill Church
Service of Worship*

December 27, 2020 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/ANUTzJiEVGo>

PRELUDE

Arr. Jon Thomas

We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace

Jon Thomas, piano

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

CHORAL INTROIT

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

Praise the Lord from the highest heaven. **The sun and moon, and all the stars in the sky, sing praises to our God.**

Praise the Lord from the deepest valley. **The mountains and hills, and all the trees in the forest, worship the Lord on high.**

Praise the Lord from heart filled with song. **The old and young, and all the saints of God, sing with songs of joy.**

Come! Let us worship the Creator of heaven and earth!

OPENING HYMN NO. 146

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

1. Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
there he lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place can he be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favor.
3. Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
he is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger.
Son of God, of humble birth, beautiful the story;
praise his name in all the earth; hail the King of glory.

TESTIMONY

Quentin Smith

PSALM 148

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
 Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!
 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!
 Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!
 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.
 He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.
 Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost,
 stormy wind fulfilling his command! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
 Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all peoples,
 princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together!
 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and
 heaven. He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel
 who are close to him. Praise the LORD!

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Rachelle Ferrell

Prayer Dance
 Caleb Wright, voice
 Jon Thomas, piano

TESTIMONY

Jack and Mary Ann Breisch

ISAIAH 61: 10-11

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me
 with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a
 bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the
 earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord
 GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

HYMN 135

"There's a Star in the East"
Rise up Shepherd, and Follow

1. There's a star in the east on Christmas morn. Rise up shepherd and follow.
 It will lead to the place where Christ was born. Rise up shepherd and follow.

(Refrain)

2. Follow, follow; rise up shepherd and follow. Follow the star of Bethlehem.
 Rise up, shepherd and follow.

If you take good heed to the angel's words, rise up shepherd and follow.
 You'll forget your flock; you'll forget your herds. Rise up shepherd and follow. **(Refrain)**

TESTIMONY

Veronica Chapman

LUKE 2: 25-33

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

*‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.’*

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

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

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

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

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

Giving and Offering is available by texting: 216-400-5300
Or you may give online: <https://fhc.breezechms.com/give/online/>
You may also mail a check to the church office.

OFFERTORY

If it’s Magic
Caleb Wright, voice
Jon Thomas, piano

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

TESTIMONY

Todd Webster and Vikki Nowak

HYMN NO. 136

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.
1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by
night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. **(Refrain)**
3. Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. **(Refrain)**

THE BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Arr. Jon Thomas

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Jon Thomas, piano

Caleb Wright, voice



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:

Melanie Alban, Barbara Bodzin, Kiva Bohanon, Mark Davidson, Marcie Denton, Rita Grube, Carol King-Himmelsteib, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Kitty McWilliams, and Susan Way.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Marge Drollinger, Robert Kellermeyer, Florence and Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Emelia McGuire, Margaret Sentell, Elaine Tapié, Beryl and Henrietta Williams.

Care Group: *The All Church Care Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **December.**

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, Elaine Turley** (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 **January 14 (for the February 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: **Isa. 40:1-11; Ps. 85: 1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15; Mark 1:1-8.**

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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