



*Discovering God's call, celebrating the Spirit's presence,  
Witnessing to Christ's transformative power!*

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## *Service of Worship*

**September 6, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.**

*Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship.*

If you are visiting, please print your name on a name tag and wear it so that we might greet you. Large print editions of the Bible, the Hymnal, and today's bulletin as well as hearing devices are available from the ushers on request.

### ■■■ *Prayer of Preparation*

Compassion's Spirit: sow justice in our hearts, so the poor might find in us a friend; sow peace in our spirits, so the angry might find in us a sea of gentleness; sow generosity in our hands, so the hungry might find in us their daily bread.

### **Welcome**

#### **The Prelude**

"Goodness and Mercy" (based on Psalm 23)  
Spirit Song

### ■■■ *Greeting Our God with Joy*

#### **The Call to Worship**

Carol Hopkins-Lutz

Leader: What good is it if we say we love all people, but give special treatment to a few?

**People: God calls us to love others as deeply as we love ourselves, with no strings attached.**

Leader: What good is it if we say we want God to show mercy towards us, but are quick to judge others?

**People: God calls us to forgive our sisters and brothers, to let mercy triumph over judgment.**

Leader: What good is it if we say we trust God in every moment, but live guided by our fears?

**People: We will speak and act as those who trust God to come and live in our fearful hearts.**

Leader: So be it. Let us worship God.

#### **\* The Opening Hymn No. 458**

"Earth and All Stars"

■ ■ ■ *Renewing Our Relationship with God*

**The Call to Reconciliation**

Dr. John Lentz

How glibly we say we trust you, Holy One, and how quickly our fears silence our words. We find you at the side of the poor, while we cozy up to the rich and famous. You stand behind the counter serving the hungry at the soup kitchen, while we are stocking our freezers and pantries till they overflow. We look down at those whose hands are dirty, but your hand of mercy pulls them into your embracing love. Forgive us, O Lord, and do good to us when we have trouble doing good for others. Surround us with your love; surround us with your grace; surround us with your peace; surround us with the Spirit of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

**A Time of Silent Confession**

**Kyrie eleison** (*Lord, have mercy*)

Merbecke

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

**The Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Be strong, do not fear! God comes, to fill your parched souls with living water, to open your eyes to the grace which is yours.

**People: God comes, for no other reason than to save us. This is indeed good news. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\* Glory Be to the Father, No. 577**

**Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.**

**Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.**

**Amen. Amen. (repeat)**

**The Anthem**

from Micah 4: 3-4

“Underneath the Vine and Fig Tree”

Spirit Song

■ ■ ■ *Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word*

**The Scripture Lesson**

Mark 7: 24-37 (p. 819)

*After the reading*

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\* Hymn No. 436**

“We Are Your People”

*Prayer requests may be passed to the ushers during this hymn*

**The Sermon**

Jeannine Gury

“Becoming the Beloved”

**The Prayers of the People**

Dr. Lentz

Leader: Labor Day was established to honor workers and commemorate their contributions and struggles – past and present – to bring justice and dignity to the workplace and to society. Let us join together in the litany and prayer for Labor Day.

Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, on this Labor Day, we thank you for your care and concern for workers throughout the world. We remember all workers: men and women; rich and poor; young and old of all races. Help all working persons to realize a deeper understanding of your presence and call them to do justice and build community where they are employed. For workers who face dangerous conditions or hazards in their work,

**People: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all those who face the conflicts of working and caring for children,

**People: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all workers who cannot find work and for whom unemployment assistance is not available,

**People: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For workers who are displaced by technical changes,

**People: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For children whose childhood has been cut short because they are forced to work,

**People: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all who face difficulties or are discriminated against in getting work or at the workplace because of race, gender, ethnic group, physical disabilities, political or religious beliefs, or sexual orientation,

**People: Jesus, worker and carpenter from Nazareth, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all workers whose work is taken for granted, is unappreciated or lacks meaning,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

The Leader continues in prayer

**The Lord’s Prayer**

*please use debts, debtors*

*all are asked to sign the tablets as a record of attendance*

Spiritual

## “The Battle of Jericho” Heights High Barbershoppers

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his son. (2x)  
And now, let the weak say "I am strong;"  
let the poor say "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us." (2x)  
Give thanks, give thanks.**

