

*Forest Hill Church
Worship Service*

May 16, 2021 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/fyjQpgVbnw>

Centering Words

*Listen, listen God is calling, through the Word inviting,
Offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.*

PRELUDE

Gabriel Fauré

Adagio

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Jesse Manibusan

Open My Eyes, Lord
Jim and Kay Hogg

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is waiting here for us. **To welcome us.**
To show you the path of life. **To love us.**
To hear our prayers. **To be present with us always.**
Come and worship. **We are here to praise the Lord!**
And to build a house of God where all are welcome.

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 divisions:
all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
2. Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
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 with the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter;
all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Alleluia'. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 8/8. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia!' are written below the notes. Above the notes, chord symbols are provided: A, E, D E A, D E for the first staff; and A, E, Bm E A, D E A for the second staff.

ANTHEM

Jesus Christ Is the Way
The Wright Family Singers

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 460*Break Thou the Bread of Life*

1. Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord to me, as thou didst break the loaves beside the sea.
Beyond the sacred page I seek thee, Lord. My spirit pants for thee, O living Word!
2. Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, now unto me, as thou didst bless the bread by Galilee.
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall. And I shall find my peace, my all in all.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

*On **NOT** Being Chosen***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

Thy Word Is a Lamp
Jim and Kay Hogg

PRAYER OF DEDICATION*Going Forth to Live as God's People***CLOSING HYMN 727***Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

1. Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on the road.
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night time of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
5. When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.
Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant too.

BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

Oliver Holden

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name



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), 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).

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: **Isa. 6: 1-8; Ps. 29; Rom. 8:12-17; John 3:1-17.**

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!

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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