

# Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



*Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming*  
3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts OH 44118 216-321-2660  
[www.fhcpresb.org](http://www.fhcpresb.org)

*Service of Worship*  
*December 17, 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.

*Centering Words*

God has a vision for a world with justice and joy for all.  
Will we join in the dream? Will we rejoice with God?

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

arr. by Cynthia Dobrinski

“What Child Is This”  
Voices in Bronze

*Greeting Our God with Joy*

**The Lighting of the Advent Candles**

Elder Sharon Shumaker, leader

Leader: On this third Sunday of Advent we watch and wait for Christ's  
coming!

**People: This Advent we will light candles of hope, love, joy and  
peace. Today we light the candles of hope, love, and joy.**

*The Advent family –Leonor Garcia and her family – will  
enter and light the first three candles as the congregation  
sings:*

**All Sing: While we are waiting, come. While we are waiting, come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.**

Leader: Let us pray

**All: God of justice and joy, we gather together in your name to proclaim the good news of your presence among us. Where there is oppression, we will shout a message of your liberating love. Where there is fear, doubt, confusion, or anger, we will shine the light of Jesus Christ, your incarnate love. AMEN.**

## *A Festival of Lessons and Carols*

### **Processional Hymn No. 140**

“Once in Royal David’s City”

St. 1, Margaret Dyck, soloist

St. 2, choir

**\*St. 3 and 4, all stand and sing**

### **Lesson 1**

John Bell

“When the Time Was Right”

read by Mary Jane Reinhardt, Grant Heineman,  
Anna Dillenbeck and Sam Dillenbeck

### **Carol**

John Bell

“He Will Come When We’re Least Expecting Him”

Sine Nomine Choir

### **Lesson 2     Luke 1: 26-38**

read by Linnea Koops

### **\* Carol No. 128**

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

### **Carol**

trad. English carol

“The Seven Joys of Mary”

Descant Choir; soloists: Julia Koops, Vaughn Ullom,  
Capri Gerteis, Berkeley Trammell, Colin Webster, Frank Owusu

### **Lesson 3     Luke 2: 80-20**

read by Mist’a Craig

**\* Carol No. 146**

**“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”**

*Prayers to be read during the Prayers of the People will be collected  
by the ushers during this hymn*

**Lesson 4**

**William Blake**

**“The Lamb”**

read by Colin Webster

**Carol**

**Stan Pethel**

**“Rockabye, Sweet Baby Boy”**

Sine Nomine Choir

**Lesson 5**

**Isaiah 9:2, 6-7**

read by Carolyn Smith

**Carol**

**Spanish Carol, 16<sup>th</sup> c.**

**“Ríu, Ríu, Chíu”**

Carl Jenks, soloist

*Themes of the immaculate conception, the incarnation and the nativity are all found in this charming Renaissance-era Spanish carol. The “ríu, ríu, chí” vocalization is meant to evoke the call of the nightingale which provokes the faithful to sing out the poetry of God’s Incarnation in Christ.*

**Lesson 6**

**Iona Community**

**“When the World Was Dark”**

read by Keith Sykora

**Carol**

**Luc Jacobs**

**“Dormi Jesu”**

*Sleep, Jesus! My cares beguiling:  
Mother sits beside thee smiling  
If thou sleep not, mother mourneth  
Singing as her wheel she turneth  
Sleep, Jesus, tenderly!*

**Lesson 7**

**John 1: 1-5, 9-14**

Read by Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

**“One December Bright and Clear”**

**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**

Shannon Headen

**Offering**

**Offertory**

trad. English Carol

**“The Holly and the Ivy”**

**\* 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.**

**\* Prayer of Dedication**

**Christmas Blessing**

The Rev. Lois Annich

**Leader:** On the eve of Christmas hatred will vanish;  
On the eve of Christmas the earth will flourish;  
On the eve of Christmas war will be gone;  
On the eve of Christmas love will be born.  
When we offer a glass of water to a thirsty person,

**All: It is Christmas.**

**Leader:** When we clothe a naked person with a gown of love,

**All: It is Christmas.**

Leader: When we wipe the tears from weeping eyes,

**All: It is Christmas.**

Leader: When in my heart I no longer want to stay apart,

**All: It is Christmas.**

Leader: When I am buried in the being of God,

**All: It is Christmas.**

**\*Carol No. 141**

**"On This Day Earth Shall Ring"**

**\*The Commission and Blessing**

**\* Choral Benediction**

**"Sanctuary"**



3 Lord pre-pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and

6 ho - ly, tried and true, With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a

liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you.

