

*Forest Hill Church
Worship Service
Father's Day*

June 20, 2021 ~ 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/Cr1l27Sldes>

Centering Words

Through it all, through it all, I've learned to trust in Jesus, I've learned to trust in God. Through it all, through it all, I've learned to depend upon His Word. --Andrea' Crouch, "Through It All"

PRELUDE

"Improvisation"

Philip Jones, keyboards

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT

Élégie

"Let Thy Glory Fill this Place"

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

Loving God, when we were aliens and foreigners, you became our home. Therefore, this is no place to be bowed down. Lift up your heads!

We'll stand up straight and praise the Lord!

Leave last week with last week. This is a new day, and we will listen to the Lord.

We'll stand up straight and praise the Lord!

Come boldly to God's throne, for God knows all about us, and loves us anyway!

We'll stand up straight and praise the Lord! Let us worship the Lord!

OPENING HYMN NO. 339

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

1 Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.

Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on, till victory is won.

2 Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died.

Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3 God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (Responsive)

Where ignorance, self-love and greed have fractured life in the community,
Give your light, O God of love.

Where injustice and oppression have broken the spirit of peoples,
Give your light, O God who frees.

Where hunger and poverty, illness and death have made life an unbearable burden,
Give your light, O God of grace

Where suspicion, hatred, conflict and war have challenged your goodness,
Give your light, O God of peace.

Eternal God, open the eyes of all people, that all may walk in the light of love, and drink from
the fountain of your abundance.

Hear us now, O Lord, as we make our personal confession to you in silence...

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS: (Responsive)

It is God who disturbs our complacency, pricks our false certainties, and turns our complaints to
constructive action.

**Even now, God is at work in our lives, turning us from self-destruction, satisfying our desire
for deeper knowledge, and leading us to purposeful service.**

In Jesus Christ, we have been reconciled to God who loves us and is ever ready to help us
endure, grow, and live with hope.

Make a joyful noise to the Rock of our Salvation! Hallelujah! Amen!

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Hallelujah'. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 6/8. The first staff has the following guitar chords: A, E, D, E, A, D, E. The lyrics under the first staff are: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!. The second staff has the following guitar chords: A, E, Bm, E, A, D, E, A. The lyrics under the second staff are: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!.

ANTHEM

Élégie

"Persuaded"

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

I Samuel 17:1A, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49

Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle; And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armoured with a coat of mail; the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. He had greaves of bronze on his legs and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron; and his shield-bearer went before him. He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, **'Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us.'** And the Philistine said, **'Today I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man, that we may fight together.'** When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. David rose early in the morning, left someone in charge of the sheep, took the provisions, and went as Jesse had commanded him. He came to the encampment as the army was going forth to the battle line, shouting the war cry. Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army. David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage, ran to the ranks, and went and greeted his brothers. As he talked with them, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines, and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him. David said to Saul, **'Let no one's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.'** Saul said to David, **'You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are just a boy, and he has been a warrior from his youth.'** But David said to Saul, **'Your servant used to keep sheep for his father; and whenever a lion or a bear came, and took a lamb from the flock, I went after it and struck it down, rescuing the lamb from its mouth; and if it turned against me, I would catch it by the jaw, strike it down, and kill it. Your servant has killed both lions and bears; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, since he has defied the armies of the living God.'** David said, **'The Lord, who saved me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will save me from the hand of this Philistine.'** So Saul said to David, **'Go, and may the Lord be with you!'** Saul clothed David with his armour; he put a bronze helmet on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail. David strapped Saul's sword over the armour, and he tried in vain to walk, for he was not used to them. Then David said to Saul, **'I cannot walk with these; for I am not used to them.'** So David removed them. Then he took his staff in his hand, and chose five smooth stones from the wadi, and put them in his shepherd's bag, in the pouch; his sling was in his hand, and he drew near to the Philistine.

The Philistine came on and drew near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was only a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance. The Philistine said to David, **'Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?'** And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. The Philistine said to David, **'Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the field.'** But David said to the Philistine, **'You come to me with sword and spear and javelin; but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This very day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your**

head; and I will give the dead bodies of the Philistine army this very day to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the earth, so that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the Lord does not save by sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's and he will give you into our hand.'

When the Philistine drew nearer to meet David, David ran quickly towards the battle line to meet the Philistine. David put his hand in his bag, took out a stone, slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead; the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 656

"We've Come This Far by Faith"

[Refrain]

We've come this far by faith leaning on the Lord,
Trusting in the holy Word; God's never failed us yet.

O, can't turn around, we've come this far by faith.

We've come this far by faith leaning on the Lord,
Trusting in the holy Word; God's never failed us yet.

O, can't turn around, we've come this far by faith.

2. Don't be discouraged when trouble's in your life.
He'll bear your burdens and move all misery and strife.
That's why we've...repeat "We've come this far by faith.

[Refrain]

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

"How Great is Our God?"

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

Philip Jones

"Our Deliverance is On the Way"
Élégie

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Going Forth to Live as God's People

CLOSING HYMN

"Every Praise"

Chorus

Every praise is to our God
Every word of worship with one accord
Every praise every praise is to our God
Sing hallelujah to our God
Glory hallelujah is due our God
Every praise every praise is to our God

Bridge

God my Savior
God my Healer
God my Deliverer
Yes He is yes He is
(Yes He is yes He is)

Ending

Every praise is to our God
Every word of worship with one accord
Every praise every praise
Every praise every praise is to our God

CHARGE AND BLESSING: (Responsive)

In those four when we feel overwhelmed, **speak to us Lord.**

Help us remember that we do not travel distance all at one time,

But step by step, day by day, hour by hour, and minute by minute

And that we walk by faith, and not by sight.

As we face what is ahead, give to us a sense of priority and proper ordering,

So that we will keep the responsibilities of life and our own strength and abilities in proper focus. -William D. Watley, "I Grow Weary"

POSTLUDE

"How Great Is Our God"
Élégie



Prayer Request:

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:

The family of Penny Chapman, Leslie Clement, Mark Davidson, Marcie Denton, Beth Garrett, Rita Grube, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Steve Marunowski, Elspeth Peterjohn, the family of Carol Phillips (sister of Ellen McChesney), Ron Register, Dean Sieck, Doreen Underwood, Eileen Vizcaino, Susan Way, Carol Wedell, Ann Williams, Leslie Weissbrod and LeAnn West.

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 **August 19 (for the September TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your articles to office@fhcpresb.org.

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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