

*Forest Hill Church Service  
World Communion Sunday*

*October 3, 2021 ~ 11:00 am*

Welcome back to in-person worship!

You may also join worship online using this link:

<https://youtu.be/GnI8gZPM5gQ>

*Centering Words*

*Startle us, O God, with your truth,  
And open our minds to your Spirit,  
That we may be one with Jesus  
and with one another.*

**PRELUDE**

“Samba Beats (Brazil)”  
FHC Percussion Ensemble  
Dylan Moffitt  
Elizabeth Shaw  
Tish Van-Beers Klein  
Chiquitia Montgomery  
Lia Clement

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Greeting Our God with Joy*

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Almighty God, even as the drums of warfare beat on through the night, **even as the cries of injustice linger in the morning**, even as the hustle of busyness rumbles through the day, **quiet our hearts**. Still our thoughts. **Join us in our worship**. Remember us in your mercy as we try to remember you, through the proclamation of your good news, in story and in song, and through the hospitality of your gracious table. **Welcome us again, one Lord, Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**OPENING HYMN NO. 388**

“Come All You People”

Come all you people, come and praise your Maker;  
come all you people come and praise your Maker;  
Come all you people, come and praise your Maker;  
Come now and worship the Lord.

*Renewing Our Relationship with God*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**Almighty God, mother of mercy, father of grace: You have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course. You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed, and in our envy, the world goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride, and in our arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence, and in our discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished, too, Lord. Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, at this table, and for this table, and send us from this table as servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord. Amen.**

## *Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

Even when our cups run dry, God's grace overflows. **Even when our plates are empty, God's generosity overflows.** And even when our hearts feel barren, God's love overflows. Friends, you have been called and claimed by the God of all things, and by the abundance of God's grace, and by the power of God's love, your sins have been forgiven. Go in peace. Amen.

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Assurance of Pardon. The first staff has a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is written on a single line. The lyrics are "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!". Above the notes are chord symbols: A, E, D E A, D, E. The second staff is identical in notation and lyrics to the first, with chord symbols: A, E, Bm E A, D, E A.

### **ANTHEM**

by Pepper Choplin

"One World, One Communion"

Chancel Choir

## *Opening Our Hearts to God's Word*

### **THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)**

#### **Job 1:1, 2:1-10**

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. The Lord said to Satan, 'Where have you come from?' Satan answered the Lord, 'From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.' The Lord said to Satan, 'Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason.' Then Satan answered the Lord, 'Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face.' The Lord said to Satan, 'Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life.'

So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes. Then his wife said to him, 'Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die.' But he said to her, 'You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?' In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

## **Mark 10:2-16**

Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' They said, 'Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.' But Jesus said to them, 'Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." "For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." So, they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate.'

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, 'Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.'

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is too such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

### *After the readings*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON**

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

*"The Good (misunderstood) News"*

## **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**

"Homesick" (traditional)

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

by Jean Silbelius  
Arr. by Dan Bird

"Be Still, My Soul (Finland)"  
Chancel Choir

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Bless the Lord. O my soul; **and all that is within me bless God's holy name.**

**God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### *Going Forth to Live as God's People*

#### CLOSING HYMN 526

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:

Bread is broken; the wine is poured; Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one; at the table he sets the tone, teaching people to live to bless,  
Love in word and in deed express.

Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,

Gives us love to tell, bread to share; God (Im-man-u-el) everywhere!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!

### BENEDICTION AND THE PEACE

### POSTLUDE

"Caballito Nicoyano" (Costa Rican folk tune)

Guillermo Salas-Sua'rez, violin

Dan Moffitt, percussion



**Today we welcome:**

Costa Rican violinist **Guillermo Salas-Suárez** is currently working towards a doctoral degree in Historical Performance at Case Western Reserve University, under Dr. Julie Andrijeski. He can be seen performing with a myriad of modern and period ensembles, including the Austin, Indianapolis, and Atlanta Baroque Orchestras, the Jeune Orchestre de l'Abbaye (France), the all-contemporary Orquesta Sinfónica de Heredia (Costa Rica), and recently joined City Music Cleveland. His musicological research has been featured in conferences at Indiana and Boston Universities. He is the co-founder of the Cleveland-based ensemble Affekt, which works to bring early music to health care facilities in the community. Upcoming engagements include lectures and recitals in Colombia, Costa Rica, and Germany. Guillermo enjoys coffee and reads avidly. He is also a linguist and enjoys learning new languages.

**Dylan Moffitt**, a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music, is a local freelance percussionist specializing in a broad spectrum of musical genres. His recent activities involve playing with the Firelands Symphony, Wheeling Symphony, the pop-classical group In2ative, Samba Joia Brazilian percussion ensemble and with the Moises Borges quartet. Ten years ago, Dylan created the "Drumming with Dylan" outreach series which has reached hundreds of children all over the region. His latest endeavor is the community based samba school, *Samba da Cidade*, translating to Samba of the City.

**Prayer Request:**

To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz ([pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org)) or Pastor Goines ([pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org](mailto: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, 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](mailto: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](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org).