

Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



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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
March 22, 2015 at 11:00 am
Fifth Sunday in the Season of Lent

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship.

If you are visiting, please join us in wearing a name tag so that we might greet you.

Our ushers have large print editions of the Bible and today's bulletin, hearing devices, activity bags with quiet activities for children staying in worship, and directions to our Monticello Wing nursery for babies and young children.

Prayer of Preparation

Your word has the power to change our lives and to create a whole new world. As we meditate on your word this day, fill us with your Holy Spirit that we may treasure your word with our whole hearts and fix our eyes on you. Amen.

Welcome

Prelude

J. S. Bach

"Prelude" (*Partita No. 3*)
Jinjoo Cho, violin

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship

Cate Monaghan

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: The Lord is making a new covenant with the people of God.

People: Here in this place, Christ writes the law of love on our hearts.

Leader: We are the children of the living God.

People: Together, let us worship the Lord of Love!

*** Processional Hymn No. 442**

"Just As I Am, without One Plea"

**please stand if able*

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Clover Beal

Redeeming God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart, and have not loved our neighbors, as we ought; we have strayed from your commandments. Do not remember our sins, but forgive our iniquities, that we may fix our eyes on you and sin no more, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison (*Lord, have mercy*)

J. S. Bach

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

Assurance of Pardon

* Response

First: All sing

Second: Men start, women and children start 1 measure later



Anthem

J. S. Bach

“Wir eilen mit schwachen” (from *Cantata 78*)

Sung in German; translation:

*We hasten with feeble, but diligent footsteps,
O Jesus, O Master, for help unto Thee.*

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Family Meditation

Rev. Beal

*** Hymn No. 410**

"God Is Calling through the Whisper"

Children in Pathways may leave during the hymn

Prayer requests may be passed to the ushers during this hymn

Scripture Lesson

John 12: 20-33

After the reading

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

"Letting Go"

Prayers of the People

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.

Ritual of Friendship

all are asked to sign

Offertory

J. S. Bach

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" (from Cantata 147)

*** 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

*** Closing Hymn No. 726**

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

**Stanza 3, women and
children**

*** Commission and Blessing**

Stanza 4, men

*** Passing of the Peace**

Please be seated for the postlude

Postlude

J. S. Bach

"Gavotte" (*Partita No. 3*)

Jinjoo Cho, violin



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**, to find a complete list of upcoming events, education programs for all ages, and texts and audio of past sermons.

Congregational Notes

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers are given in memory of Roy West and his daughter Robyn Mazanec by LeAnn West and the Kevin Stauffer family; in memory of the Rev. Clarence "Tommy" Thomas by Lee and Cathi Thomas and family; and in loving memory of Ann, Molly and Ralph Dise, Sr., by Russ and Jennifer Dise.

Prayer Concerns this Week

Prayers are requested this week for the following:

Don Clark, Kay Currie, Chuck Ishler, Mary Lewis, Robert Nemcek, Bill Proudfit, Connie Sekerak, George Seidel, Margaret and George Sentell, Debbie Ungemach.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

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

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**.

Thank you to today's ushers and to head usher Roger Heineman. Please contact the church office if you are interested in joining an usher team.

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

Attendance last week (including Pathways children): 261

Announcements

TODAY

Music

Today we celebrate the music of J. S. Bach (the 21st is his birthday) in splendid style with renowned violinist Jinjoo Cho. Jinjoo was recently awarded the \$30,000 first prize in the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis. She has also won international competitions in Montreal and Buenos Aires. She has appeared as a soloist with the Cleveland Orchestra and the Aspen Concert Orchestra. Jinjoo, who is a native of Seoul, South Korea, is working towards her master's degree at the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Attention Children and Youth Volunteers

To continue assuring the safety and well-being of our children and youth, we are holding a brief training session on Forest Hill's Child Protection Policy. If work with children or youth, please attend this mandatory training TODAY at 12:30 pm in the Library.

