

*Forest Hill Church:  
Outdoor Worship Service*

*August 14, 2022 ~ 11:00 am*

You may also join worship online using this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DqJUq-FX9IE>

*Centering Words*

*"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. "Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."  
(Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)*

*"For when two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."  
(Jesus of Nazareth)*

**PRELUDE**

*"Down by the Riverside"*  
Brian Misch, guitar and vocal  
Jim Hogg, keyboard

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Greeting Our God with Joy*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*"Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Halleluia! Praise Ye the Lord!"*

**OPENING PRAYER**

**God of all glory, on this first day you began creation, bringing light out of darkness. On this first day you began your new creation, raising Jesus Christ from the darkness of death. On this Lord's Day grant that we, the people you create by water and the Spirit, may be joined with all your works in praising you for your great glory. Through Jesus Christ, in union with the Holy Spirit, we praise you now and forever. Amen**

**OPENING HYMN NO. 401**

*"Gather Us In"*  
Brian Misch, guitar  
Jim Hogg, keyboard  
Kay Hogg, vocal leader

- 1.** Here in this place, new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away.  
See, in this space, 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 to us 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.
- 3.** Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth.  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you.  
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away,  
but here in this place, the new light is shining; now is the Kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in - and hold us forever, gather us in - and make us your own.

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

### *Renewing Our Relationship with God*

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. AMEN**

#### **PERIOD OF SILENCE**

Musical Interlude  
Jim Hogg, keyboard

#### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

### *Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

#### **ANTHEM**

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

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

Madi Kelley Moore

#### **Romans 12:1-13, 18**

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body, we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

#### **Ephesians 4:2-6**

With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

*After the readings*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN NO. 471**

**"O Lord Hear Our Prayer"**

O Lord hear my prayer. O Lord hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.

O Lord hear my prayer. O Lord hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise; all my hope comes from God.

The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise: God the wellspring of life.

**SERMON**

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

**"Building Community"**

What is your favorite memory of Forest Hill Church (any church!)?

When was Church at its best for you?

**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**

Musical Interlude

**"Open the Eyes of My Heart"**

Brian Misch, keyboard and vocal

Jim Hogg, keyboard

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**CLOSING HYMN NO. 658**

**"God is so Good!"**

1. God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God's so good to me.

2. God cares for me; God cares for me; God cares for me; God's so good to me.

3. God loves me so; God loves me so; God loves me so; God's so good to me.

4. God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God's so good to me.

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

### **BENEDICTION**

**HYMN NO. 701**

“Sanctuary”

Lord, prepare me, to be a sanctuary  
Pure and holy, tried and true  
With thanksgiving I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for you.

### **POSTLUDE**



#### **Prayer Request:**

To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz ([pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org](mailto: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, Betsy Hammet (sister of Carolyn Vrtunski), Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Keith Logan, Dave Neff, Rob Reynolds, Beverly Thomas, 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](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 **September 15 (for the October TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org).

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**Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor**  
**Dr. Amy Wheatley, Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministries**  
**Dr. Qin Ying Tan, Director of Music**  
**Rev. Carol Wedell, Parish Associate**