

*Forest Hill Church
Worship Service*

February 21, 2021 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/Q5Vo8GPP9MY>

Centering Words

*"I offer my life to you, God,
For I know that you love me dearly and faithfully.
I offer my life to you, God.
Teach me your paths."*

PRELUDE

Improvisation on "Be Still My Soul"

Jon Thomas, keyboardist

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

I've been in the Storm So Long

Willie-Mae Wright

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP (PSALM 66)

Ajah Hales and Robyn Hales

Shout for joy to God, all the earth; **sing the glory of God's name; give to God glorious praise!**

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name."

Let us worship the living and present God!

OPENING HYMN (Hymn 105 Lift Every Voice and Sing II)

"Jesus Lifted Me"

I'm so glad Jesus lifted me, I'm so glad Jesus lifted me

I'm so glad Jesus lifted me singing

Glory Hallelujah, Jesus lifted me.

When I was alone, Jesus lifted me

When I was alone, Jesus lifted me

When I was alone, Jesus lifted me, singing

Glory Hallelujah, Jesus lifted me.

I'm so glad Jesus lifted me, I'm so glad Jesus lifted me

I'm so glad Jesus lifted me, singing

Glory Hallelujah, Jesus lifted me.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, you abound in grace and mercy. We are so glad that Jesus lifted us. Yet, we are burdened and our hearts are feeling heavy. Our souls and minds are cluttered. Fear and doubt keep us from joy and hope. Wash away our guilt, and cleanse us from our sins. Create a pure heart within us, Lord. Renew us, revive us, and uphold us. Open our mouths, that we might proclaim your praises.

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

SUNG WORDS OF ASSURANCE

When I was in sin, Jesus lifted me. When I was in sin, Jesus lifted me. When I was in sin, Jesus lifted me, singing, Glory Hallelujah, Jesus lifted me.

We are lifted up and forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Musical score for 'Sung Words of Assurance' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems of piano accompaniment. The first system has four measures with lyrics: 'Al - le - lu - ia', 'Al - le - lu - ia', 'Al - le -', and 'lu - ia'. The second system starts at measure 5 and has five measures with lyrics: 'Al - le - lu - ia', 'Al - le - lu - ia', 'A - men', and 'A - men'. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

ANTHEM

Motherless Child and Steal Away
Willie-Mae Wright and Caleb Alexander Wright

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Genesis 9:8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth. "God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

Fill my cup; let it overflow; fill my cup; let it overflow;
fill my cup; let it overflow; let it overflow with love.
Lord, let me be your instrument, spreading sunshine in the land;
let people see your works in me; help me live the best I can. (Refrain)
It's my desire to live for you and to always walk upright;
give me the strength to face each day;
stay with me through each dark night. (Refrain)

SERMON

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

After the Storm

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

Improvisation on "In Christ Alone"
Jon Thomas, keyboardist

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God's People

CLOSING HYMN 700

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'm gonna live so (live so) God can use me, anywhere, Lord, any time!
I'm gonna live so (live so) God can use me, anywhere, Lord, any time!
I'm gonna work...I'm gonna pray....I'm gonna live....

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

POSTLUDE

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me
Caleb Alexander Wright

**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:

Kiva Bohanon, Mark Davidson, Marcie Denton, the family of Bill Fay, Rita Grube, Deborah Howard, Paul Jennings, 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 Canaan Care Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **February**. 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, Kathy Hanna-Stauffer** (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 **March 18 (for the April 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: **Gen. 17:1-7, 15-16; Ps. 22:23-31; Rom. 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38.**

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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**