

*Forest Hill Church  
Worship Service*

*May 9, 2021 at 11:00 am*

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/9H0xmS0zXSE>

*Centering Words*

*For this is the love of God, that we keep God's commandments.  
And God's commandments are not burdensome.*

**PRELUDE**

Antonín Dvořák

*Songs My Mother Taught Me*

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

*from Pry's Welsh Psalter 1621*

*O Sing a New Song to the Lord*

*Chris Fuller, soprano*

*Jack Lentz, tenor*

*Greeting Our God with Joy*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Henry and Margaret Dyck

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

**We will sing praises to the Lord with the lyre and the sound of the horn.**

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

**We will sing you a new song, O God, for the marvelous things you have done.**

Let us worship God!

**OPENING HYMN NO. 699**

*Fill My Cup*

(Refrain)

Fill my cup; let it overflow; fill my cup; let it overflow;

Fill my cup; let it overflow; let it overflow with love.

1. 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)

2. 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)

*Renewing Our Relationship with God*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy God, we have not always lived as your servants; how can we claim to be Jesus' friends? We complain rather than praise, and dismiss your commandments as burdensome. We become fixated on our self-interests rather than giving ourselves for causes and people important to your purposes. Loving God, turn us around, and help us to devote ourselves to your will and way. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

*Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:**

As we confess our sins and in obedience abide in Christ's love, not only are we forgiven, we receive the fullness of Christ's joy. Friends, let us rejoice in this truth. **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 for the hymn 'Hallelujah! Amen!'. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 6/8. The first staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. The melody is written on a single staff. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!' are written below the notes. Above the notes, the chords are indicated as A, E, D E A, D, E. The second staff is identical to the first, with the same melody and lyrics, and the chords indicated as A, E, Bm E A, D, E A.

**ANTHEM**

Gloria Gaither, Richard Smallwood,  
and William Gaither

Jesus, You're the Center of My Joy  
*Sandra Iglehart, soloist*

*Opening Our Hearts to God's Word*

**THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)**

**John 15: 9-17**

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

*After the readings*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN NO. 824**

*There Is a Place of Quiet Rest*

1 There is a place of quiet rest,  
near to the heart of God,  
a place where sin cannot molest,  
near to the heart of God.

**Refrain:**

O Jesus, blest Redeemer,  
sent from the heart of God,

hold us, who wait before thee,  
near to the heart of God.  
2 There is a place of comfort sweet,  
near to the heart of God,  
a place where we our Savior meet,  
near to the heart of God. [Refrain]  
3 There is a place of full release,  
near to the heart of God,  
a place where all is joy and peace,  
near to the heart of God. [Refrain]

## SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

### *Secrets of the Vine*

## 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.

### *Abide with Me*

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### *Going Forth to Live as God's People*

## CLOSING HYMN 547

### *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

1. Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing—you are my own.  
2. Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story;  
here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
3. Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;  
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you;  
here his tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Sergei Rachmaninov

*Vocalise*

Featuring Mother and Son Shung duo



### **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), 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 Jerusalem Care Group*** will assist our pastors with members' needs in **May**. 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, Laura Minder** ([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 2: 1-21; Ezek. 1-14; Ps. 104: 24-34, 35b; Rom. 8:22-27; John 15:26-27.**

**Graduates!!** We want to recognize Forest Hill graduates during worship on Sunday, June 6th. If you or a member of your family is graduating this spring, please fill out this form- <https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/35cdc7>. Amy will reach out to you via email to obtain a photo of the graduate. We want to share these important milestones with our church family and celebrate with you!