**\* The Closing Hymn No. 553**

## “For the Fruit of All Creation”

## \* The Passing of the Peace

## D. Mallett

## “The Garden Song”

*Please process out to Abundance Acres for coffee hour.*



The flowers today are given by Martin and Diana Johannessen in loving memory of Hans Johannessen, father and friend; by Cindy Newton in memory of Mildred and the Rev. Arthur Kinsler and William and Clara Brandt, grandparents of Cindy Brandt Newton; and by Betty Woodruff in loving memory of her husband Dean Woodruff.

Fran and Pat Drake	Florence Klein	Debbie Ungemach
Marian Frederick	Jane Little	Dennis Wedding
Dorothy Hales	Rebecca Martin	Marcie Weissner
Jason Himmelsteib	Aiesha Minor	Doug, Marcie and Lucy Harvey
Mary Jean Kent	Marilyn Oviatt	

**Welcome to the newest member of the Forest Hill family – Jake Hamilton MacPhail**, son of Kristin and Lee MacPhail and brother of Ellie, Olivia and Quinn. Jake is the grandson of Ron and Marcia Grant and the great-grandson of Hazel Grant.

**Congratulations to Leslie Weissbrod and Anthony Rini**, who were married September 5, 2009. Dr. Lentz officiated at the ceremony at Squire's Castle in North Chagrin Reservation.

Scott Peters, Lead Usher; Tish Van Beers-Klein, assistant lead; Amy Davis, Chris Davis, Scott Duncan, Jean Duncan, Brian Klein. Roger Heineman, Head Usher

**Nursery care** for babies and young children is available on the second floor of the Monticello Wing.

### *Today's Lay Preacher*

Welcome Jeannine Gury to our pulpit this morning. Jeannine and her family (husband Scott Peters, children Cameron, Caleb and Aiden) and active members of Forest Hill Church. Jeannine has been a member since 1994; she is a graduate of Kenyon College and a facilitator of the FaithLeader group.

Please stop by the Visitor Information table in the Courtyard Foyer following worship. We're looking forward to greeting you and answering any questions you may have.

*Celebrate Abundance Acres*

Please join us for an informal harvest celebration at Abundance Acres immediately following the service. We will say a blessing on the garden and enjoy our regular fellowship time outside. If you wish, you will have the opportunity to help harvest potatoes, tomatoes and more for the FHC food pantry.

*Today Is Hunger Sunday*

Any cash or checks in envelopes marked “Hunger” will be used 100% for support of local hunger programs. Each month we distribute the money to local hunger centers.

*Today’s Music*

Many thanks to this morning’s music leaders: **Spirit Song** and the **Heights High Barbershoppers**.

**Spirit Song** is a group of women who share and sing spiritual songs of many faiths and traditions. The singers are Karen Allgire, Jennifer Blakeney, Deborah Gross, Janet Kramer (nee Loughridge), Jean Miller and Riki Perelman. Spirit Song invites interested women to join them in song, four times a year. The next gathering is Sept 26 at Green Tara Yoga (2450 Fairmount Boulevard, Cleveland Heights)at 7 p.m.

**The Heights High Barbershoppers**, conducted by Craig McGaughey, recently won first place in the State Harmony Camp competition. Several Forest Hill youth sing in this group, including Jack Lentz, Seth Ungemach and Jaired Birks.

**THIS WEEK**

*Labor Day*

The office will be closed Monday, September 7, for Labor Day.

*Bible and Bagels*

Bible and Bagels will meet Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Jin Room. All are welcome! The lesson this week is **James 3: 1-12**

*Choir Season*

The choir season starts next week. New members are always welcome! First rehearsal dates are: Chancel Choir, September 10 (potluck at 6:45); Descant Choir, September 13; Voices in Bronze, September 17; Sine Nomine Choir, September 20. More information is in the September **TOWER**, and Anne Wilson is always available to answer questions (216-371-9508 or [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org)).

**NEXT SUNDAY**

*Festival of New Beginnings*

The Festival of New Beginnings is next Sunday, September 13. Come for education for all ages at 9:30 (see below), worship at 11:00, and the Love Boat-themed festival for lunch and fun in the afternoon. Bring friends!

