

*Forest Hill Church
Worship Service*

January 23, 2022 ~ 11:00 am

Join worship online using this link:

<https://youtu.be/i-05lsu1Txs>

Centering Words

*As members of Christ's body, we are called to witness to the goodness of God,
the goodness of creation, and the good news Jesus proclaimed.*

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Terry Butler

"All I Need is You"

Em Ezell, soprano

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

Luke 4:14-21

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Friends, let us worship God!

HYMN NO. 401

"Here in this Place" ("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 here 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.

2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of history. Called to be light to the whole human race

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty. Gather us in, the proud and the strong.

Give us a heart so meek and so lowly. Give us the courage to enter the song.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away:

Here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;

Gather us in, all people together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

O God, have mercy upon us, and through Christ forgive our sin. He called the church to be one body with parts to make it function. We sever the body through indifference, distrust, hostility; we cannot dine around one common table. We divide into separate bodies, and pretend to be the church. By your grace, forgive our sin, and make us one in Christ Jesus. Abba, hear us now in silence.

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

Paul declares that “as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit, we were all baptized into one body...and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.” Friends, let us affirm our baptism and be made one in Christ. In Christ we are forgiven. Hallelujah!

ANTHEM

J.W. Pepper

“We Are Not Alone”
Chancel Choir

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD

I Corinthians 12:12-31:

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 298

"Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

1. Lord, you give the great commission:

"Heal the sick and preach the word."

Lest the church neglect its mission,

and the gospel go unheard,

help us witness to your purpose

with renewed integrity:

with the Spirit's gifts empower us

for the work of ministry.

2. Lord, you call us to your service:

"In my name baptize and teach."

That the world may trust your promise,

life abundant meant for each,

give us all new fervor, draw us

closer in community:

with the Spirit's gifts empower us

for the work of ministry.

3. Lord, you make the common holy:

"This, my body; this, my blood."

Let us all, for earth's true glory,

daily lift life heavenward,

asking that the world around us

share your children's liberty:

with the Spirit's gifts empower us

for the work of ministry.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

"Body Language"

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/form/f861d6>

You may also mail a check to the church office.

OFFERTORY

“Improvisation”

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God's People

CLOSING HYMN NO. 837

“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:

***Leaning, leaning,
safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning,
leaning on the everlasting arms.***

2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms. [Refrain]

3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms. **[Refrain]**

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

We go forward as praying, witnessing people, and greet this week with high anticipation.

God's Spirit accompanies our journey. We are anointed to share the good news.

Our words and deed will release captives. What we do and say will change our world.

The joy of God is our strength. The law of God revives us and makes us wise.

In quiet confidence, we dare to change and grow.

Amen.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

“Fugue”

Irwin Shung, organ

J.S. Bach



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:

Scott Bell, Barb Cloud, Mark Davidson, Mark Hansen, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, the family of Elspeth Peterjohn, Rob Reynolds, Grace Uhle, and Susan Way.

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.

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 **February 17 (for the March 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, Director of Music

Rev. Carol Wedell, Parish Associate