

*Forest Hill Church
Worship Service*

April 18, 2021 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/dIT-u-kzOuM>

Centering Words

*Pause for a few moments and allow yourself to grow still.
Let go of any distracting thoughts. Take several slow, deep breaths.
Feel God's loving gaze upon you.*

PRELUDE

J.S. Bach

Prelude in C, BWV 553
Ben Malkevitch, keyboards

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

David Hamptons and Scott Wesley Brown

We Are the Body of Christ
Jim Hogg, Kay Hogg

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 117)

Praise the Lord, all you nations! **Extol God, all you peoples!**

For great is God's steadfast love toward us, **and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.**

Praise the Lord!

HYMN NO. 317

In Christ there Is No East or West

1. In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.
3. Join hands, disciples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be,
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.
4. In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north,
All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Risen Savior, when we fail to recognize you, we become reluctant to follow in your way. Just as the disciples struggled to comprehend how the Christ could have been a suffering servant, we find it difficult to see you in those who suffer today. Free us from cynicism and fear. Liberate your world from suspicion and prejudice. Forgive us, Living Lord, and lead us wherever you will.

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Christ is alive and has met us here. Now let us meet God's Spirit among friends, strangers, and in all of creation. For God's love lives today and forevermore. Amen.

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

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

ANTHEM

Lyrics by Batie/Decilvio

Rise Up

Nicole Holiday, dance
Codany Holiday, voice

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Luke 24:36b-48

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 257

The Risen Christ

1. The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet from garden tomb through darkened city street,
Unlocks the door of grief, despair, and fear, and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.
May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand with the oppressed in this and every land,
Till all are blessed and can a blessing be, restored in Christ to true humanity.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

This is My Body

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

Let Thy Glory Fill This Place
Wright Family Singers

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God's People

CLOSING HYMN 729

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;
Lord I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
Lord I want to be more loving...
Lord, I want to be more holy...
Lord, I want to be like Jesus...

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

J.S. Bach

Fugue from Sanctus, B Minor Mass
Irwin Shung, organ



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:

Leslie Clement, Mark Davidson, Marcie Denton, Beth Garrett, Rita Grube, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Elspeth Peterjohn, Carol Phillips (sister of Ellen McChesney), Carolyn Vrtunski, Dean Sieck, Susan Way, and Carol Wedell.

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 Corinth Care Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **April**. 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, Dean Sieck** (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 **May 20 (for the June 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: **Acts 8: 26-40; Ps. 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8.**

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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