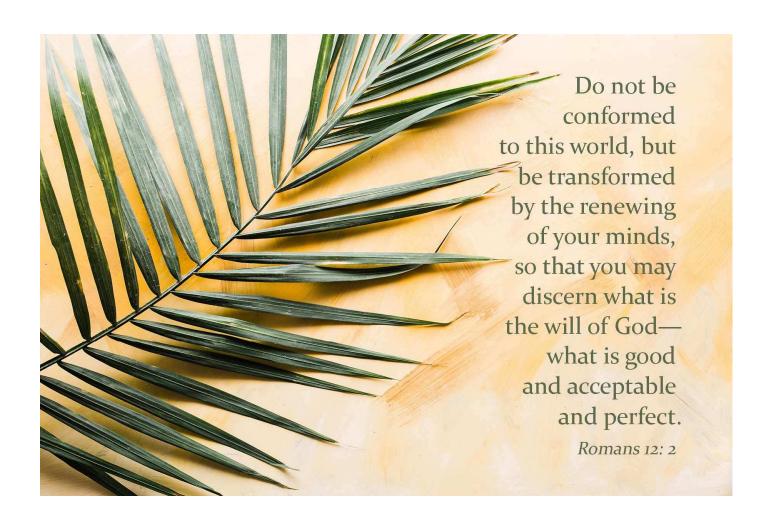
# Forest Hill Church

## presbyterian



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Email: office@fhcpresb.org Website: www.fhcpresb.org

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor 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 March 25, 2018 at 11:00 am Palm Sunday

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

Exaltation and joy...Passover sacrifice and betrayal...death and life: such is the terrain of Holy Week. Such are waters that sweep us through the holy mystery of our faith. Now is the time to count the cost of discipleship. Now is the time to follow Jesus.

#### Welcome

## Greeting Our God with Joy

**Call to Worship** 

**Elder Scott Lafferty** 

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad

in it.

People: Bind the festival procession with palm branches. Enter the gates of righteousness with shouts of thanksgiving. Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

Leader: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it! Hosanna in the highest!

#### **Palm Processional**

\* Processional Hymn No. 196

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

\*please stand if able

## Renewing Our Relationship with God

#### **Prayer of Confession**

Shannon Headen

Source of our hope and promise, we would rather sing hosannas with a cheering crowd than stand up for our convictions in the face of an angry mob; we would rather imagine our faithfulness in the face of opposition and temptation than admit that we too might betray you with a kiss. Forgive the fickleness of our devotion, and strengthen our resolve to follow you, Lord Jesus, each and every day, even to the cross. Amen.

#### **Time of Silent Confession**

**Kyrie eleison** (Lord, have mercy)

Guarani melody

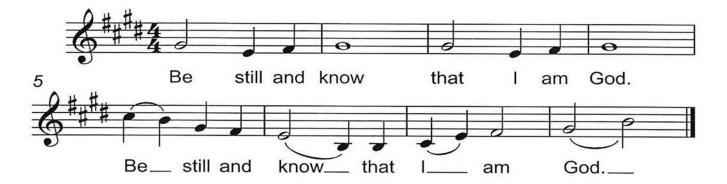
Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

\* Be Still and Know (John Bell)

All sing first time; 2<sup>nd</sup> time lower voices begin; upper voices begin 1 measure later

Taizé



#### "Hosanna"

Descant Choir; Lisa Koops, soloist

Children in Pathways may leave following the anthem

## Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

**Scripture Lessons** 

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Leader: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

People: Let Israel say, 'His steadfast love endures forever.'

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

Leader: This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

People: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

Leader: This is the LORD's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

People: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD. The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

Leader: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

People: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

#### Mark 11: 1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

\* Hymn No. 197

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Prayer requests to be read during the Prayers of the People may be passed to the ushers during this hymn