**\* Passing of the Peace**

*Postlude*

J. S. Bach

**"In dulci jubilo"**



## *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](http://www.fhcpresb.org)**, for a list of upcoming events, education programs for all ages, and past sermon texts and audio.

## *Notes & Announcements*

**Prayers are requested this week for:** Joe and Betsy Andrews, Frances Barry, Max Harmon, David Hunter, Florence Klein, Wafa Kuri, Jeanette Nemcek, Jimmy Strong, Bob and Linda Uhle, and Stephen.

**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, Pat Weissbrod, and Beryl and Henrietta Williams.

**In Memoriam We Remember  
George Sentell  
Who died December 14, 2017  
I am the resurrection and I am the life, says the Lord**

**Care Group:** In December the whole congregation helps care for one another! Robin Mervine is the Deacon in charge – please say YES when she calls.

**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.

## *Coming Up*

### **THIS WEEK**

***Bible Study:*** The lessons for this week are: **Isaiah 9: 2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2: 11-14; Luke 2: 1-14.**

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

***Longest Night Service, Wednesday Dec. 20, 7 pm:*** Are you dreading Christmas because of losses, burdens or disappointments? Pastor Lois and the pastoral staff of Church of the Saviour invite you to join our two congregations in a worship service that acknowledges human pain and God's consolation. Come to Church of the Saviour, 2537 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights for a service of scripture, song, and communion that will remind you of God's presence and love. The "Longest Night" takes place just before the light returns. We look forward to sharing this time of reflection and comfort with you.

### **NEXT SUNDAY**

***Adult Education, 9:30 in South Hall*** This Advent, we are reading ***An Adult Christ at Christmas*** by Raymond Brown for our Sunday morning Adult Education sessions. Next week: **Luke 2: 41-52.**

***Call for Cookies:*** The Christmas Eve worship service is followed by a milk and cookies reception. We need donations of cookies! Please bring them to the church kitchen on Sunday Dec. 24 – morning or evening – they will be arranged and served after the candlelight worship. Homemade or store-bought, one dozen or many – all contributions are welcome!



## LOOKING AHEAD

***The 2018 Homeless Stand Down*** is scheduled for Saturday, January 20, and once again FHC will field a morning team of personal shoppers. 20 slots are available for our team. If you'd like to join, follow the link below to the Hands-On Northeast Ohio site. Invitation code = JACK. You'll need to have an account with Hands-On in order to sign up. Note that a mandatory team training at FHC is also scheduled for 1/14, 12:30-1:30. More details later. Join us for a rewarding service experience at Public Auditorium and, later, for our customary fellowship lunch at Nighttown! If you have trouble signing up, please email Jack Breisch (jbrei@hawken.edu) who will send instructions to you directly.

[http://www.handsonneo.org/HOC\\_\\_partners?id=0011200001KEAhcAAH](http://www.handsonneo.org/HOC__partners?id=0011200001KEAhcAAH)

***Adult Education in January and February:*** Tom Zych and Kathryn Eloff will lead an examination of the Old Testament wisdom literature Ecclesiastes.

