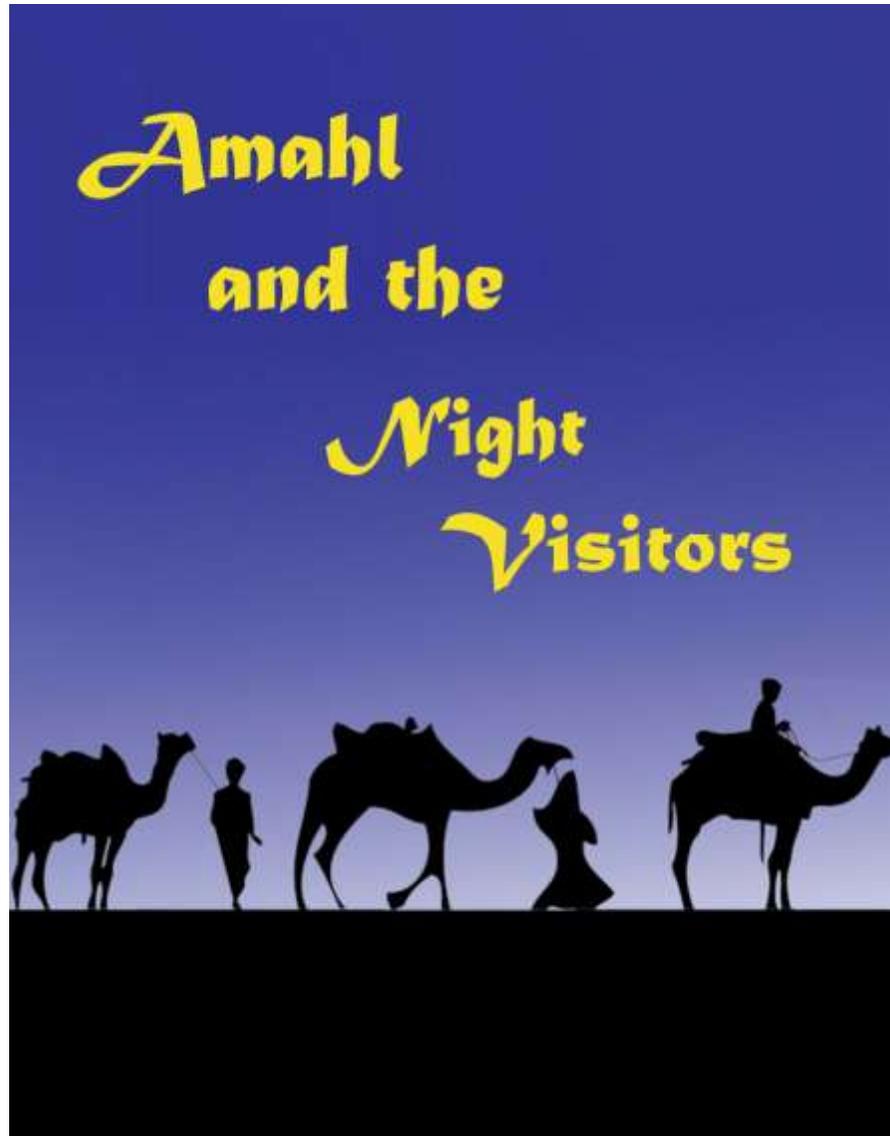


Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts OH 44118

216-321-2660

Fax: 216-320-1214

Email: office@fhcpresb.org

Website: www.fhcpresb.org

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor
Rev. Tricia Dykers-Koenig, Parish Assoc.
Rev. Lois Annich, Interim Assoc. Pastor
Rachel McDonald, Interim Assoc. Pastor

Anne Wilson, Director of Music
Kate Burleigh, Dir. of Children's Ministries
Shannon Headen, Dir. of Youth Ministries

*Forest Hill Church seeks to be diverse, inclusive and welcoming.
All God's children have a place in this choir!*

Service of Worship
December 20, 2015 at 11:00 am

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 hearing devices, large print editions of the bulletin, activity bags for children staying in worship, and directions to our nursery for babies and young children.

Prayer of Preparation

Welcome

Choral Introit

Charles Callahan

“In Excelsis Gloria”

Sine Nomine Choir

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship

The Stawovy family

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: Share the good news of God’s love.

Leader: Be the voice that cries out in the wilderness,

People: Go forth to share the love of God.

Leader: Sing of God’s steadfast love forever.

People: Tell the good news to all generations.

Leader: Share the story, again and again, of the word becoming flesh.

People: We are the story. We are the living story of God’s love.

