

*Forest Hill Church
Worship Service*

June 26, 2022 ~ 11:00 am

You may also join worship online using this link:

<https://youtu.be/QcUFsSbfRvk>

Centering Words

*“Do not fear fiery horses and chariots of fire, for they are signs of God’s presence.
Do not fear the whirlwind and acts of wonder, for they are signs that God draws near.”*

PRELUDE

George Gershwin

"Summertime"

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Shirley Erena Murray

“Loving Spirit”
FHC Summer Choir

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls us to be people of the Spirit.

We are people of the whirlwind—riding fiery horses and chariots of fire.

We are heirs of freedom—heirs of a love that will not let us go.

God calls us to be children of the Most High.

We are children of promise—people of God’s glorious hope.

Come! Let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN NO. 726

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
2. Will you leave your-self behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
4. Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, bestower of every good gift, we long to be free in Christ and to taste the fruit of your Spirit, but we remain enslaved to our baser instincts and are prisoners of our petty quarrels. We yearn to love our neighbor as ourselves and to know perfect forgiveness in that love, but we cling to old wounds and hold onto old injuries. Help us claim our godly inheritance, that our lives may bear the fruit of your Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Gal. 5):

Christ came to set us free, that we might have life and have it abundantly. Live in the Spirit, and the Spirit will guide you in truth and grace. Praise be to God, we are forgiven. Hallelujah! Amen.

HALLELUJAH, AMEN



Hal-le - lu-jah, hal-le - lu - jah, hal-le -
lu-jah, a - men! In all I say and I do: Hal-le -
lu - jah, a - men!

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Music Ministry

ANTHEM

Jim Strathdee

“What Does the Lord Require of You”
FHC Summer Choir

Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

II Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So, they went down to Bethel. Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.”

But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So, the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken

from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, “Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?” When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

Luke 9:51-62

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

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.

5. Lord, you bless with words assuring: “I am with you to the end.”

Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend,
and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity:
with the Spirit’s gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

“The Mantle”

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

W.A. Mozart

“Andante”

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CLOSING HYMN NO. 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.
2. Bind to myself the name of Holy, great cloud of witnesses enfold
Prophets, apostles, angels, witness: O Christ surround me; O Christ surround me.
3. Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight, flashing of lightning strength of wind
Depth of the sea to soil of planet: O Christ surround me; O Christ surround me.
4. Walking behind to hem my journey, going ahead to light my way
And from beneath above and all ways: 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.

Going Forth to Live as God's People

BENEDICTION & THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

Orlando A. Mansfield

“Alla Marcia in D”



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.

Prayers are requested this week for:

Kiva Bohanon, Barb Cloud, Mark Davidson, Mark Hansen, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Dave Neff, Rob Reynolds, Lee Wieder Rosenberg, Grace Uhle, and Susan Way.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Robert Kellermeyer, Florence and Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Emelia McGuire, Elaine Tapié, Beryl and Henrietta Williams.

Care Group: The Bethlehem Care Group will assist our pastors with members' needs in **July**. 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, Kitty McWilliams** (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 **August 11 (for the September 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