



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

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*Service of Worship*  
**September 13 at 11:00 a.m.**

**The Festival of New Beginnings**

*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*

O God, set your blessing upon us as we begin this day together. Confirm us in the truth by which we rightly live; confront us with the truth from which we wrongly turn. We ask not for what we want, but for what you know we need. We offer this day and ourselves for you and to you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

**Welcome**

**The Prelude**

"Over My Head"

spiritual, arr. Bell

■■■ *Greeting Our God with Joy*

**The Call to Worship**

Elder Elspeth Peterjohn

Leader: The world belongs to God.

**People: The earth and all its people.**

Leader: How good it is, how wonderful,

**People: To live together in unity.**

Leader: Love and faith come together,

**People: Justice and peace join hands.**

Leader: If Christ's disciples keep silent

**People: These stones would shout aloud.**

Leader: Open our lips, O God,

**People: And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

Leader: Let us worship God.

**\* The Processional Hymn No. 276**

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

■ ■ ■ *Renewing Our Relationship with God*

**The Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Clover Beal

Leader: Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

**Silence**

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

Estonia

Leader: Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness: to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

**People:** May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

Leader: Amen.

**People:** Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness: to the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

Leader: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

**All:** Amen.

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

**\*Gloria, Gloria No. 576**

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia!  
*2<sup>nd</sup> time, men begin; women begin 2 measures later;  
Children and youth begin 2 measures after that.*

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

**The Commissioning and Blessing of the New Education Year**

**\* Hymn No. 304**

“Jesus Loves Me!”  
*Children in Pathways may leave during the hymn  
Prayer requests may be passed to the ushers during this hymn*

**The Scripture Lesson**

Mark 1:1, 9-14 (p. 812)

*After the reading*

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

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**The Sermon**

Dr. John Lentz

“Heard Any Good News Lately?”

**\* The Affirmation of Faith**

The Iona Community

**We believe in God above us: maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ the word made flesh; born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of sorrows, he died forsaken. He descended into the earth to the place of death. On the third day he rose from the tomb. He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present. And his kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the church, spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen.**

**The Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

*please use debts, debtors*

**The Ritual of Friendship**

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

**The Offertory**

G. Walker

“How Can I Keep from Singing”

**\* The Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

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

**\* The Closing Hymn**

“For Everyone Born” *Congregation, please sing refrain*

\* **The Commission and Blessing**

\* **The Choral Benediction**

\* **The Passing of the Peace**

■ ■ ■ *The Postlude*

A. Soler

“Emperor’s Fanfare”



*The crucifer today is Seth Ungemach.*

■ ■ ■ *Parish Notes*

**Chancel Flowers**

The flowers today are given by Marilyn Wilk in memory of her mother, Cinderella Paradiso; and by Jane Melbourne in memory of her son, Jim Craig.

**Prayer Concerns this Week**

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	

**We invite you to write prayer requests** on a slip of paper from the envelope rack and pass it to an usher during the singing of the middle hymn, to be included in the prayers later in the service.

**This Month’s Ushers**

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.

■ ■ ■ *Announcements*

**TODAY**

***Welcome Visitors!***

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. Visitor welcome bags are available in the foyers and the narthex.

***Abundance Acres***

Thanks to all who joined in the harvest celebration at Abundance Acres last Sunday! We harvested 83 pounds of produce, which brings our total harvest this year to over 240 pounds! The fresh food will be distributed through the FHC food pantry and other local food programs. Take a look at pictures on the website!

***The Choir Returns***

Many thanks to the Chancel Choir singers, back from their summer break. The Descant Choir had their first rehearsal this morning at 9:30. The Sine Nomine Choir and Voices in Bronze begin this week – bells at 6:20 on Thursday and Sine Nomine on Sunday September 20 immediately after worship. Considering joining a choir? You should – it’s good for your health! Contact Anne Wilson ([annew@fhcpresb.org](mailto:annew@fhcpresb.org) or 216-870-2729) for more information.