**All: Let us sing and worship God, who is doing a new thing,
about to spring forth!**

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Amahl and the Night Visitors

by Gian Carlo Menotti

Featuring the Chancel Choir and soloists

Produced and directed by Anne Wilson

Please see p. 8 for more information about this production of Amahl

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

Pietro Yon

"Gesù Bambino"

Cynthia Watson, oboe

*** 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. 145**

"What Child Is This"

*** Commission and Blessing**

*** Passing of the Peace**

“Noel No. 8”



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

Prayer Concerns this Week

Prayers are requested this week for the following:

Lucy Conde, Doris Brandt, Marge Drollinger, Carol Himmelsteib, Mary Hosier, Chuck Ishler, Shelly Jesberger, Mary Lewis, Mel Mervine, Carol Scott, Dorothy Turick, Debbie Ungemach, and Robert Vandall.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Bill Currie, Betty Farnfield, Iris Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, Jack Quinn, George Sentell, Margie & Dwight Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas.

Please remember Dalma Takacs and her family in your prayers; Dalma's husband Lajos Takacs died on December 4.

The Deacons encourage you to stop by the Greeting Card Table in Fellowship Hall before or after worship to sign a card for one or more of our homebound members. We will address and mail the card for you.

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

Announcements

TODAY

Thanks to:

Today's Advent Family:

Mike, Becky, Stosh, Sammy and Stella Stawovy

The Advent Trumpeters: Scott Lafferty and Ahren Stock

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 **Psalm 148 and Luke 2: 41-52 OR Psalm 98 and John 1: 1-14.**

Please see the calendar on p. 7 for the Christmas Eve schedule

NEXT SUNDAY

Classes and choirs will not meet.

Worship will be in the sanctuary at 11 am.

Adult Education resumes January 10 with the Song of Solomon.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Care Group

The All-Church Care Group is responsible for meeting members' needs during December. 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.

Homeless Stand Down: January 23

Want to have a memorable Saturday morning this January? Join the Forest Hill Church Stand Down Team! The Homeless Stand Down, an annual service event scheduled for January 23, 2016 at Public Auditorium, needs volunteers. As a member of our team, you would be serving as “personal shoppers” for families or individuals. Our shift runs from 7:30 – 11:30 am, and we’ll meet afterwards for a celebratory lunch at Nighttown in Cleveland Hts.. For more details and to sign up, please go to this address:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a4baaaa22a3fd0-homeless>.

Youth News

Every Sunday

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

Today

- **Gala Christmas party** at the Lentzes’ – 5:00 – 6:30

FHC Staff Emails

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr. | Pastor | <u>pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org</u> |
| Rev. Lois Annich | Interim Assoc. Pastor | <u>pastorannich@fhcpresb.org</u> |
| Rachel McDonald | Interim Assoc. Pastor | <u>RachelM@fhcpresb.org</u> |
| Anne Wilson | Music | <u>annew@fhcpresb.org</u> |
| Shannon Headen | Youth | <u>shannon@fhcpresb.org</u> |
| Kate Burleigh | Children | <u>kateb@fhcpresb.org</u> |
| Lynda Bernays | Administration | <u>office@fhcpresb.org</u> |
| Becky Austin | Finance | <u>beckya@fhcpresb.org</u> |
| Peg Weissbrod | Outreach | <u>webeditor@fhcpresb.org</u> |
| Stavros Gazis | Custodial | <u>office@fhcpresb.org</u> |

Calendar: December 20 - 27, 2015

Sunday, December 20: 4 Advent

9:00 Child care begins
9:30 Adult Education
Youth Education
Descant Choir (gr. 1-5)
10:15 Descant Choir activity
10:30 Continental Breakfast
Chancel Choir
11:00 WORSHIP:
Amahl and the Night Visitors
Children's Worship class (pre-K, K)
12:15 Coffee and fellowship hour
Blood pressure check
4:00 Labre Ministry
5:00 Faith Leader
Youth: Christmas party (at Lentzes')
7:00 ***Amahl and the Night Visitors***
Reception following

Monday, December 21

6:00 pm Progress not Perfection (AA)
7:00 pm Al Anon
7:30 pm Borton Group

Tuesday, December 22

12:00 pm Abundance Pantry Lunch
1:00 pm Abundance Pantry opens

Wednesday, December 23

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

**Thursday, December 24: Christmas Eve
Offices closes 12 pm**

5:00 pm Family Worship:
"No Fuss" Christmas Pageant
10:45 pm Musical prelude
11:00 pm Candlelight Worship
Milk and cookies reception follows

**Friday, December 25: Christmas Day
The building is closed**

**Sunday, December 27: 1 Christmas
Classes and choirs will not meet**

10:30 Child care begins
10:30 Continental Breakfast
11:00 WORSHIP
12:15 Coffee and fellowship hour

Blue Christmas Service

If this holiday time is not all that joyful for you...

