

# Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



*"Magi and Mystery," by Jan Richardson*

3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts OH 44118

216-321-2660

Fax: 216-320-1214

Email: [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org)

Website: [www.fhcpresb.org](http://www.fhcpresb.org)

Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor

Rev. Clover Reuter Beal, Assoc. Pastor

Rev. Tricia Dykers-Koenig, Parish Assoc.

Anne Wilson, Ministry of Music

Dacia Prins, Dir. of Children's Ministries

Shannon Headen, Interim Dir. of Youth Education

*Service of Worship*  
*January 4, 2015 at 11:00 am*  
*Celebration of Holy Communion*

*Feast of the Epiphany*

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship.

This morning we celebrate the Eucharist (the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion) by intinction (dipping the bread into the cup). We also provide a gluten-free alternative. After receiving the elements you may come to the railing to receive a blessing from the pastors.

*Prayer of Preparation*

How bright appears the Morning Star, with mercy beaming from afar;  
the host of heaven rejoices;

O righteous Branch, O Jesse's Rod! Thou Son of Man and Son of God!

We, too, will lift our voices:

Jesus, Jesus! Holy, holy, yet most lowly, draw thou near us;  
great Emmanuel, come and hear us.

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

Paul Manz

"How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"

**Choral Introit**

*Greeting Our God with Joy*

**Call to Worship**

Elder Elizabeth Shaw

One: Come, join the search for all God will reveal.

We are the church, committed to an encounter with mystery.

**All: God has sent light to dispel our fears.**

**The glory of God has risen upon us.**

One: The gospel of Christ reveals God's grace.

We share in the promise of Jesus Christ.

**All: We gather together and lift up our eyes.**

**Our hearts thrill at the sight and our lips rejoice.**

One: Through us, the wisdom of God will be made known.

There is rich variety to meet each one where we are.

**All: The radiance of truth surrounds us.**

**Boldly and confidently we approach our God.**

**\* Processional Hymn No. 108**

**"Of the Father's Love Begotten"**

*Renewing Our Relationship with God*

**Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Dr. John Lentz

**We confess to You, God of our ancestors, that we have heard Your Word but ignored its witness. We have needed agreement with Your truth, but we follow our own ways. Your commands are frozen on paper, for we do not warm to their possibilities for our lives. As the Word became flesh in Christ we pray it may come alive in us. Melt our rigid perceptions and prejudices. Break down our resistance to change. Link us together in a community of faith, boldly receptive to the gospel. We want to be a communion of forgiven and forgiving sinners. Amen.**

**Time of Silent Confession**

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

John Merbecke

*Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

**Assurance of Pardon**

**\* Response**

John Bell



*Opening Our Hearts to God's Word*

**Scripture Lesson**

Isaiah 60: 1-6  
Matthew 2: 1-12

*After the reading*

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams  
"Epipha-What?"

**Ritual of Friendship**

all are asked to sign

**Offertory**

"From a Distant Home"

Puerto Rican Carol

**\* 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.**

# *Eucharist*

## **Invitation**

### **Great Thanksgiving**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **Sanctus**

### **Prayers of the People**

Dr. Lentz

### **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.**

### **Communion of the People**

### **Music during Communion**

George Essilfie

**"As We Gather in Your Name"**

### **Prayer after Communion**

**God of majesty and light, you hold the whole world in your hand. Thank you for revealing yourself in Jesus. Make us your glad disciples. Take us and all that we have to be useful in your service by the power of your Holy Spirit, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

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

### **\* Closing Hymn No. 151**

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

**Singing instructions: #151**

**Congregation sings refrain only**

**The Kings: Chris Vandall,  
Shelly Jesberger, Caleb Wright**

### **\* Commission and Blessing**

One: Scatter with radiance in your hearts.

Go out to proclaim God's Word by your deeds.

**All: We seek to walk in the light God gives us.**

**We will act on the truth God reveals.**

One: Carry God's commands as a beacon to guide you.

Share them that others may find new life.

**All: We will testify to the light we have received.**

**We will listen for truths we have not yet heard.**

One: The gospel of salvation is good news for the world.

It is meant for you to embrace and enjoy.

**All: In boldness and in confidence, we make our witness.**

**We are part of God's eternal promise. Amen.**

### **\* Choral Benediction**

### **\* Passing of the Peace**

## *Postlude*

Johann Pachelbel

"How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"

*\*please stand if able*



## ***Welcome Visitors!***

We look forward to greeting you and answering any questions you may have. Visitor welcome bags are available in the foyers and the narthex. Take one home with you! Be sure to visit our website, **[www.fhcpresb.org](http://www.fhcpresb.org)**, to find a complete list of upcoming events, education programs for all ages, and texts and audio of past sermons.

## ***Welcome to Today's Guest Preacher***

Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams is a Spiritual Care Coordinator for Hospice of the Western Reserve. He began his ministry here in Cleveland as the Interim Associate Pastor for the Old Stone Church. He has since served as Interim Pastor for Brooklyn Presbyterian, Archwood UCC and Plymouth Church of Shaker. He has served in hospice/end of life work for over 20 years. He and his husband H. Bruce Blonder celebrated their 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary this year.

