



Forest Hill Church

presbyterian

Discovering God's call
Celebrating the Spirit's presence
Witnessing to Christ's transformative power!

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

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

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Service of Worship
September 10, 2017 at 11:00 am

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship.

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

We know that when we gather, you are here with us. Build us into a faithful community –
a community that cares for one another and listens to one another in love. Living your law
of love, help us follow you onto new paths. Amen.

Welcome

Prelude

The Forest City String Band

“Jerusalem Ridge”

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship

Elder Rosanna Sprague

Leader: Praise the Lord.

People: Sing to the Lord a new song.

Leader: Celebrate God’s goodness.

People: Praise God with music.

Leader: Rejoice in God’s love.

People: Shout for joy.

Leader: Praise the Lord.

*** Processional Hymn No. 39**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

**please stand if able*

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession

God of freedom, you help us leave behind all that keeps us from being fully human, yet we resist your help and the change you offer. Clinging to old, familiar patterns, we are reluctant to move on. When others challenge us, we grow defensive. Give us open and generous hearts, that we may hear your call and follow you on new adventures of love and compassion. Amen.

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison (*Lord, have mercy*)

Appalachian folk melody

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

Assurance of Pardon

Response

“Glory to God”

Paul Vasile

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.

Anthem

Anthony Showalter

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Celebration of Children and Teachers

Kate Burleigh

* Hymn

"O Sing Unto the Lord"

1..O sing un-to the Lord a hymn of cel - e - bra- tion; O
2..O sing un-to - the Lord a hymn of joy and prais-ing; a

5
sing a hymn of love, ev-ery day a new cre - a - tion. God
song that shares our love, our faith and hope - ful wait-ing. Cre -

9
made the sky and sea, the sun and stars of heav-en and
13 a - tion shouts to all that God is grand and glo-rious; and

17
saw that they were good; all cre - a - tion sings in splen-dor!
so we sing our song to the God of grace and beau-ty.

21
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le lu - ia! O

sing to God a - bove: Al - le - lu - ia!

*Children in Pathways may leave during the hymn
Prayer requests to be read during the Prayers of the People
may be passed to the ushers during this hymn*

Scripture Lessons

Shannon Headen and Grant Heineman

Romans 13: 8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Matthew 18: 15-20

“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Following 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.

"Wake Up Time!"

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

Offering

Offertory

José Antonio Oliver and Miguel Manzano

"When the Poor Ones"

"Hallelujah, We Sing Your Praises"

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

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Going Forth to Live as God's People

*** Closing Hymn No. 733**

"We All Are One in Mission"

*** Commission and Blessing**

*** Choral Benediction**

*** Passing of the Peace**



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.

Notes & Announcements

Chancel Flowers The flowers are given by Marilyn Wilk in memory of her mother, Cinderella Paradiso, who would be 100 on September 17; and by Jenny Harper Himmelman in memory of Maybelle Geyer and Nancy Harper, dearest grandmother and mother of Jenny and Caty Himmelman.

Prayers are requested this week for: Joe and Betsy Andrews, Max Harmon, Joie Hill, Kathryn Himmelsteib, David Hunter, Florence Klein, Wafa Kuri, Krystal Lafontaine, Jim Manista, Jeanette Nemcek, Ron Register, George Sentell, and Dorothy Turick.

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

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 assisting the clergy in 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.

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

TODAY

Music

- **We welcome the Forest City String Band** to our worship service this morning: Reed Simon, fiddle; Brit Stenson, banjo; Bo Shiverick, guitar; and Lloyd Bell, bass.
- **Welcome back to the choirs!** Contact music director Anne Wilson if you'd like to join one of the groups (Descant Choir, gr. 1-5; Sine Nomine Choir, gr. 6-college; Chancel Choir, high school and adults; Voices in Bronze: handbell ringers, high school and adults; Forest Hill Steel Drum Band – all ages).

THIS WEEK

Bible Study: The lessons for this week are: **Exodus 14: 19-31; Psalm 114; Romans 14: 1-12; Matthew 18: 21-35**

Bible and Bagels discusses next Sunday's text(s) on Wednesday mornings from 7:30 to 8:30. All are welcome!