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 **Mark 1: 1-11 (Palms); Isaiah 50: 4-9a; Psalm 31: 9-16; Philippians 2: 5-11; Mark 14:1 – 15:47.**

Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC) News

Come hear first-hand the results of the meeting between the Criminal Justice Leadership Team of GCC and Mayor Jackson concerning GCC's four recommendations that we requested be included in the consent decree being negotiated between Mayor Jackson and the Department of Justice. Learn how GCC plans to pursue our recommendations to reform the Cleveland Police Department based on the results of this meeting.

***We need a big turnout to show power and encourage real reform!
Your presence will make a difference!
Please come!***

GCC Delegate Assembly: Thursday March 26, 7pm, Trinity Cathedral
Reserve your seat with our group. Sign up after church today, or email Diana Woodbridge (dwoodbridge@sbcglobal.net). Carpools will leave FHC by 6:05 – we need drivers as well as riders.

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education, 9:30 in South Hall

Race Matters: Dr. Joy Bostic, Professor of Religion at CWRU, will lead a discussion on "The Black Church Experience."

Labre Project

Warm, gently-used clothing and accessories – coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, blankets for men, women and children – are appreciated for the Labre Project in East Cleveland. Please leave donations in the bin in Fellowship Hall.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Softball

Softball season is approaching. The 9-time Heights Church League Champion FHC softball team is looking for members and visitors to join the softball team for the 2015 season. If you are interested, please contact Jason Hidek (jason.hidek@att.net).

Care Group

The Mt. Sinai Care Group is responsible for meeting members' needs during March. 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:

Kathy Hanna-Stauffer, Deacon leader	Julie & Gary Lustic
Joanne Bielek	Nancy Lyon-Stadler & family
Guy Cameron & family	Brooke Marcy & family
Betty & Don Clark	Dave & Jane Olson & family
Barb Cloud	Graham & Roz Peters
Jerry Delva & Carline Paul-Blanc	Joyce Peters
Jane Frederick & family	Marjorie Ravas
Donna Frey	Matt & Katie Russo & family
Sue Gifford & family	Gary Sampson
Al Gilbert	Sara & Randy Shaner
Don & Nancy Grube	Anona Stack
Barb Hansen	Kathy Hanna-Stauffer and Derry Stauffer
Chuck & Jane Ishler	Lorian, Ralph & Fran Thomas
Janet Kickel	Ann & Peter Williams
Nina Klein	Warren Young
Mary Lewis	

Youth News

Every Sunday

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

Today

- The Sine Nomine Choir will rehearse in the Chapel today after worship.
- Confirmation Bible Study, 5:30 at the Lentz's

Next Sunday

- Mission Trip meeting (see p. 10)



Attention all youth ages 14-18:

We have a Mission Trip coming up in late June!

If you want more information about it,
please come to an informational meeting on Sunday, March 29
at 12:30 pm in the Koinonia Rm.

Please contact Shannon Headen (shannon@fhcpresb.org)
if you want information before next week.

FHC Staff Emails and Phone Extensions

Program Staff

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Holy Week and Easter at FHC

Palm Sunday, March 29: Procession with palms as worship begins

Maundy Thursday, April 2: Dinner at 6:30, worship at 7:30

Good Friday, April 3: Community worship at St. Paul's, 12-3 pm – "The Seven Last Words of Christ." Clover Beal is preaching on the 5th Word.

Holy Saturday, April 4: Easter Vigil, 8 pm

Easter, April 5

Worship in the chapel, with communion, 9 am

Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 2-8 in the Christian Education wing at 10:15 am – meet in the Christian Education lobby. Older children (through 5th grade) may come to pick up a goodie bag.

Worship in the sanctuary, with communion and the Hallelujah Chorus, 11 am.

**On Saturday, April 25,
join us on a trip to Detroit to visit the First Congregational Church and
The Underground Railroad Living Museum Flight to Freedom Tour.**

- The tour at First Congregational Church includes a "storytelling" re-enactment of the original Underground Railroad passage that operated between 1840 and 1863.
- The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History is the world's largest institution dedicated to the African American experience.

The estimated cost is \$40 -- this includes bus fare and admissions, and could vary according to the number of people on the trip. Scholarships are available.