**LOOKING AHEAD**

*Adult Education this Fall*

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Sept 13 | Introduction to the theme “How, Then, Shall We Live?”<br>Tom Zych and Clover Beal |
| Sept 20 | “Faith in the Public Arena” John Lentz  |
| Sept 27 | Biblical and Theological Foundation for Eco-Stewardship<br>Tim Beal               |
| Oct 4   | Sustainable Cleveland   |
| Oct 11  | Bio Fuels Dave Neff and Keith Logan   |
| Oct 18  | Faith and Health Care Reform<br>Barbara Baylor, Director, UCC Health and Wellness |
| Oct 25  | Health Care and Food Justice  |

*Care Group*

The Canaan Care Group is responsible for meeting members’ needs during September. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will then be passed on to the Care group leaders.

★ Members of this month’s Care group are:

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Joy Stang, Deacon                      | Ginie Mast                  |
| Mark Chupp, Sharon Shumaker and family | Chuck McDonald              |
| Lisa Chuppa                            | The Muller-Girard family    |
| Robin Craig                            | Jeanette Nemcek             |
| The Davis family                       | Vikki Nowak & Todd Webster  |
| Bob and Joanne Dawson                  | John Prentice               |
| Muriel and George Dean                 | Margaret and George Sentell |
| Val Flechtner                          | Franklin and Naana Soadwa   |
| The Forsythe family                    | Chuck and Rosanna Sprague   |
| Cathy and Don Ghiandoni                | Anne Taylor                 |
| Allen and Zivile Khoury                | The Ungemach family         |
| The Koops family                       | LeAnn and Roy West          |
| The Logan family                       | Peggy Yaeger                |

### *The Group*

**Hilltoppers** (retired singles and couples)

### ■ ■ ■ *The Lessons*

### ■■■ *FHC Staff Emails and Phone Extensions*

**Rev. Dr. John Lentz, Jr.** / [pastorlantz@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorlantz@fhcpresb.org), ext. 200

**Rev. Clover Beal** / [pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorbeal@fhcpresb.org) , ext 201

**Liz Wollaeger** / [lizw@fhcpresb.org](mailto:lizw@fhcpresb.org) , ext. 206

**Anne Wilson** / [annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org), ext. 208

**Lindsey Burdette-Lowe** / [lindseyb@fhcpresb.org](mailto:lindseyb@fhcpresb.org) , ext 207

**Becky Austin** / [beckya@fhcpresb.org](mailto:beckya@fhcpresb.org) , ext 203

**Lynda Bernays** / [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org) , ext 202

**Stavros Gazis** / [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org) , ext 202



## Sunday, September 6

9:30 Child care begins

## Continental Breakfast

10:00 WORSHIP

11:15 Coffee hour:

**Thursday, September 10**

6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir:

### Potluck Supper and rehearsal

7:30 p.m. Forest Hill Swim Club mtg

9:30 a.m. Al Anon mtg

9:00 a.m. PW meeting

Deacons: Se

Deacons: Set up for festival

9:30 Child care begins

Descant Choir (gr.

## Adult and Youth education

## 5 Descant Choir activity

10:30 Chancel Choir

## Continental Breakfast

11:00 Little Explorers (3 and 4 year olds)

## Children in Worship (older 4s, k)

## WORSHIP

## 12:15 Fall Festival: The Love Boat sails!



**FLATTENED CARDBOARD MAY BE PUT IN THE BIN**

## Mark 7: 24-37

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

### **Wanted: Models for the Fall Fashion Show at FHC**

**Males and females in grades 6 - 12**

**We are also looking for adult models**

**Contact Barb Cloud 216-321-9112, [bcloud1@aol.com](mailto:bcloud1@aol.com) or Lindsey Burdette-Lowe (Youth Director) at 216-440-2303, [lindseyb@fhcpresb.org](mailto:lindseyb@fhcpresb.org) by September 12**

**The Fashion Show is October 30.**

**Remember:  
The Festival of New Beginnings is September 13  
Education at 9:30, worship at 11, lunch and The Love Boat following**