Fairmount Presbyterian Church is offering a Blue Christmas service on Tuesday, December 22 at 6:30 pm

Fairmount Presbyterian Church
Cleveland Heights

2757 Fairmount Blvd
216-321-5800

The Lessons

Christmas Day: Isaiah 52: 7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1: 1-4; John 1: 1-14
Next Sunday: 1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 2: 12-17; Luke 2: 41-52. Set aside time each day for prayer and study. As you read the lessons for the week, consider how they settle or challenge you? What image or word catches your attention? Keep notes of your observations in a journal.

Amahl and the Night Visitors

Synopsis

Amahl, a boy who can walk only with a crutch, has a problem with telling tall tales. He and his mother, who are very poor and barely have enough to eat, are visited by the Three Kings on the way to visit the Christ Child, and a miracle occurs. This was the first opera commissioned especially for television, and it was given its premiere by the NBC Television Opera Theatre in New York City on Christmas Eve, 1951.

Cast

Henry Dyck (Amahl)

Henry is a 2nd-grader at Roxboro Elementary School (Cleveland Hts.) where he is a member of the Chess Club. Henry enjoys playing piano, reading, and playing video games and soccer.

Lara Troyer (Amahl's mother)

Lara Troyer is equally at home on the opera, concert and recital stage. She has performed as a soloist with the Akron Symphony, Canton Symphony Orchestra, Heights Chamber Orchestra, Chagrin Falls Studio Orchestra, Nightingale Opera, Lansing Symphony Orchestra, and The New Sigmund Romberg

Orchestra. Most recently she sang the role of Fanny in Rossini's *La Cambiale Matrimonio* with the Kent/Blossom Music Festival and also the soprano solo in the Brahms Requiem with the Summit Choral Society. She teaches voice at Kent State University.

Mist'a Craig (King Kaspar)

Mist'a is a graduate of Cleveland Hts. High School where he sang the lead role of Gaston in the musical *Beauty and the Beast*. He is now studying sign language at Tri-C. Mist'a is a Keyholder for Limited Brands. His dream is to play the role of Scar in *The Lion King* on Broadway.

Carl Jenks (King Melchior)

Carl Jenks has been a member of the Forest Hill Chancel Choir since 1981; he also sings in the Ensemble at Federated Church in Chagrin Falls. In previous years, he spent seven seasons with the Robert Page Singers and three with the New York Choral Society. Before retirement, he spent many years employed as an attorney with the Jones Day law firm.

Caleb Wright (King Balthazar)

Caleb has been singing with his family's ensemble, The Wright Family Singers, since childhood. He is a Cleveland Hts. High School graduate and has attended college in New York City and Virginia. Caleb is an active soloist in the Cleveland area and a member of 21 groups including the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus, the Voices of Koinonia, the First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland, and Elegie.

Jack Lentz (the page)

Jack is a graduate of Cleveland Hts. High School where he sang leading roles in several musicals. He currently attends Notre Dame College where he is majoring in communications and singing/acting in college productions. Jack is a big *Lord of the Rings* fan!

Devyn Etling (dancer)

Devyn takes class at the School of Cleveland Ballet three to four times per week and has been dancing since she was two-years old. She is a 5th-grader at Roxboro Elementary School. She plays piano and flute and enjoys reading and dancing all over the house!

Margaret Dyck (child shepherd)

Margaret is a first-grader at Roxboro Elementary School. She loves to sing, dance, read, play with friends, and play piano. Her favorite show is Doc McStuffins.

Laura Minder, Patty Console, Chris Fuller, Seth Ungemach, Chris Vandall, Paul Weissbrod (small group of shepherds)

The Forest Hill Chancel Choir (shepherds)

Set design and props: Gary Sampson, MaryAnn Breisch, and members of the Forest Hill Church Chancel Choir

Choreography: Devyn and Tracy Etling

King's costumes: a gift from the Tapie/Fay family

Musicians

Cynthia Watson, oboe

Anne Wilson, piano/director

The costs of this production were underwritten by a generous gift from Carl M. Jenks

We are grateful to our contributors to the Friends of Music Fund this past year:

Jewrett Bailey

D. M. Bartlett

Betty Clark

Joan Ferguson

Don and Nancy Grube

Kurt Haas

Barb Hansen

Lee Husni

Chuck and Jane Ishler

Bob and Pat Jeffreys

Carl M. Jenks

Paul Jennings

Tom and Swid Kirchhofer

Tom and Patty Liskay

Carmen Massaro

Ellen McChesney

Wendy Munyon

Don and Donalene Poduska

Carol Scott

Carolyn Smith

Joy Stang

Tom Trenney

Brent Shaw

Dorothy Ann Turick

Peg Weissbrod and Steve Marunowski

Peter and Ann Williams

Dene Young

Special thanks to Morag Keefe for coordinating the Sunday evening reception.



