

Forest Hill Church
Worship Service
October 10, 2021 ~ 11:00 am

Stewardship Kickoff!

You may also join worship online using this link:

<https://youtu.be/MFapau-yDVQ>

Centering Words

Knowing Jesus changes everything.

Meeting love incarnate changes everything. Are we ready to be changed?

PRELUDE

by J.S. Bach

“Prelude in G major”

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

“Lead Me, Lord”

Larissa Boley, soprano

Marina Grant, alto

Mark Laseter, tenor

Seth Ungemach, bass

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Spirit is here, **bringing vision and hope for our world.**

Christ lifts us up, **welcoming us with loving arms.**

God showers the earth, **nourishing all creation with grace.**

Sense the Spirit moving within and among us. **Feel Christ’s presence healing and blessing us.**

As we gather in worship this day, **we receive the showering love of God.**

HYMN NO. 22

“God of the Sparrow”

God of the sparrow

God of the whale

God of the swirling stars

How does the creature say Awe

How does the creature say Praise

God of the earthquake

God of the storm

God of the trumpet blast

How does the creature cry Woe

How does the creature cry Save

God of the rainbow

God of the cross

God of the empty grave

How does the creature say Grace

How does the creature say Thanks

God of the hungry

God of the sick

God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life
God of the neighbor
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace
God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Gracious God, we come to confess our corporate and personal sins. Often, we are more concerned with personal reward than with accomplishing the tasks you entrust to us. Viewing life as a zero-sum game, we forget your generosity to us, and resent your generosity to others. Rather than standing in unity for the sake of the gospel, we forsake true partnership. We even create our own idols. Forgive us, O God, and restore us to generous, joyful, and fruitful service. In Jesus' name we pray, amen. (*confession in silence*)

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

God is disappointed with our pursuit of lesser gods, but in abundant mercy and grace, God offers a new start and fresh hope. **We rejoice in our salvation! Amen.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Stewardship Committee

ANTHEM

by Antonín Dvořák

"I Will Lift Mine Eyes"
Mark Laseter

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

2 Corinthians 9:8 (GNB)

And God is able to give you more than you need, so that you will always have all you need for yourselves and more than enough for every good cause.

Mark 10:17-31 (NRSV)

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the

money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 716

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store:
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door,
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.
Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the Church made one.
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone;
born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.
Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred;
ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the Gospel Word.
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

*Grounded in Faith; Growing to Serve:
“Open Hands, Open Hearts”*

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

by Alexander Scriabin

“Prelude in E minor”

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God's People

CLOSING HYMN

addnl. verse by Rev. E. Ann Jefferson

“Sanctuary”

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
Pure and holy, tried and true-
And with thanksgiving,
I'll be a living
Sanctuary, Lord, for You.
Consecrate me to do Your chosen ministry;
Show me all You'd have me do-
Your light possessing, make me a blessing
Sharing works through
new life in You.

BENEDICTION AND THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

by Théodore-César Salomé

“Grand Chœur in C”



We welcome our tenor soloist, Mark Laseter, this Sunday to join us for our worship service!
Mark Laseter, tenor, is currently pursuing his DMA in Historical Performance Practice at Case Western Reserve University. Mark lives in Cleveland Heights with his two cats, Big Cat and Little Cat. Recent engagements include projects with Seraphic Fire, the Portland Bach Experience, Apollo's Fire, True Concord Voices and Orchestra, the Chattanooga Bach Choir, and Grammy Award-winning-ensemble The Crossing. Prior to his time in the midwest, Mark served as a choral scholar at Hereford Cathedral in the United Kingdom. There he enjoyed performances at the 2018 Three Choirs Festival, Buckingham Palace, and both the Sistine Chapel and Saint Peter's Square in Vatican City. When he's not singing, Mark spends his time knitting, playing disc golf, and learning new instruments. Mark received his Bachelor's degree in Voice Performance from Westminster Choir College and his Master's degree in Sacred Music from the University of Notre Dame.

Chancel Flowers:

The flowers were donated in memory of J David Hunter by the Forsythe, Hunter, and Tzepronis families.

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, the parents of Jeannine Gury (Karen and David) Robyn Hales, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Elspeth Peterjohn, Grace Uhle, Doreen Underwood, 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 Calvary Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **October**. 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, Kathryn Himmelsteib** (deacons@fhcpresb.org).

Thank you, all office volunteers: Joan Bacon, Lynda Bernays, and Cathy Ghiandoni.

The deadline for the bulletin and weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **October 14 (for the November TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to office@fhcpresb.org.

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, Director of Music

Rev. Carol Wedell, Parish Associate