#### "Pushing Off"

#### **Prayers of the People**

Rev. Lois Annich

#### **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.

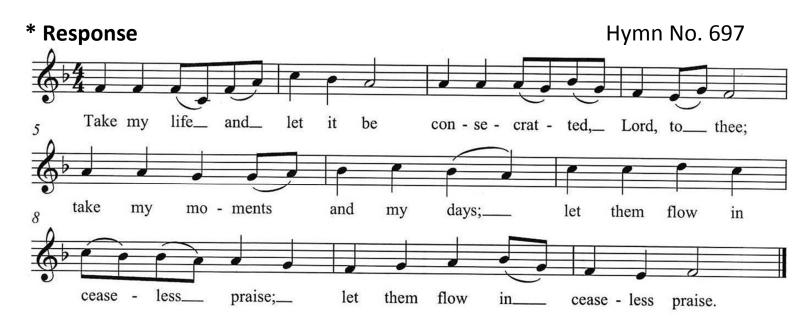
#### **Ritual of Friendship**

#### Offering

Offertory

Stephen Paulus

"Carol of the Hill"



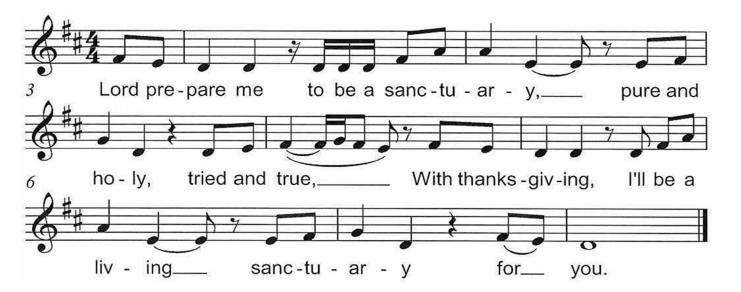
#### \* Prayer of Dedication

## Going Forth to Live as God's People

\* Closing Hymn No. 198

"Ride On! Ride On in Majesty"

- \* Commission and Blessing
- \* Choral Benediction



Procession of the Cross: Hymn No. 205 (sung in Latin) "Ubi Caritas"

\* 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 today are given in memory of Roy West and his daughter Robyn Mazanec, by LeAnn West and the Kevin Stauffer family; and by Russ and Jennifer Dise in loving memory of Ann, Molly, and Ralph Dise.

**Prayers are requested this week for:** Penny Chapman, Max Harmon, Elizabeth Hansen, Florence and Ron Klein, Wafa Kuri, Linda Martin, Jimmy Strong, Bob and Linda Uhle, and Connor White.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Marge Drollinger, Iris and Al Gilbert, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, Lorian Thomas, and Beryl and Henrietta Williams.

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 Eden Care Group is responsible for assisting the clergy in 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.

## Coming Up

#### **TODAY**

Say Goodbye to the Grocery Certificate Program: Because of changes in the financial office (who took responsibility for managing the grocery cards), the FHC grocery certificate program is ending. MANY THANKS to all who helped make this program a success over the last 10-plus years: the sellers, the purchasers, and those who made the certificates available on

Sunday mornings. The program most recently helped support the youth mission trips and the FHC food pantry. Anyone wanting to support those programs may do so directly by writing a check to FHC and putting the recipient in the subject line. Thank you.

#### Pick up your April TOWER!

#### THIS WEEK

Bible Study: The lessons for this week are: Acts 10: 34-43; Psalm 1-2, 14-

24; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11; John 20: 1-18.

Bible and Bagels: This week we will read the full Passion narrative:

John 18:1 - 19:42

#### Holy Week and Easter 2018 at Forest Hill Church

Holy Week: March 25-31

**March 26:** Easter lily orders are due; please use form on p. 10 or the online link

#### Maundy Thursday, March 29

6:30 Dinner; please use form on p. 10 or the online link

7:30 Worship

#### Good Friday, March 30

12:00 Community worship at St. Paul's Episcopal Church

#### Easter Vigil, March 31, 7:30 pm

If you are interested in being baptized (or having a child baptized) at this service, please contact Rev. Lentz.

#### Easter: April 1 Classes and children's choirs will not meet

Worship at 9 and 11 am;

Easter Egg Hunt (indoors) for children at 10am

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

**Softball season!** Forest Hill Church is looking for new players to join the recreation softball team. From late April to the end of July, the team plays every Sunday afternoon. We need 4 – 6 new players to join this year. If you are interested, Contact Jason Hidek (<u>Jason.hidek@att.net</u> or 440-264-3296). Spring practice starts mid-April.

**Adult Education**: Dr. Sheila McGinn from John Carroll University will speak about her recent book, **By Bread Alone**, on April 8.