## *Youth News*

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

## *Staff Emails*

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

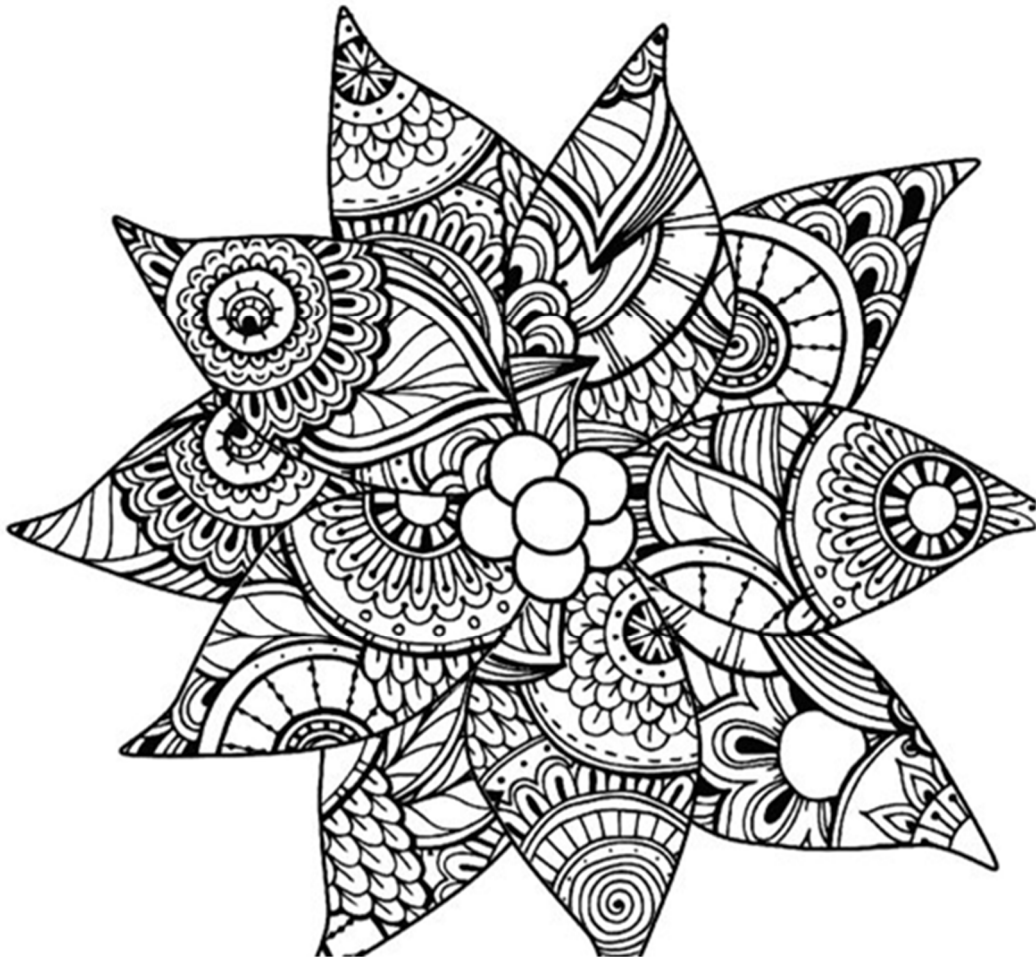
## *Advent and Christmas at Forest Hill Church*

Weds., Dec. 20, 7 pm: **Longest Night** service at Church of the Saviour

Sunday, Dec. 24, 11 am: **Worship and Christmas Pageant**  
*(note new time for pageant)*

Sunday, Dec. 24, 11 pm: **Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship**

*The office will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 25-26.*



## *Calendar: December 17 - 24, 2017*

<p><b>Sunday, December 17: 3 Advent</b>  8:30 am Nominating Committee  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:  Festival of Lessons and Carols  Children's Worship class  12:15 pm Coffee and Conversation  Mid High movie trip  5:00 pm Faith Leader</p> <p><b>Monday, December 18</b>  6:00 pm Progress not Perfection (AA)  7:00 pm Al Anon  CPNC meeting  7:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #403  Borton Group (AA)</p> <p><b>Tuesday, December 19</b>  1:00 pm Abundance Pantry  5:00 pm Fitness Fusion</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, December 20</b>  7:30 am Bible &amp; Bagels  10:00 am TOWER collators  12:00 pm Bullshevicks (at Nighttown)  12:30 pm Wed. Women's AA  7:00 pm The Longest Night worship  (Church of the Saviour)</p> <p><b>Thursday, December 21</b>  12:00 pm Abundance Lunch</p> <p><b>Friday, December 22</b>  10:00 am Al Anon</p> <p><b>Sunday, December 24: 4 Advent</b>  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: Christmas Pageant  12:15 pm Coffee and Conversation</p> <p><b>Sunday, December 24: Christmas Eve</b>  10:45 pm Musical prelude  11:00 pm Candlelight Worship  Milk and Cookies reception follows</p>
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*Poinsettias are given by*

Betsy and Joe Andrews in honor of Cooper, Cameron and Lexi Andrews  
and in memory of Martin Bradley Andrews

Lois Annich in loving memory of Rev. Dr. Russell W. Annich and  
Elizabeth Johnson Annich

Debbie Chapman and Lyn Hale in loving memory of Bill, Helen and  
Paul Chapman, and Marie Hale

Betty Clark in memory of Donald Clark and their parents

The Gifford-Pollack family: Merry Christmas!

