

Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



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Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor

Rev. Lois Annich, Interim Assoc. Pastor

Rachel McDonald, Interim Assoc. Pastor

Rev. Tricia Dykers-Koenig, Parish Assoc.

Anne Wilson, Director of Music

Kate Burleigh, Dir. of Children's Ministries

Shannon Headen, Dir. of Youth Ministries

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive and welcoming

Service of Worship
September 11, 2016 at 11:00 am
Celebration of Holy Communion

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

Lord, we do not forget what happened on 9/11 fifteen years ago today. Let the memory strengthen our resolve to be shaped by love and not fear, peace and not war. Let us not become narrow in our thinking but expansive in our hopefulness. This morning we remember when Christ took bread and broke it and shared the cup. May the sacrament move us faithfully into life.

Welcome

Prelude

Ann Weems (from *Reaching for Rainbows*)
"Good News Music"

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship

Elder Rosanna Sprague

Leader: Come worship the Lord!

People: Lord, replace the turbulence within us with a sacred calm.

Leader: Replace the tension of our lives with holy relaxation.

People: Replace the fear within us with a strong faith.

Leader: Strengthen our crookedness;

People: Fill our emptiness.

Leader: Dull the edge of our pride.

People: Sharpen the edge of our humility.

Leader: Light the fires of our love.

People: And let us worship you with our whole heart, mind and strength.

*** Processional Hymn No. 1** “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”

**please stand if able*

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Lois Annich

We believe that goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate and life is stronger than death. We believe that victory is ours through Jesus who loves us. Yet we forget and allow fear to overcome our faith. Forgive us and set us right so that we might live lives of power, joy and hope. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison *(Lord, have mercy)*

Anne Wilson

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

Assurance of Pardon

"Glory to God"

3 Glo-ry to God, _____ whose good-ness shines on me, and to the

6 Son, _____ whose grace has par-doned me, and to the Spir-it, _____ whose love has

8 set me free. As it was in the be - gin - ning, is

now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Scripture Lessons

Psalm 95: 1-7 (*From the New Testament and Psalms, an inclusive version*)

Leader: O come, let us sing to God; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

People: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

Leader: For God is a great god, and a great Ruler above all gods. In God's hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are God's also.

People: The sea belongs to God, for God made it, and God's hands have formed the dry land.

Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before God, our Maker!

People: For this is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

Romans 12: 1-2 (*Eugene Peterson, **The Message***)

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life – your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life – place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can offer to God. Don't become so well adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out.

After the readings

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

“From the Inside Out”

Ritual of Friendship

Rachel McDonald

Offering

Offertory

Anne Wilson

“Writings of Mother Teresa”

(an inscription on the wall of her Children's Home in Kolkata, India)

Beth Zych, soprano

*** Response**

South African song

“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises!”

Ha - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais-es, all our
3 hearts with glad-ness are filled. Hal - le - lu-jah! We sing your
6 prais-es, all our hearts with glad-ness are filled. Now he
9 sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt, strong of
13 faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy-ful Good News. *repeat first part*

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/4. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, often beamed together in groups of four. There are several measures with a '7' above them, indicating a 7-measure rest. The lyrics are written below the staff, with line numbers 3, 6, 9, and 13 marking the beginning of new lines of text. The final line of the score includes the instruction 'repeat first part' in italics.

*** Prayer of Dedication**

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

Anne Wilson

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.

Communion of the People

Music during Communion

Barbara Hamm

"Come to the Table of Grace"

Prayer after Communion

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Going Forth to Live as God's People

* **Closing Hymn No. 526**

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

* **Commission and Blessing**

* **Choral Benediction**

* **Passing of the Peace**

Postlude

Louis Vierne

"Finale" (Symphony No. 1)



Welcome Visitors!

We look forward to greeting you and answering any questions you may have. Welcome bags are available in the foyers and the narthex. Take one home with you! Be sure to visit our website, **www.fhcpresb.org**, for a list of upcoming events, education programs for all ages, and past sermon texts and audio.

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.

Notes & Announcements

Chancel Flowers: The flowers this week are given by Marilyn Wilk in memory of her mother, Cinderella Paradiso; and by Jenny Harper Himmelman in memory of Maybelle Geyser and Nancy Harper, dearest grandmother and mother of Jenny and Caty Himmelman.