GCC: Please join us for ***Thursday, September 14th at 7pm at Forest Hill Presbyterian*** for a Greater Cleveland Congregations internal action (no press or non-GCC members) in which we will reflect on GCC's current work, including criminal justice reform, jobs, education, gun violence prevention, as well as the Q deal campaign, and discuss next steps. This is a time to **have a deeper conversation and reflection about our Q campaign and our future. Come with your questions, concerns and vision of the possibilities we have before us.**

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education, 9:30 in South Hall: The fall Adult Education series will focus on the Reformation with a series of classes taught by Kermit Lind. Next week: Desiderius Erasmus (don't know who that is? Come and see!)

Exploring Membership: Interested in learning more about FHC? Considering membership? Come to the Exploring Membership class next Sunday after worship and the following Sunday at 9 am.

LOOKING AHEAD

Less Racket, More Singing! Amanda Powell, vocalist/song leader and keyboardist/conductor Anne Wilson are teaming up to present three Community Sings. The first one (Less Racket, More Singing!) will be at Forest Hill Church on Friday, September 22 at 7:30 pm. Come to experience community-building as we strive to promote singing, serenity and silliness! It's free, fun, and appropriate for all ages.

Iris Circle and Hilltoppers are teaming up for two events this fall:

September 19, 11 am Tour of the “working areas” of Heinen’s in Mayfield Village 860 SOM Center Road, 11 am. Discover those hidden-from-the-public areas where delivery, inventory, prepping, juicing, baking, and cooking happen. The tour includes samples; contact Nancy Burcham for reservations and box lunch orders (\$8.85 from Heinen’s café) Meet in the café shortly before 11 am.

October 10, 11:30 am Potluck lunch and a presentation by Rev. Lois Annich of her Ireland pilgrimage

RSVP to Nancy Burcham for both events (burcham@roadrunner.com or 216-233-8864). All FHC members, friends and guests are welcome!

Youth News

Every Sunday: Logos (Mid High) meets from 9:30 – 10:30 am in the Ruah Room.

High School Unwind: September 17, 12:30-2:00, Youth in grades 9-12. Plan to stay after Sine Nomine rehearsal for our first official “High School Unwind”. We will eat, hang out, and catch up. We will also make plans for our incredible year together – we have so much to talk about!

Staff Emails

Rev. Lois Annich	Interim Assoc. Pastor	pastorannich@fhcpresb.org
Becky Austin	Finance	beckya@fhcpresb.org
Lynda Bernays	Administration	office@fhcpresb.org
Kate Burleigh	Children	kateb@fhcpresb.org
Ann Donkin	Building mgr.	adonkin@fhcpresb.org
Stavros Gazis	Custodial	office@fhcpresb.org
Shannon Headen	Youth	shannon@fhcpresb.org
Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr.	Pastor	pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org
Peg Weissbrod	Outreach	pegw@fhcpresb.org
Anne Wilson	Music	annew@fhcpresb.org

Calendar: September 10-17, 2017

Sunday, September 10

9:00 am Child care begins
 9:30 am Adult Education
 Youth Education: Logos (Mid Hi)
 Descant Choir
 10:15 am Descant Choir activity
 10:30 am Continental Breakfast
 Chancel Choir
 11:00 am WORSHIP
 Children's Worship class
 11:15 am Pathways to the Promise Land
 12:15 pm Fall Festival

Monday, September 11

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

Tuesday, September 12

12:00 pm Abundance Pantry registration
 1:00 pm Abundance Pantry
 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion
 7:00 pm Black History team mtg

Wednesday, September 13

7:30 am Bible & Bagels
 12:30 pm Wed. Women's AA
 7:00 pm Ministries meet

Thursday, September 14

7:00 am TOWER deadline

5:00 pm Fitness Fusion
 6:20 pm Voices in Bronze rehearsal
 7:00 pm GCC members' action
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal
 FH Swim Club meeting

Friday, September 15

10:00 am Al Anon meeting
 5:30 pm Faith Leader dinner

Saturday, September 16

8:00 am Men's group

Sunday, September 17

9:00 am Child care begins
 9:30 am Adult Education
 Youth Education: Logos (Mid Hi)
 Descant Choir
 10:15 am Descant Choir activity
 10:30 am Continental Breakfast
 Chancel Choir
 11:00 am WORSHIP
 Children's Worship class
 11:15 am Pathways to the Promise Land
 12:15 pm Coffee and Conversation
 Sine Nomine Choir
 Exploring Membership class
 12:45 pm Ekklesia (Sr. High Youth)
 5:00 pm Faith Leader class

The alien who resides with you shall be to you as a citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.
Leviticus 19:34

Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.
Matthew 25:40

The following letter was sent to FHC members, staff, and visitors this past week:

Dear Friends,

Both the Hebrew Scripture and New Testament are clear that people of faith are to be hospitable to the stranger, the alien, the immigrant, and the refugee. For several months the Session and the Trustees have discussed how Forest Hill Church can be faithful to this biblical call.