Online Giving

Use a QR code reader to find a link to donate securely via PayPal.

<http://www.fhcpresb.org/about-us/giving>

The Poinsettias are given by

Betsy and Joe Andrews, in thanksgiving for Cooper, Cameron and Lexi Andrews

Mary Ball, in thanksgiving for her family and the Forest Hill Church family

Nancy Burcham, in memory of loved ones

The Cameron family, in loving memory of Dr. Donald B. Cameron, Ann Cameron, Mary Margaret Cameron and Alan Scott Cameron

Betty Clark, in memory of Don Clark, Betty and Herbert Fritz, and Irma and Raymond Clark

The Denton-Vandall family, in honor of Bob and Karen Vandall and Doug and Andy Denton, and in memory of Paula Patterson

Bill Finn and Rachel Martinez-Finn, in memory of Jaime and Diana Martinez

Cathy and Don Ghiandoni, in honor of their grandchildren

Carol Gifford, in honor of Mary Sacha and in memory of Robert Sacha and Marilyn and Dick Gifford

Don and Nancy Grube, in honor of Anne Wilson and the choirs of Forest Hill Church

Barbara Hansen, in memory of Lamont Hansen and Ethel Van Fleet

Linda and Bill Hidek, in honor of their wonderful children, Jason and Christina Hidek and Jeff and Stacie Hidek, and their beautiful grandchildren, Ben, Ryan and Finley Hidek

The Himmelmans, in honor of the Mervine family

David and Anne Hunter, in memory of loved ones

Cliff and Jane Kowall , in memory of parents Walter and Elaine Grasson and Paul and Dorothy Kowall

The Lentz family, in memory of David Ramler

Carol Leslie, in honor of the Leslie, Richards and Strachan families

Ellen McChesney, in memory of Heather Phillips

Robin and Mel Mervine, in thanksgiving for Forest Hill Church
Jeanette Nemcek, in memory of Bob Nemcek
The Oetama-Paul family
David and Linda Rainey, in memory of loved ones
Marjorie Ravas, in memory of her parents
Mollie and Dick Secor
Stephen Sedam and Virginia Weiss, in memory of Nelson and Ann Weiss
and Herbert and Ruth Sedam, and in thanksgiving for all the good
people of Forest Hill Church
Jean Seeley, in memory of Kay Currie and Carolyn Conway
Dan and Joanne Shaner, in thanksgiving for their parents, Sara and Randy
Shaner and Dave and Peggy Gamble
Jeff and Anne Smith, in honor of immigrants and refugees
The Smith-Polderman and Zednik families, in memory of Grace Smith
and in celebration for Charlotte Grace Zednik
Dele, Damos, Reni and Demo Solaru, in memory of Otunba Adebajo
Solaru and Ope Bellu
Ben and Drew Stadler, in honor of their grandparents
Kathy and Derry Stauffer, in honor of Dwight and Margie Stauffer and in
memory of Dwight and Jean Hanna
Elaine Turley, in memory of Ruth and John Turley and Todd Burns
Dorothy Ann Turlick, in memory of Frank and Ida Turick
The Tzefronis family, in memory of Joyce Hunter
Mark and Carol Wedell, in memory of Ted and Mary Wedell, Ray Wedell,
and Jae Simonson
Peg Weissbrod and Steve Marunowski, in thanksgiving for Lois Annich
and Rachel McDonald
Anne Wilson, in memory of William L. Ferguson and in thanksgiving for
the mission of Forest Hill Church

The Wollaeger and Olson families, in memory of Bill and Nancy Olson
Bob and Ginny Young, in memory of loved ones
Dene Young, in memory of loved ones

*Thanks to the Hillstop Garden Club for the wreaths
on the sanctuary doors*

Memphis Civil Rights Trip Deposit

The pilgrimage to Memphis, scheduled for April 14-17, 2016, is fast approaching. We will visit the National Civil Rights Museum, Jim Neely's Interstate Bar-B-Q and BB King's Blues Club on Beale Street. Please join us!

To reserve your seat on the bus, a **non-refundable** deposit of \$50 is due by January 3; the balance of the cost is due April 1. Please make checks payable to Forest Hill Church, and write "Memphis trip" on the memo line.

Name: _____

No. in your party:

___ adults ___ children (12 and up; must accompany an adult)

Phone: _____

Email: _____

For more information, please contact

Anne Smith (anneandjeffsmith@gmail.com; 216-932-2932)

Barb Cloud (faithleader52@yahoo.com; 216-321-9112)