Prayers are requested this week for the following: Max Harmon, Shannon Headon, Kathryn Himmelsteib, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Robin Richards, Robert Ruggeri, George Sentell, Joy Stang, and Debbie Ungemach.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Ruth Brickel, Bill Currie, Marge Drollinger, Emma Jane Gibbs, Iris and Al Gilbert, Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, Jack Quinn, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas.

Please pray for Kiva Bohanon and her family; Kiva's brother Kelvin Gurham died recently.

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.

Care Group

The Bethlehem 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.

This Month's Ushers 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.

Coming Up

Stay for the Fall Festival immediately after worship!

THIS WEEK

Bible Study: The lessons for this week are: **Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1; Psalm 79: 1-9; 1 Timothy 2: 1-7; Luke 16: 1-13.**

Bible and Bagels discusses either the lessons or the following week's preaching texts on Wednesday mornings from 7:30 to 8:30. All are welcome!

Attention All Visitors! You Are Invited To Dinner!

Come enjoy fellowship and meet others from our church community.

**Friday, Sept. 16, 6:30pm at the home of Rachel Martinez-Finn and Bill Finn
2592 Berkshire Rd., Cleveland Heights**

Hosted by the Welcome Team of Forest Hill Church

You are welcome to to bring a small dish to share

RSVP Diana Woodbridge [216-291-3745](tel:216-291-3745) / dwoodbridge@sbcglobal.net

OR church office [216-321-2660](tel:216-321-2660) / office@fhcpresb.org

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education, 9:30 in South Hall

Kerygma small groups begin next Sunday on "The Odd Couple – Jonah and Ruth." See Consuelo Heineman today to sign up.

Labre Project

Volunteers are needed to help with the Sunday afternoon meals. We are now serving over 100 people at a time! Please contact Jack Breisch (jbrei@hawken.edu) if you would like to join the team.

LOOKING AHEAD

Iris Circle (all women): Anne Wilson will speak about her summer pilgrimage on Tuesday, September 20. See the *TOWER* for details. All are welcome!

The Unexpected Guest: All adult members, guests and visitors of Forest Hill are invited to be a part of a fellowship dinner event on Saturday, October 8. See p. 10 for more information. Sign-up forms may be left in the volunteer office. Watch for online sign-up information in email news.

Be sure you are registered to vote: Go to **boe.cuyahogacounty.us** to be sure you are registered, to find your polling place, or to print an application for a vote-by-mail ballot.

Budget Update

Trustee Elder Mark Wedell

The great news is that the FHC congregation is very successfully fulfilling its pledge payments, which is allowing the church to continue to discover God's call, celebrate the spirit's presence and witness to Christ's transformative power. Thank you for your faithfulness!

The challenging news is that "non-pledged" donations – donations that are not part of a pledge and are received from both members and visitors – are significantly lower than the amount received in a typical year, which is creating an overall shortfall in projected revenue. Please, if possible, consider an additional gift to our congregation this fall to help meet the need in the days and weeks ahead.

Thank you! You are an amazing congregation to work with.

Calendar: September 11-18, 2016

<p>Sunday, September 11: KICKOFF Regular schedule begins 9:30 Adult and Youth Education Descant Choir followed by Descant Choir Activity Childcare for children thru Kdg 10:30 Continental Breakfast Chancel Choir 11:00 WORSHIP with communion Children's Worship Class (preK-K) Pathways to the Promise Land (gr. 1-5) 12:15 The Fall Festival: Under the Big Top!</p> <p>Monday, September 12 6:00 pm Progress not Perfection (AA) Discernment Task Force mtg 7:00 pm Al Anon 7:30 pm Borton Group (AA)</p> <p>Tuesday, September 13 1:00 pm Abundance Pantry distribution 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion 7:00 pm GCC Housing meeting</p> <p>Wednesday, September 14 7:30 am Bible and Bagels 12:30 pm Wed. Women's AA 7:00 pm Ministry meetings</p>	<p>Thursday, September 15 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion 6:20 pm Voices in Bronze rehearsal 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal</p> <p>Friday, September 16 7:00 am TOWER deadline 9:30 am Al Anon</p> <p>Saturday, September 17 8:00 am Men's Group 7:00 pm The Group to Indians game</p> <p>Sunday, September 18 8:30 Nominating Committee 9:30 Adult and Youth Education Descant Choir followed by Descant Choir Activity Childcare for children thru Kdg 10:30 Continental Breakfast Chancel Choir Cherub Choir 11:00 WORSHIP Children's Worship Class (preK-K) Pathways to the Promise Land (gr. 1-5) 12:15 Coffee and Fellowship Sine Nomine Choir Blood Pressure check 12:30 Whole Life Stewardship program</p>
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Staff Emails

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

Join us for dinner on October 8... As an Unexpected Guest

Sign up to join a group of FHC friends for dinner at someone's home.