There was a congregational dinner to learn about "US Together" - an organization helping refugees. In February, Session discussed how we as a church could assist those facing adverse immigration action. More recently a small group of Elders, Trustees, and myself met to explore more deeply the process of becoming a "Sanctuary" church.

Elders were scheduled to begin a discussion about FHC becoming a "Sanctuary" church at the August Session meeting. Being a "Sanctuary" church means that FHC would host one or more individuals who are facing deportation.

Two weeks ago, I received a call from an individual who shared the following situation.

A non-citizen, immigrant mother has lived in our area for over 20 years. Her children are all American citizens. Active in her community, she has a job, owns a home, pays taxes and has no criminal record. She has been checking in with immigration officials for several years. In the past, U.S. officials felt there was no reason to deport her. However, at her annual check-in, she was told to buy a ticket and prepare to be deported. The news has devastated her family and community.

Her attorney recently discovered that there is a possibility that she may qualify for a special visa that would halt the deportation process. Her attorney is working quickly to submit the application. However, during the process of applying for this relief, she faces arrest, detention, and ultimately deportation. Deportation would separate her from her family.

This news accelerated our deliberations. Waiting for the August 23rd Session meeting likely would have meant that any action would come too late. At a joint meeting of the Session and Trustees that I called on Sunday, August 6, Elders unanimously agreed to welcome her to live in "Sanctuary" at Forest Hill Church until the immigration issue is settled.

Ideally, the Session had hoped for a longer process to discuss the issue and to engage the congregation about this matter. However, we believe that faced with this immediate need we have no other choice than to be faithful to the call to welcome the stranger and show hospitality to her. No one knows for sure what this might mean for the church and its leaders and pastors. But we do know and feel strongly that God is calling us to put our fears aside in order to do this.

We ask for your support in prayer and in material ways. We need volunteers to bring food, sleep over at the church, do laundry, visit, and do other things necessary to show hospitality. Monetary donations are also most welcome (make any checks out to Forest Hill Church, memo: sanctuary project).

Sharon Shumaker, Charity McDonald, Tom Zych, Carol Gifford, Mark Wedell and Jessica Kelley have formed a steering committee that will organize this effort. Our official spokespeople are Pastors Lois Annich and John Lentz, Elder Jeff Smith (Clerk of Session) and Tom Zych, church counsel.

The Session will offer information sessions so that you can ask questions about this action.

If you want more information or to offer your time as a volunteer you may send an email to **sanctuary@fhcpresb.org**. We appreciate all who support our Sanctuary efforts.

God bless you.



John Lentz

UPDATE

We welcomed Leonor into our church last Tuesday. She will be living with us for the foreseeable future.

Join us for the community press conference on our steps on Tuesday, September 12 at 11:00 a.m. Arrive at 10:45.

Names of the Reformation: A Puzzle

Find these reformers in the puzzle below. The names may be backwards, forwards, horizontal, vertical or diagonal. (The answer to last week's puzzle is Desiderius Erasmus).

HENRY VIII
SATTLER
TYNDALE
ERASMUS

LATIMER
CALVIN
MELANCHTHON
WESLEY

ZWINGLI
SIMONS
KNOX
LUTHER

A	X	O	N	K	L	E	N	T	Z	S	B
D	E	O	Z	W	I	N	G	L	I	H	R
A	M	A	R	T	H	A	A	D	E	I	U
M	W	E	S	L	E	Y	O	N	R	N	T
J	T	I	I	I	V	A	R	I	A	N	U
A	Y	M	A	A	M	Y	E	N	S	O	S
N	N	A	X	S	V	N	H	U	M	A	N
E	D	O	R	I	S	A	T	Z	U	W	I
L	A	T	I	M	E	R	U	R	S	A	V
I	L	I	M	O	R	A	L	I	B	E	L
M	E	L	A	N	C	H	T	H	O	N	A
E	L	V	I	S	A	T	T	L	E	R	C