

*Forest Hill Church Service
Communion Sunday*

November 7, 2021 ~ 11:00 am

You may also join worship online using this link:

<https://youtu.be/euD1IXKAluo>

Centering Words

*May the presence of the Holy Spirit be so real within us
that our lives are brought into harmony with God's aims for justice and peace.*

PRELUDE

Trad.

"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

"Sing Hallelujah, Sing!"
Chancel Choir

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come travelers and sojourners, there is a place for you here.

God provides bread for our journey and offers places of refuge on the way.

Praise God who offers justice for the oppressed and opens the eyes of the blind.

God brings our wickedness to ruin and rejects our blind pursuits.

Happy are those who hope in God, and avail themselves of God's ever-present help.

God reigns in righteousness forever and ever; we will sing God's praises as long as we live!

Beloved, let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN NO. 694

"Great God of Every Blessing"

1. Great God of every blessing,
of faithful, loving care,
you are the fount of goodness,
the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you?
Our praise is but a start:
sincerely and completely
I offer you my heart.
2. Your Word is our salvation,
the source of endless grace,
in death and life extending
your covenant embrace.
In Christ we are one body;
each member has a part:
sincerely and completely
I offer you my heart.
3. Your Spirit is our teacher,
the light that guides our search,
transforming broken people

into the holy church.
For feeding us with mercy,
for wisdom you impart:
sincerely and completely
I offer you my heart.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

We confess O God, that we put our trust in things we can see. We pursue human schemes because your will seems too illusive. When we discern what you intend, it seems too demanding. In our quest for significance, we fail to realize the effect of our actions on others. Holy God, free us to serve where and as you intend. In Jesus' name. Hear us now in silence.

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

Friends, hear the good news. Mercy and forgiveness are offered us as gifts from God; receive it with joy and gratitude. Accept Christ's sacrifice on our behalf. **Hallelujah! Amen.**

RESPONSE

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises
Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona

[Refrain:]

Halleluya! We sing your praises,
all our hearts with gladness are filled.

Halleluya! We sing your praises,
all our hearts with gladness are filled.

1. Christ the Lord to us said:
I am wine, I am bread;
I am wine, I am bread,
give to all who thirst and hunger. **[Refrain]**

ANTHEM

by Mark Miller

"Child of God"

Em Laudeman Ezell, soprano
Laura Minder, soprano
Clayton Minder, tenor
Seth Ungemach, bass

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17

Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies;

then, go and uncover his feet and lie down; and he will tell you what to do.” She said to her, “All that you tell me I will do.”

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the Lord made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.” ¹⁶Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. ¹⁷The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Mark 12:38-44

As he taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

“Does 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

“Mungu Nimwema/ Know That God is Good”

Chancel Choir

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN 770

“I’m Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table”

1. I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, Alleluia.
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, Alleluia.
3. I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers;
I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers, Alleluia.
I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers;
I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers, Alleluia.
4. Here all the world will find a welcome;
here all the world will find a welcome, Alleluia.
Here all the world will find a welcome;
here all the world will find a welcome, Alleluia.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

" Be Thou My Vision"

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others in
the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Going Forth to Live as God’s People

BENEDICTION AND THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

by Sigfried Karg-Elert

“Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals”



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, Ginie Mast, 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 Eden Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **November**. 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, Deanne Lentz (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 **November 11 (for the December TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests 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