

Forest Hill Church
Outdoor Worship Service

August 29, 2021 ~ 11:00 am

You may still join worship virtually!

<https://youtu.be/vBypba1E8s>

Centering Words

In this moment, in this space, let faith take hold of us so completely that we begin to live as Christ calls us to live.

PRELUDE

Lynne Baird

“Come Into His Presence”

WELCOME

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP (James 1):

Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger.

Let us welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save our souls.

Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers, so you may be blessed in all you do.

Pure religion is to care for orphans and widows and not to be stained by the world.

Let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN NO. 452

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

Open the eyes of my heart Lord

Open the eyes of my heart

I want to see You

I want to see You

(repeat)

To see You high and lifted up

Shining in the light of Your glory

Pour out Your power and love

As we sing holy holy holy

Holy holy holy

Holy holy holy

Holy holy holy

I want to see You

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Patient God, we come again to admit that we have honored you with our lips while our hearts were far from you. We have taught doctrines from our own limited understanding, and held fast to our human traditions as if they embodied your will. We have filled our minds with evil thoughts that lead to destructive deeds. We are truly sorry for the many ways we have spoiled your creation. We ask your forgiveness, and for the opportunity to begin anew. Hear us now in silence...

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

Hear for your comfort the words of Paul: “For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, or height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38-39). Friends, accept your forgiveness and rejoice in a love stronger than our sin. **Hallelujah! Amen!**

HYMN NO. 695

“Change My Heart, O God”

Change my heart oh God
Make it ever true
Change my heart oh God
May I be like You
You are the potter
I am the clay
Mold me and make me
This is what I pray
(Sing twice)

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So, the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?’ He said to them, ‘Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, “

This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.” You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.

‘Then he called the crowd again and said to them, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.’ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.’

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

“Mirror, Mirror: Inside-Out”

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

Paul Baloche

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Going Forth to Live as God's People

CLOSING HYMN NO. 468

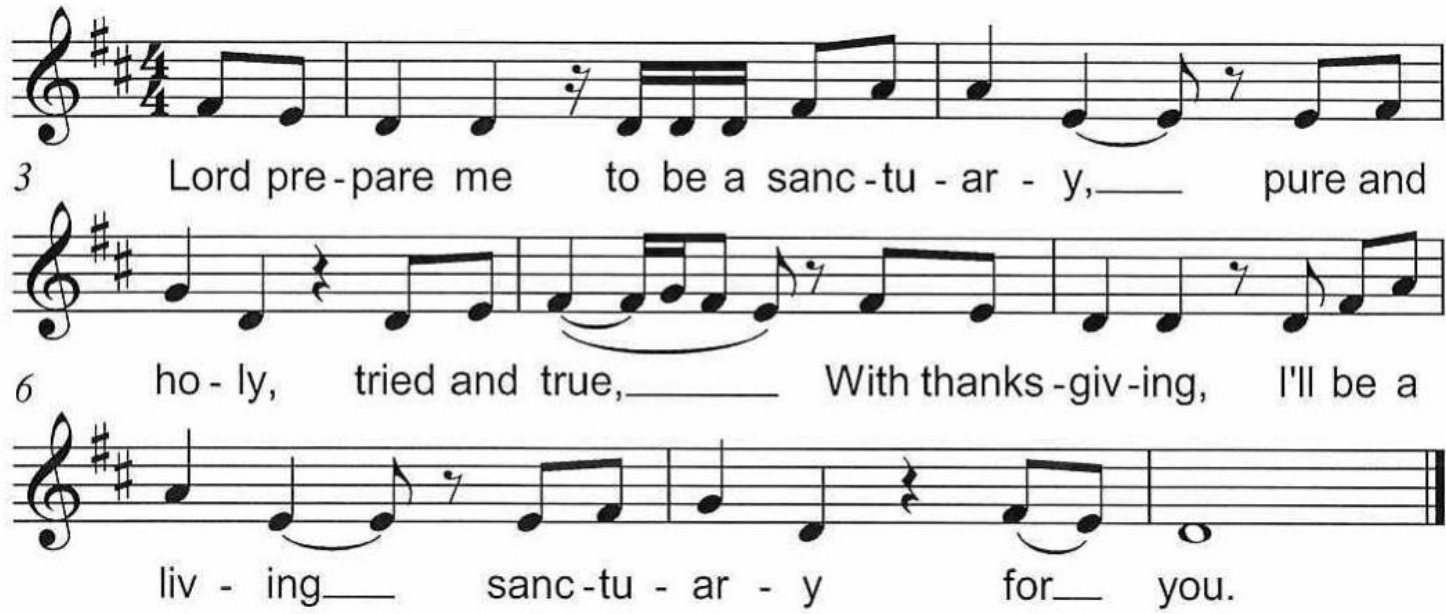
"In My Life Lord, Be Glorified"

In my life Lord
Be glorified be glorified
In my life Lord
Be glorified today
In my song Lord
Be glorified be glorified
In my song Lord
Be glorified today
In Your church Lord
Be glorified be glorified
In Your church Lord
Be glorified today
In our home Lord
Be glorified be glorified
In our home Lord
Be glorified today

BENEDICTION AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHORAL BENEDICTION

“Sanctuary”



3 Lord pre-pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and
6 ho - ly, tried and true, With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a
liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you.

POSTLUDE

Hank Williams

“I Saw the Light”



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:

Leslie Clement, Mark Davidson, Dara Elliot, Beth Garrett, Robyn Hales, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Elspeth Peterjohn, Grace Uhle, Susan Way, and Sharon Wiggins.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Robert Kellermeyer, Florence and Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Emelia McGuire, Margaret Sentell, Elaine Tapié, Beryl and Henrietta Williams.

Care Group: *The Mt. Sinai Care Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **September**.

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, Sharon Wiggins** (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 **September 16 (for the October TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to office@fhcpresb.org.