

Forest Hill Church Service

Communion Sunday

September 12, 2021 ~ 11:00 am

Welcome back to in-person worship!

You may also join worship online using this link:

<https://youtu.be/u5m-eAUVHSQ>

Centering Words

In Christ, we are called to declare our faith, to put into words and deeds all that we truly believe. So, once again, we place ourselves in the path of God, saying, have your way, Lord.

PRELUDE

J.S. Bach

“Prelude in D major”

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Arr. Jill Gallina

“Funga Alafia”

Laura Minder, Seth Ungemach

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 19):

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.

The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart.

The commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.

The ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you,

O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

OPENING HYMN NO. 401

“Gather Us In”

1. Here in this place, the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away;
See in this place our fears and our dreamings brought her to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame;

Call us to now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

3. Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth.

Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you;

Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

God of justice and righteousness, have mercy upon us as we confess our sin. **We say we love our neighbors, but we still make distinctions.** We favor the rich and discount the poor. **We say we have faith, but our works do not show it.** We are not worthy to ask your forgiveness except for the name of Christ, who pardoned the thief on the cross and forgave those who put him to death. **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.** (confession in silence)

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

Friends, remember the words of Scripture, “For God so loved the world that God gave the only begotten son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but shall have everlasting life. God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world, but that all might be saved.

Thanks be to God! In Christ, we are forgiven. Amen and amen!

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

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

ANTHEM

by John L. Bell & Graham Maule
arr. Tom Fettke

“The Summons”

Laura Minder, Julie Minder, Clayton Minder, Seth Ungemach

Maria Beyens, violin

Jane Leggiero, cello

Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

MARK 8:27-38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that I am?’ And they answered him, ‘John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.’ He asked them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Peter answered him, ‘You are the Messiah.’ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, ‘Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.’

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.’

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

"Who Am I to You? Overcoming Our Inner-apartheid"

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. by Susan W. Henry

"I Need Thee Every Hour"

Maria Beyens, violin

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

J.S. Bach

"Prelude"

Jane Leggiero, cello

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Invited to the Lord's table we have shared the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

In the Spirit of peace, we go into the world. May we share the unity and love we have found here, that others may touch the presence of Christ's peace, and the grace of God's love.

Going Forth to Live as God's People

CLOSING HYMN 543

"God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me"

1. God, be the love to search and keep me;

God, be the prayer to move my voice;

God, be the strength to now uphold me:

O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

5. Christ in the eyes of all who see me,
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts of all who know me;
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

BENEDICTION AND THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

Henri D'Aubel

“Postlude”



Chancel Flowers:

Today the flower arrangements were donated by Marina Grant in honor of the reopening.

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, Cindy Newton, 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, Laurie Rose** (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.

Today we welcome:

Jane Leggiero is a cellist, baroque cellist, and viola da gambist who is currently finishing her doctorate in historical performance practice at CWRU. Over the last decade she has lived, worked, and taught in Boston, Austin, and Williamsburg, Virginia, but is glad to be back in her native Cleveland. Jane lives in Cleveland Heights with her cat, Henry.

Kyoungmin(Maria) Beyens, from Seoul, South Korea, holds Bachelor's degree in violin performance from Cleveland Institute of Music under the tutelage of Ivan Zenaty, and Master's degree from Carnegie Mellon University under the tutelage of Andres Cardenes. Previously, Maria attended Kyungwon University in South Korea and Windsor Young soloist program in England. Maria has attended Banff Chamber Music Residency, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival and National Repertory Orchestra for summer festivals. In addition to music, she is also a professional chef and has worked with a James Beard awarded Chef. Maria also enjoys playing piano and dancing.