## ***Congregational Notes***

### **Chancel Flowers**

Today's flowers are given in honor of all who work to keep Abundance Pantry running smoothly, and by Molly Bergman in memory of Ken Bergman and all others who provide time and effort making our church a better place.

### **The Three Kings**

We offer thanks to Bill and Kris Fay who provide wardrobe assistance to the three kings. The costumes were given in memory of Bill Tapié (Kris's father).

## **Prayer Concerns this Week**

### **Prayers are requested this week for the following:**

Mary Lewis, Margaret and George Sentell, Debbie Ungemach, Ray and Pat Weissbrod.

### **Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:**

Bill and Kay Currie, Flora Dannemiller, Pat Drake, Marge Drollinger, Betty Farnfield, Iris Gilbert, Ron and Florence Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, Arlene and Jack Quinn, Margie and Dwight Stauffer, Elaine Tapié.

### **Please remember in your prayers:**

The Olson family; Jane's father died December 24.

The Gifford family; Carol's father Robert Sacha died December 26.

**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. Lists of ongoing prayer concerns are in each month's **TOWER**.

## **This Month's Ushers**

Joe Andrews, Nick Baumgartner, Charles Ishler, Jane Ishler, Kate Monaghan, Daryl Musick, Victoria Sampson. Roger Heineman, Head Usher

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

**Attendance last week:** Christmas Eve: 5 pm, 150; 11 pm, 322; Sunday, 135



## *Announcements*

### **TODAY**

#### ***Today Is Hunger Sunday***

Any cash or checks in envelopes marked Hunger will be used 100% for support of hunger programs. Each month we send the money to the Hts Emergency Food Cupboard (Disciples Church, Cleveland Hts.), the New Covenant Lutheran Church Hunger Center (East Cleveland), and the Presbyterian Hunger Program in Haiti.

#### **Petitions for the People**

All are welcome to bring their personal prayer requests for inclusion in Forest Hill Church's community worship offering, Petitions for The People. Praying in community, we will represent the Body of Christ, connecting each other more closely to God, ourselves and the Forest Hill Church community. Private prayers will be offered individually in the Chapel immediately after worship today. Please gather quietly outside the Chapel until you are called.

***Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. - James 5:13-15***

### **THIS WEEK**

#### ***Bible and Bagels***

Bible and Bagels meets Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 am in the Jin Room. All are welcome! The lesson this week is from Psalm 29 and the Letter of James.

## **NEXT SUNDAY**

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

Kerygma small groups studying the Letter of James will begin next Sunday and continue through February 1.

## **ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### ***Homeless Stand Down***

Calling for volunteers! The 2015 Homeless Stand Down is on January 24. We are looking for 10 “personal shoppers” for the morning shift – volunteers who help individuals and families choose sweaters, outerwear and boots. Last year FHC provided a dozen volunteers, and we hope to put together another strong team! Please contact Jack Breisch for more information or to volunteer ([jbrei@hawken.edu](mailto:jbrei@hawken.edu) or 440-241-5149).

### ***Care Group***

The Eden Care Group is responsible for meeting members’ needs during January. 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:**

Carol Leslie, Deacon leader	Sue & Scott Lafferty
Doris Allen	Suzanne Marcy
Nathan & Lane Baldwin	Steve Marunowski & Peg Weissbrod
Mary Ball	Clayton & Julie Minder
Clover & Tim Beal	Ron Polderman & Carol Smith
Dave & Chris Bell	Lorraine Ranchod
Jane & Derek Duncan & family	Elizabeth Shaw
Jean & Scott Duncan	Jeff & Anne Smith
Jeff Dyck & Lara Troyer & family	Quentin Smith & Sylvia Herd
Julie Lafferty Ely	Tammy Steele
Kris & Bill Fay	Elaine Tapié
Carrie Fister	Elaine Turley
Tim & Leigh Henderson	Paul & Katie Weissbrod
Bob & Pat Jeffreys	

### ***Black History Month – February 2015***

For Black History Month we will be reading ***The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks***. Robyn Hales will have copies of the book for sale in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour. Books are \$10 for paperback, and can be purchased as a Kindle or audio book at Amazon.com. For more information, call Robyn (216-659-9566). We would like to have 60 participants! There will be an in-depth book review in March as well.

*More information about Black History Month may be found on p. 10*

### ***Youth News***

#### ***Every Sunday***

- Mid and Sr High classes meet from 9:30 – 10:30 am.

