

*Forest Hill Church:
In Person Worship Service*

July 31, 2022 ~ 11:00 am

You may also join worship online using this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J8uumSVS_e4

Centering Words

*“This is my Maker’s World. O, let me ne’er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet. This is my Maker’s world. The battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.”*

PRELUDE

J.S.Bach

“Prelude in C Major”

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Edward Mote

Madelaine Matej, soprano

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”
My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name
On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

Out of the depths we cry to you O Lord: **Hear our voice and answer our prayers!** (Psalm 130)

The word of the Lord is like fire in my bones; **I am weary with holding it in.** (Jer. 20:9)

What does the Holy One require of us? **To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.** (Micah 6:8)

As we come to worship you this day may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and forever. Amen.

OPENING HYMN NO. 409

“God Is Here!”

1. God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer; may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day’s dedication, all we have to give, receive: we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Holy One – We confess that we have done wrong and are implicated in evil by our thoughts, words and deeds. We are complicit in sin by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have said things that hurt and not said things that might have helped.

We have acted intentionally and re-acted unintentionally. We act defensively and dismissively when confronted with the impact of our actions. We deflect our guilt by blaming others.

We are mired in racist structures and systems.

We are part of a nation that spends more money on defense than on food for the poor.

We seem satisfied that people can't get health care.

Ours is a nation that worship guns.

We stay comfortable in our bubbles of self-interest.

We stigmatize the immigrant, the imprisoned, the addict.

We marginalize the "other."

We believe it is "someone else's problem."

We are self-righteous in our judgements.

We are quick to blame and refuse deep self-analysis and repentance.

We think that our truth is the only truth.

And we call ourselves Christians.

Creator God, we have sinned against heaven, and before You. We are not worthy to be called your children. Forgive us.

PERIOD OF SILENCE

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of the streets to live in.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.

Friends, nothing separates us from the love of God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Change is possible. Today is a new day. This moment is filled with promise. Repent. Be at peace and be aware of God's love for you! Love one another.

SING TOGETHER:

Breathe on me breath of God, fill me with life anew

That I may love what thou dost love and do what thou would'st do.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ANTHEM

Antonín Leopold Dvořák
Madelaine Matej, soprano

“Sing Ye a Joyful Song”
Sing ye a joyful song unto the Lord,
Who hath done marvelous, marvelous things.
Praise the Lord all the earth! Sing praises, shout and be joyful.
Let the sea roar and all that is therein,
the round world and all they that dwell there.
Lift your voices floods and tempests. Mountains, clap your hands for joy.
Let the fields laugh and sing with waving corn, and let all the trees of the forest be joyful!

Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Hosea 11:1-11

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. The more I called them, the more they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals, and offering incense to idols. Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them. They shall return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria shall be their king, because they have refused to return to me. The sword rages in their cities, it consumes their oracle-priests, and devours because of their schemes. My people are bent on turning away from me. To the Most High they call, but he does not raise them up at all. How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender. I will not execute my fierce anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath. They shall go after the Lord, who roars like a lion; when he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west. They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt, and like doves from the land of Assyria; and I will return them to their homes, says the Lord.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 372

“O for a World”

1. O for a world where everyone respects each other’s ways,
where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.
2. O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.
5. O for a world preparing for God’s glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

“In Exile”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Eileen Vizcaino

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

Pat Pace

Prelude "Improv"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CLOSING HYMN NO. 772

"Live into Hope"

1. Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee.
3. Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
4. Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.

Going Forth to Live as God's People

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Frederic Chopin

"Prelude in G Major"



LET'S WELCOME PIANIST, JIANA PENG TO FOREST HILL CHURCH!

Jiana Peng will be substituting for Ying between **July 31** and **August 7** while Ying travels back to Singapore to spend time with family.

Born in Sichuan, China, Jiana Peng has performed throughout the United States, Europe, and China. She is the winner of the 2020 International Chopin Piano Competition (Corpus Christi) and a laureate of the 2022 Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Piano Competition (Washington, D.C). Her debut album "Chopin Preludes and Other Works" was released globally in Spring 2022. She is also the winner of the Finalist Award in the New York International Piano Competition, Nice Coté d'Azur International Piano Competition, the Cleveland Pops Orchestra Music Scholarship Competition, and the Cleveland Institute of Music Concerto Competition. In 2021, Jiana was among the 87 pianists selected from over 500 applicants worldwide to participate in the 2020 International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw, Poland.

Jiana earned her Bachelor's and Master of Music degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music, studying with Antonio Pompa-Baldi and HaeSun Paik, as well as her Artist Diploma from the Oberlin Conservatory under the guidance of Stanislav Ioudenitch. She is currently pursuing her Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music under the tutelage of Kevin Kenner with a graduate teaching assistantship.



Prayer Request:

To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz (pastorlentz@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, Muriel Dean, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Keith Logan, Dave Neff, 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, Elaine Tapié, Beryl and Henrietta Williams.

Care Group: *The Mt. Sinai Care Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **August**. 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, Laurie Rose** (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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Dr. Amy Wheatley, Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministries
Dr. Qin Ying Tan, Director of Music
Rev. Carol Wedell, Parish Associate