You'll find out whose home the day of the dinner.

You'll meet your dining companions when you arrive.

Reservation for: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Number of people attending: _____

I would like to be notified of my dinner destination by:

____ ☐ Email on Saturday afternoon

____ ☐ Text message on Saturday afternoon

____ ☐ Stopping by church on my way to dinner

Food /Pet Allergies? : _____

Comments: _____

The hosts will serve dinner.

Guests are welcome to bring beverages of their choice.

Freewill offerings will benefit the Justice and Mission ministry.

Please leave this form in the offering or in the volunteer office.

This is an adults-only event.

**For more information or to be a dinner host, please contact
Sue Lafferty (salaff@sbcglobal.net)
Julie Lustic (jlustic@gmail.com) or
Mary McMillan (mcmillan954@gmail.com)**

*This may be placed in the offering or left in the basket labeled FORMS
in the Volunteer Office*

See the weekly email or the website for online registration

Faith Leader: Small Plates

There are many ways to become involved at Forest Hill Church, where we strive to service both the Inward and Outward Spiritual Journey. Whether you are quiet and introspective or bursting forth to speak out and speak up, want to study the bible or feed the hungry, be in prayer or be prophetic – we offer classes, book discussions, retreats, lectures, children to teach, youth to mentor, pilgrimages to go on, places to serve meals, and choirs to join. Some of you may want to challenge your intellect, the other wants to fill the heart – still another longs to use hand or voice with a purpose. Whatever you desire – inward or outward – Forest Hill offers some opportunity for you.

We are very excited to share a new offering designed primarily to feed the personal / Inward journey – the heart. **FaithLeader: Small Plates** are small group experiences – typically 6-8 week long, evening meetings – that are designed to explore specific spiritual practices and foster personal discovery. These are not so much discussion circles as group experiences, designed to investigate how we experience and name God's presence - now – in the day to day.

Each group is limited to 10 participants.

Group One: Exploring Mandalas a Creative Tool for Spiritual Wayfinding

Mandala is the Sanskrit term for circle. The circle is a format employed as a spiritual symbol across many world religions. This universal shape can provide a simple but powerful way of exploring and expressing our relationships to God, ourselves, and our world(s). Participants will be guided through a variety of materials and approaches to construct mandalas, allowing time and space for creative play and serious fun. Our hope is for the process to yield practical tools for navigating and even

celebrating the complexity of our spiritual journeys. Participants will come away from the experience with a portfolio of personally created mandalas.

Co-facilitators: Mary Ann Breisch and Sally Wile

Mondays 6-8pm: Oct. 10, 19 (WEDS.), 24, 31 and Nov. 7 and 14

Group Two:

The Beginner's Journey Into Your Spiritual Autobiography

“As we find ourselves drawn by God into telling our stories, we become creative agents of being.” Richard L. Morgan, ***Remembering Your Story***
Does my life really matter? Has my time been well spent? Where has God met me in life's journey? We find ourselves asking questions at all stages of life. Let this be the beginning of your awareness of the sacred journey you have been on your entire life! Let us walk together discovering and sharing our stories that create the ultimate human mosaic. Come and join us as we use Morgan's guide book, ***Remembering Your Story, Creating Your Own Spiritual Autobiography*** to move us toward wholeness.

Co-facilitators: Leslie Clement & Jeannine Gury

Sundays 4pm – 6pm, Oct 9 – Nov 20 as well as Saturday, Nov 19

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**Use this form to sign up, or follow the link in the weekly emails and on the website for an online form.**

## Faith Leader: Small Plates

☐ Exploring Mandalas (Monday evenings)

☐ Spiritual Autobiography (Sunday afternoons)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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in the Volunteer Office*

*Cover image: Forest Hill Church's Core Values, by Peg Weissbrod*