

*Forest Hill Church  
Worship Service*

*April 25, 2021 at 11:00 am*

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/xJHUT6VcYOI>

*Centering Words*

*Gentle Shepherd, grant us a universal vision that  
recognizes all your children as members of one family, one fold. In Jesus' name.*

**PRELUDE**

Arr. Keith Green

*The Lord is My Shepherd*

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

*Into My Heart*  
Sally Wile, soprano

*Greeting Our God with Joy*

**CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 23)**

The Keefe-Gantner Family

The Lord is my shepherd; **I shall be in want.**

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

**He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul.**

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and staff—they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

**You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

**And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

Let us worship God!

**OPENING HYMN 716**

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

1 God, whose giving knows no ending,  
from your rich and endless store,  
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,  
costly cross, grave's shattered door:  
gifted by you, we turn to you,  
offering up ourselves in praise;  
thankful song shall rise forever,  
gracious donor of our days.

2 Skills and time are ours for pressing  
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
all at peace in health and freedom,  
races joined, the church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor,  
lest we strive for self alone.

Born with talents, make us servants  
fit to answer at your throne.

3 Treasure, too, you have entrusted,  
gain through powers your grace conferred:  
ours to use for home and kindred,  
and to spread the gospel word.  
Open wide our hands in sharing,  
as we heed Christ's ageless call,  
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,  
serving you by loving all.

### *Renewing Our Relationship with God*

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Mother-Father God, we have listened to voices other than yours and followed paths of our own making. We have evaded your commandments to do what pleases us. Our hearts condemn us, but we lack the will and the strength to change our ways. Have mercy on us and forgive us, we pray, that we may devote ourselves to doing what pleases you, Holy God. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. Hear us now in silence.**

### *Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

#### **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:**

Friends, let us affirm God's promise to us all.

**Surely God's goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in God's house forever. Hallelujah! Amen!**

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

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 6/8 time signature. The first staff has four measures with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'. Chords are indicated above the notes: A, E, D E A, D, E. The second staff has four measures with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'. Chords are indicated above the notes: A, E, Bm E A, D, E A.

#### **ANTHEM**

*Guide Me, Thou Great Jehovah*  
Wright Family Singers

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;  
 much we need your tender care.  
 In your pleasant pastures feed us;  
 for our use your fold prepare.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
 you have bought us: we are yours.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
 you have bought us: we are yours.

3 You have promised to receive us,  
 poor and sinful though we be;  
 you have mercy to relieve us,  
 grace to cleanse, and power to free.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
 early let us turn to you.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
 early let us turn to you.

### RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

All praise to you, O God, Great Shepherd of the sheep. You gather your people as lambs to your bosom; you enfold them with your embracing love.

**We gather to hear your refreshing word of promise and direction, to honor your name as our guardian of hope.**

Holy God, refresh us with your living waters, and nourish us with your life-giving word, **we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### *Opening Our Hearts to God's Word*

#### THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

#### John 10:11-18

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.

#### *After the readings*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

*The Good Shepherd?*

## 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

Arr.

*Shepherd Me, O Lord*

*Going Forth to Live as God's People*

## CLOSING HYMN 726

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

1. 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?
3. Will you let the blinded see  
If I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
And never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
And do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean  
In you and you in me?
4. 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?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true  
When you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
And never be the same.

In your company I'll go  
Where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
In you and you in me.

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Edward Elgar

*Voluntary*



### **Prayer Requests:**

To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz ([pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org)) or Pastor Goines ([pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 10: 44-48; Ps. 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17.**

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**Pastoral Care Emergencies: 216-319-3596**

**Custodian Phone on Duty: 216-217-5257**

**Email: [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org) Website: [www.fhcpresb.org](http://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**