Nancy Grube in memory of Donal T. Grube

Barbara Hansen in memory of Lamont Hansen and Ethel Van Fleet

Jenny & Caty Himmelman in memory of dear aunts Joanne Roliff and  
Barb Rothwell

Patricia Jenkins in thanksgiving for God's abundant gifts in 2016-2017

Cliff and Jane Kowall in memory of parents Walter and Elaine Grasson  
and

Paul and Dorothy Kowall

Carol Leslie in honor of good friends and families

Sue and Kerri McCauley in memory of Sue's fiancé John Allen, her sister  
Joanne Gorecki, and her parents Dale and Eloise Wint

Robin Mervine in memory of Mel Mervine

Clyde and Karen Loughridge in honor of their families

Charlotte and John McCumber in memory of Bill and Kay Currie

Marjorie Ravas in memory of Dorothy Turick

Anne and Jeff Smith in honor of our dear friend Leonor  
for her courage and love

Carolyn Smith in memory of her parents Robert and Grace Sloan and  
Dr. Dwight and Josephine Smith

Kathy and Derry Stauffer

Eileen Vizcaino in honor of the Forest Hill Church Sanctuary movement

Virginia Weiss and Stephen Sedam, in honor of Leonor Garcia and her family, and in memory of Erica Weiss

The Weissbrod – Marunowski families in thanksgiving for the life and ministry of Forest Hill Church and in memory of Ray Weissbrod

Michael and Sharon Wiggins and family, in memory of parents the Rev. Robert and Cecelia Nelson

Dene Young in memory of loved ones

The wreaths on the front doors are a gift from the Hilltop Garden Club



*HOLA Ohio - PO BOX 3066,*

*Ashtabula, OH, 44005 -*

*holatoday.org*

December 1, 2017

Dear friends,

During this season of faith, charity, and goodwill, many of our local immigrant families will spend the holidays in great fear and sadness, with an empty seat at their dinner tables. An ominous shift in our nation's policies has resulted in mothers and fathers being apprehended, detained, and deported, leaving children in anguish and families destroyed.

This holiday season we must reflect: What kind of country do we want America to be? Currently, agents of our broken immigration system are abducting, imprisoning, and deporting in record numbers law-abiding immigrants who have long worked in our fields and factories, purchased homes, paid their taxes, and raised their American-born children here. This does not represent our country or our values.

Esperanza, a married mother of four teenage U.S. citizen daughters, was recently deported after living in Painesville for over 20 years. She worked in a local factory full-time, but was known as a good cook and for the warm environment she created in her home every Sunday as people from far and wide came for her homemade tortillas and Mexican stews.

On Thanksgiving she was not home cooking for her family, but was miles away in a migrant shelter in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, a dangerous border town where U.S. immigration officials secretly transported her in shackles, and dropped her alone at night with no money, no identification, and not even a call to her family or lawyer so that they could arrange for her safety. Meanwhile, her teenage daughters will be forced to cope without her. They are one example of countless families living through this nightmare.

For nearly two decades, HOLA has worked to protect and support our immigrant workers and their families. Through a combination of grassroots organizing, advocacy, education, and legal assistance, HOLA has won the release of mothers and fathers from unjust detentions, stopped their deportations, and helped put many on a path to legal status.

Your support is vital. These times are much more challenging. Please consider making a gift of \$50 or more to HOLA so we may continue working to ensure our country lives up to its values. During this season of giving, I give thanks for your support.

Sincerely,

Veronica Isabel Dahlberg  
Executive Director  
HOLA Ohio



**The Christmas Joy Offering celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, the truly “indescribable gift,” as well as the gifts of church leaders—past, present, and future.**

**50% provides critical financial assistance to church leaders in need**

- Support grants that help retired church workers and their families with financial and housing needs
- Provide aid to church workers with urgent financial and medical needs

**50% supports opportunities for future leaders at Presbyterian racial ethnic schools**

- Give scholarships for racial ethnic students and future church leaders
- Equip racial ethnic leaders for ministry
- Support vital ministries in Presbyterian-related schools

**Ways to give:**

1. Give to the offering at Forest Hill Church (envelopes provided in the pews)
2. Text JOY to 20222 to give \$10
3. [presbyterianmission.org/give/christmasjoy](https://presbyterianmission.org/give/christmasjoy)

*Cover image: The Advent covers are by the artist Stushie, used with permission*