Seats are limited. Deadline for registering is TODAY.

Contact Barb Cloud ([216-321-9112](tel:216-321-9112)) or Anne Smith ([216-932-2932](tel:216-932-2932))

Calendar: March 22-29, 2015

Sunday, March 22: 4 Lent

8:30 Nominating Comm.
 9:00 Child care begins
 9:30 Adult and Youth Education
 Confirmation
 Descant Choir
 10:15 Descant Choir activity
 10:30 Continental Breakfast
 Chancel Choir
 11:00 WORSHIP
 Children in Worship class
 11:15 Pathways
 12:15 Coffee hour
 Sine Nomine Choir
 12:30 Exploring Membership class
 Child Protection Policy training
 4:40 Labre project
 5:00 Living in the Spirit class
 5:30 Confirmation Bible Study

Monday, March 23

8:45 am Tai Chi
 5:00 pm PWR Meeting
 (Heritage PC, Amherst)
 6:00 pm Progress not Perfection (AA)
 7:00 pm Al Anon
 CE Foyer group meeting
 7:30 pm AA: Borton Group
 Boy Scout Troop #403

Tuesday, March 24

12:00 pm Abundance Pantry lunch
 1:00 pm Abundance Pantry opens
 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class

Wednesday, March 25

7:30 am Bible and Bagels
 12:30 pm Wednesday Women's AA
 7:00 pm Session meeting

Thursday, March 26

5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class
 6:00 pm Meet for GCC Assembly
 7:00 pm GCC Assembly,
 Trinity Cathedral
 6:20 pm Voices in Bronze rehearsal
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal

Friday, March 27

10:00 am Al Anon meeting

Saturday, March 28

9:00 am PW Spring Gathering
 (Parma South PC)
 9:30 am Sacred Spaces mtg

Sunday, March 29: Palm Sunday

9:00 Child care begins
 9:30 Adult and Youth Education
 Confirmation
 Descant Choir
 10:15 Descant Choir activity
 10:30 Continental Breakfast
 Chancel Choir
 11:00 WORSHIP; Baptism,
 Reception of New Members
 Children in Worship class
 11:15 Pathways
 12:15 Coffee hour
 12:30 Youth: Mission Trip Meeting
 5:00 Living in the Spirit class

Order Easter Lilies for Easter worship!

Name: _____

How many do you want (they are \$7.00 each)? _____

Do you want to take any home? _____

How many? _____

Dedication (in memory of, in honor of, in thanksgiving for)



The Lessons

John 12: 20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Next Sunday: Mark 1: 1-11 (Palms); Isaiah 50: 4-9a; Psalm 31: 9-16; Philippians 2: 5-11; Mark 14:1 – 15:47. 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.

**Please pick up printed copies
of the April TOWER
in the Courtyard Foyer.**

Marriage and the PC(USA)

We rejoice in the news that a majority of the 171 presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church (USA) have approved an amendment to the church's *Book of Order* that describes marriage as "a unique relationship between two people, traditionally a man and a woman."

We are grateful to the faithful work of our Parish Associate Tricia Dykers Koenig, who serves the church through The Covenant Network of Presbyterians.

The change aligns the church's constitution with a reality that has long been true: Both same-gender and opposite-gender couples have been living in relationships that demonstrate covenant faithfulness, shared discipleship, and mutual love. We rejoice that all couples can now see those relationships solemnized before God and the Christian community in marriage, at the discretion of ministers and sessions. Presbyteries will continue to vote on the amendment over the next few months (ours, the Presbytery of the Western Reserve, will vote at its meeting on Monday) and the change will become effective June 21, 2015.

The Book of Order's new definition of marriage reads:

Marriage is a gift God has given to all humankind for the well-being of the entire human family. Marriage involves a unique commitment between two people, traditionally a man and a woman, to love and support each other for the rest of their lives. The sacrificial love that unites the couple sustains them as faithful and responsible members of the church and the wider community.

Pastor John Lentz
March 22, 2015

On the cover:

"Seedling" by Brazilian photographer Ramon Souza, used with permission