

*Forest Hill Church
Worship Service*

May 30, 2021 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/-qlziuU5iG0>

Centering Words

Be still and know that I am God

PRELUDE

John D. Dykes

Holy, Holy, Holy

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Lift High the Cross

Sally Wile, soprano

Virginia Weiss, alto

Seth Ungemach, keyboards

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 29)

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, **ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God's name; **worship the Lord in holy splendor.**

The voice of the Lord is powerful; **the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; **and in God's temple all say "Glory!"**

May the Lord give strength to God's people! **May the Lord bless the people with peace! Let us worship God!**

HYMN NO. 1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,

though the eye of sinfulness thy glory cannot see,

only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,

perfect in power, in love and purity.

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All they works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in our pride, we have forgotten your holiness and your due as creator of all that is. We have failed to care for your creation. Christ, our Savior, through indifference and hatred, we have failed to live your gospel of love for all of our sisters and brothers. Forgive us when we create divisions. Holy Spirit, in our addiction to busy-ness, we have failed to listen for your guidance and have not heeded your call to serve God's kingdom.

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

God forgives us through an unchanging, enduring love. Be assured that, having received the Spirit, we can state with confidence: **"We are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and join heirs with Christ."**

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

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

ANTHEM

Refiner's Fire

Amanda Powell, soloist

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly

things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 286

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
2. Breathe on me, breath of God; until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.
3. Breath on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

WWND - Engage, Stand Up and Honor

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

Rachmaninov

Prelude

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God's People

CLOSING HYMN 300

We Are One in the Spirit

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
2. We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit who makes us one:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

To God Be the Glory



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 Bethlehem Care Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **June**. 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, Kitty McWilliams (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 **June 17 (for the July 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: **1 Sam. 15: 34; Ps. 20; Ezek. 17: 22-24; Cor. 5:6-13**.

Graduates!! We want to recognize Forest Hill graduates during worship on Sunday, June 6th. If you or a member of your family is graduating or has graduated in the past year, 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!

3031 Monticello Blvd., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118

Office: 216-321-2660 Fax: 216-320-1214

Pastoral Care Emergencies: 216-319-3596

Custodian Phone on Duty: 216-217-5257

Email: office@fhcpresb.org Website: 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