**THIS WEEK**

***Bible and Bagels***

Bible and Bagels meets Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Jin Room. All are welcome! The scripture this week is **James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a.**

**NEXT SUNDAY**

***Adult Education: 9:30 in South Hall***

Sept 20 “Faith in the Public Arena” John Lentz  
Sept. 27 Living in a Sustainable Community  
Paul Alsenas, Director, Cuyahoga Planning Commission

**LOOKING AHEAD**

***Lay Readers***

Would you like to be scheduled as a Lay reader this year? If you would like to be included in the rotation and have not already been contacted, please contact Ann Williams ([asw1217@gmail.com](mailto:asw1217@gmail.com) or 216-470-0074)

## *Men's Breakfast*

*Saturday, Sept. 19, 8 - 9:30 a.m.*

All men of the church are welcome. Come for Morag's food. Come for good fellowship. Come to hear what is happening at FHC in the coming year. Come and share your vision for ministry and programming. Come and celebrate the abundance of goodness at Forest Hill Church! RSVP to the church office (216-321-2660 or [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org)).

*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 Ungernach family
The Koops family	LeAnn and Roy West
The Logan family	Peggy Yaeger

### *Social Groups and Circles*

**Hilltoppers** (retired singles and couples)

Hilltoppers will meet at Massimo da Milano restaurant (1400 W. 25<sup>th</sup> St.) at 12:30 on Friday, September 18 for a buffet lunch (\$11/person) and a trip to the West Side Market. Call Lucy Conde (216-382-5177) for reservations; she will help arrange rides if you want to car pool. All are welcome!

***Iris Circle*** (all women of the church)

Iris Circle will meet this Tuesday, September 15, at 6:30 p.m. at Nancy Grube's (5261 Graham Dr., Lyndhurst) for a pot luck supper. All are welcome! We'll be planning for the fall PW Gathering on October 24.

■ ■ ■ *FHC Youth*

**All-MOB Kickoff:** Sunday, September 20, 5-7 p.m. in the MOB Room.

### ■ ■ ■ *The Lessons*

**Next Sunday: Proverbs 31: 10-31; Psalm 1; James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9: 30-37.** As part of your daily devotions, read the lessons. What image or word catches your attention? How do they settle or challenge you? Keep notes of your observations in a journal. Set aside part of each day for prayer and study. The lectionary readings for each Sunday are included in the “Sundays in September” page of the *TOWER*.

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

## *Program Staff*

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

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

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■■■ *Calendar: September 13 - 20, 2009*

**Sunday, September 13**

9:30 Child care begins  
Descant Choir (gr. 1-5)  
Adult and Youth education  
10:15 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  
11:15 Pathways (gr. 1-5)  
12:15 **Fall Festival:**  
**The Love Boat sails!**

**Monday, September 14**

7:00 p.m. Cub Scout Pack #36 (dens)  
Sycamore Group  
7:30 p.m. Borton Group (AA)  
Boy Scout Troop #403

**Tuesday, September 15**

12:30 p.m. Heather Circle  
6:30 p.m. Iris Circle (at Nancy Grube's)  
7:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack #36 (dens)  
Church Growth meeting

**Wednesday, September 16**

7:30 a.m. Bible and Bagels  
12:30 p.m. Bullshevicks (at Wellington's)  
1:00 p.m. Hilltop Garden Club  
6:30 p.m. Cleveland Hts Candidates'  
Night

**Thursday, September 17**

6:20 p.m. Voices in Bronze  
7:30 p.m. Forest Hill Swim Club mtg  
Chancel Choir

**Friday, September 18**

9:30 a.m. Al Anon mtg  
12:30 p.m. Hilltoppers lunch  
2:00 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal

**Saturday, September 19**

8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast  
2:00 p.m. Fashion Show meeting  
4:00 p.m. Wedding of Callie True  
and Joshua Janor

**Sunday, September 20**

9:30 Child care begins  
Descant Choir (gr. 1-5)  
Adult and Youth education  
10:15 Descant Choir activity  
10:30 Chancel Choir  
Continental Breakfast  
11:00 Little Explorers (3 and 4 year olds)  
Children in Worship (older 4s, k)  
Pathways (gr. 1-5)  
WORSHIP  
12:15 Sine Nomine Choir rehearsal  
5:00 All-MOB Kick-off

**Mark 1:1, 9-14**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God.



YOU MAY NOW PUT PHONE BOOKS AND OTHER SOFT  
COVER BOOKS IN THE PAPER RECYCLING BIN.

FLATTENED CARDBOARD MAY BE PUT IN THE BIN