

*Forest Hill Church Service
Baptism of the Lord*

January 10, 2021 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/WyeyPCq7UGQ>

Centering Words

Word of God, speak, for your servants are listening.

PRELUDE

Claude Debussy

Clair De Lune

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Arise, Shine!

Virginia Weiss, soloist

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

God's strong voice calls us to worship, **calling us to sing and offer praise.**

God's creative voice calls us to worship, **calling us to life and light.**

God's loving voice calls us to worship, **calling us to love and be loved.**

Listen, for God's voice calls to us now.

HYMN NO. 301

"Let Us Build a House"

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end division:
Refrain: All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.
5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
And love and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
Refrain: All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

When our hearts are hard as stone, soften us with your grace. When our lives are riddled with sin and pain, heal us with your mercy. When our ears are ringing with self-doubt and cynicism, strengthen us with words of faith and love. When our minds are muddled with confusion and fear, enlighten us with the radiance of your wisdom. Speak to our spirits from the truth of your being, the reality of your love, and the promise of your forgiveness, that we may hear your voice clearly and follow where you call us to go.

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the truth of God's voice breaking through the clouds of our lives: "You are my child, the one I dearly love. I delight in your creation." You are forgiven.

Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia

5 Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia A - men A - men

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Reid Thomas Allen

WELCOME

Reid Thomas, you are now a child of the covenant. God who began a good work in you will bring it to completion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, you are a member of the household of God. You are now an angelic trouble maker. With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into the church of Jesus Christ. Alleluia! Amen!

ANTHEM

Mark Miller

May Peace Flow Through Me
Virginia Weiss, soloist

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD

Mark 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.' In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 480*Take Me to the Water*

1. Take me to the water. Take me to the water. Take me to the water to be baptized.
2. I love Jesus. I love Jesus. I love Jesus, yes I do.
4. Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah to be baptized.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

*Angelic Trouble Makers***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 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

Jim Strathdee

I am the Light of the World!
 Virginia Weiss, soloist

PRAYER OF DEDICATION*Going Forth to Live as God's People***CLOSING HYMN NO. 769***For Everyone Born*

1. For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread,
 A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead.

Refrain:

And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
 yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!

5. For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be,
 To work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free.

Refrain:

And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace: yes, God will
 delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!

BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen
Trans. How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings



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, Stavros Gazis, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Carolyn Smith, Kitty McWilliams, and Susan Way along with the family of Carol King-Himmelsteib (daughter Kathryn Himmelsteib) and the family of Beverly Chupp (son Mark Chupp, daughter-in-law Sharon Shumaker).

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 Eden Care Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **January**. 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, Deanne Lentz (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: **1 Sam. 3:1-20; Ps. 139: 1-6, 13-18; 1 Cor. 6: 12-20; John 1:43-51**.

Today we honor and thank our Head Custodian Stavros Gazis. Stavros came to Forest Hill Church in 2002 and has retired as of Friday. We give thanks to God for the service Stavros provided and wish him the very best as he enters the new adventure of retirement. Thank you Stavros!

3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts. OH 44118

Office: 216-321-2660 Fax: 216-320-1214

Pastoral Care Emergencies: 216-319-3596

Custodian Phone on Duty: 216-217-5257

Email: office@fhcpresb.org Website: www.fhcpresb.org

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