## *Calendar: January 4-11, 2015*

### **Sunday, January 4: Epiphany Sunday**

9:00 Child care begins  
 9:30 Adult and Youth Education  
       Descant Choir  
 10:15 Descant Choir activity  
 10:30 Continental Breakfast  
       Chancel Choir  
 11:00 WORSHIP: Communion  
       Children in Worship  
 12:15 Coffee hour  
       Petitions for the People

### **Monday, January 5**

8:45 am Tai Chi  
 6:00 pm Progress not Perfection (AA)  
 7:00 pm Al Anon  
 7:30 pm AA: Borton Group  
       Boy Scout Troop #403

### **Tuesday, January 6**

1:00 pm Abundance Pantry opens  
 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class

### **Wednesday, January 7**

7:30 am Bible and Bagels  
 12:30 pm Wednesday Women's AA  
 5:30 pm GCC Core Team mtg

### **Thursday, January 8**

5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class  
 6:20 pm Voices in Bronze rehearsal  
 6:30 pm Cub Scouts  
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal  
       FH Swim Club mtg

### **Friday, January 9**

10:00 am Al Anon meeting

### **Saturday, January 10**

9:00 am New Leader training  
 2:30 pm Memorial Service:  
       James GordeVant Crisp

### **Sunday, January 11: 1 Epiphany**

9:00 Child care begins  
 9:30 Adult and Youth Education  
       Descant Choir  
 10:15 Descant Choir activity  
 10:30 Continental Breakfast  
       Chancel Choir  
 11:00 WORSHIP  
       Pathways to the Promise Land  
       Children in Worship  
 12:15 Coffee hour  
       Sine Nomine Choir  
 12:30 Living in the Spirit:  
       Informational meeting  
 1:00 Young Adults: Brunch

**Kerygma Bible Study**  
**The Book of James: Faith and Works**  
9:30 am Sunday mornings  
January 4 - February 8

Our seventh Kerygma all-church scripture study began in September with over 60 participants! We covered Paul's letter to the Galatians for seven weeks. The study was challenging and stimulating and wonderful! The feedback about the study is overwhelmingly positive.

Today we begin our study of the five chapters of the book of **James**. James is a so-called counter-argument to the apostle Paul's insistence on justification by faith alone. Without works, James might say, is there any faith at all?

We begin our study of JAMES with an overview of the Epistle. Beginning January 11, we will break into small groups, each facilitated by two lay leaders, to delve deeper into its richness. Many of you who participated in the fall will continue on. The Kerygma workbook can be used again for James. If you did not participate in the fall, no problem! All are welcome to join in. More workbooks are available.

Sunday morning study groups provide a wonderful opportunity to learn more about bible study, to meet new people in a small group setting, and to grow in your faith. ALL different levels of students are welcome...from novices to Bible nerds! Contact Rev. Clover Beal to register.

**Black History Month**  
***Black Innovation: Past, Present and Future***

**January 18, 2015 – Martin Luther King Sunday, 12:30 – 2:00 pm**

Black History Month Committee presentation on MLK and Gandhi

**February 1, 2015 – Hip Hop 2.0; 12:30 - 2 pm; led by LaDon Headon**

**February 8, 2015 – Cajun Treats and Jazz music – 12:30 pm to 2 pm**

**Youth Night, 5 – 7:30 pm – Mardi Gras Masks activity, Fat Tuesday**

**February 15, 2015 – Challenges of gaining entrance and mobility in nursing medicine – 12:30 - 2:00 pm**

**Speaker: Dr. Ron Hickman**

*Dr. Ronald Hickman, Ph.D., RN, is a young African American Nurse Researcher and Assistant Professor of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University who is a real rising star. More information may be found on his faculty page, (<http://fpb.case.edu/Faculty/Hickman.shtm>).*

**February 20, 2015 - Friday Movie Night - 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm**

Family friendly night; hot dogs, pizza and popcorn. Short movie discussion after film.

**February 22, 2015 – Soul Food Pot Luck – 12:30 - 3:00 pm**

**Dr. Faye Gary** will speak at 11 am worship.

**BOOK: *The Immortal Life Of Henrietta Lacks* AVAILABLE NOW!**

**Speaker: Dr. Faye Gary**

*Dr. Faye Gary, Ph.D., RN is an African American female trailblazer. She is the Medical Mutual of Ohio Professor for Vulnerable and At-Risk Persons at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.*

Dr. Gary will lead a book discussion on Henrietta Lacks and what the National Institute of Health recommendations for future research protocols.

**Evening Worship Service:** A celebration of African Music, 7 – 9 pm  
Poetry, Stories and Music, led by Caleb Wright

**Featuring:** Mother Willie Mae Wright and Peter Williams, and others.

**Epiphany: A Journey toward Healing Ministry  
Lakewood Presbyterian Church  
14502 Detroit Ave**

**Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 7 pm**

Join us for an exploration of what Jesus' healing ministry means for us. It will be a time of prayer, music, scripture, and discussion as well as the opportunity to experience healing ministry with those who have been involved in it. For more information, please contact Subhana Graff ([grafkc@cox.net](mailto:grafkc@cox.net)) or Anne McCabe ([atmccabe1000@gmail.com](mailto:atmccabe1000@gmail.com))

## *The Lessons*

### **Isaiah 60: 1-6**

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

### **Matthew 2: 1-12**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

**Next Sunday's lectionary lessons: Genesis 1: 1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19: 1-7; Mark 1: 4-11**