## Youth News

**Every Sunday:** Youth Education meets from 9:30 – 10:30 am in the Ruah Room.

**Today:** Sine Nomine Choir will rehearse in the chapel immediately after worship.

#### Save the date: April 21

Diana Butler Bass, author of *Grateful: The Transformative Power* of *Giving Thanks*, will lead a program from 9:30 – 12:30 at First Presbyterian Church, Willoughby. Watch for information!

## Staff Emails

Rev. Lois Annich
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Lynda Bernays
Kate Burleigh
Ann Donkin
Stavros Gazis
Shannon Headen

Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr.

Peg Weissbrod Anne Wilson Interim Assoc. Pastor

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Administration

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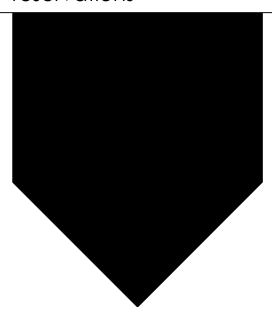
## Calendar: March 25 - April 1, 2018

Sunday, March 25 Palm Sunday	Wednesday, March 28
Holy Week begins	7:30 am Bible and Bagels
9:00 am Child care begins	12:30 pm Wed. Women's AA
9:30 am Adult Education	
Youth Education	Thursday, March 29: Maundy Thursday
Descant Choir	5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class
10:15 am Descant Choir activity	6:30 pm Dinner
10:30 am Continental Breakfast	7:30 pm Worship: Service of Tenebrae
Chancel Choir	8:30 pm Chancel Choir
11:00 am WORSHIP	
Pathways to the Promise Land	Friday, March 30: Good Friday
Cherub Choir rehearsal	10:00 am Al Anon
12:15 pm Coffee and Conversation	12 – 3 pm Community Worship at
Sine Nomine Choir	St Paul's Episcopal Church
CE Parent meeting	
4:00 pm Youth: House Church	Saturday, March 31
5:00 pm Faith Leader	7:30 pm Worship: Easter Vigil
Monday, March 26	Sunday, April 1 Easter
7:00 pm Al Anon	9:00 am Child care begins
7:30 pm Borton Group (AA)	Worship (in chapel)
Boy Scout Troop #403	10:00 am Egg Hunt
	10:30 am Continental Breakfast
Tuesday, March 27	Chancel Choir
1:00 pm Abundance Pantry	11:00 am WORSHIP
5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class	12:15 pm Coffee and Conversation

Cover image: Based on a design by Brooke Lark on unsplash.org

#### Remember:

- Order Easter Lilies
- Make Maundy Thursday dinner reservations



## Reservations for Maundy Thursday dinner: March 29, 6:30 pm

Name	
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Number attending	
Do you need child care during the worship service at 7:30?	
Ages of children:	

#### Easter Lilies, 2018: please order by March 26

Name of Donor			
"Given by" if different from donor			
FLOWERS GIVEN Indicate which form of dedication: In memory of / In honor of /In thanksgiving	g for/ To celebrate		
# of plants @ \$15.00 per plant # of plants to be donated	_ Total cost		

Donated lilies will be taken to members who are ill or shut-in. Thank you for your donation.

Please put this in the offering, mail or deliver it to the church office, or use the on-line order form. Please write **Easter lilies** on the memo line of your check.

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## this is church

Have you ever taught a child to fold their fingers inside their hands and say the rhyme, "here is the church, here is the steeple, open the doors and see all the people?" The wiggling fingers teach children, and adults, too, that the church is not the building — the steeples, windows, or structure, but people gathering to worship God.

There's something else in the children's rhyme. As the child breaks open their hands to reveal the "people," they move their fingers back and forth, often as fast as they can. This simple move reminds us that the church is the energy and actions that share the love of Christ.

When a disaster strikes, people give, volunteer, and pray so that those impacted receive help and hope, *this is church*. When poverty and violence cause hunger and people join together to respond to the need and address its root causes, *this is church*. When injustice falls on those who are vulnerable and people join hands with one another and lift their voices against the interests of power, *this is church*.

The church is the Holy Spirit's transforming power emanating into the world sharing the compassion, justice, love, and peace of Christ. Presbyterians join the movement of the Spirit into every corner of the Earth — and on this day, through our church-wide One Great Hour of Sharing.



#### Maundy Thursday: 7:30 pm A Service of **Tenebrae**

"Tenebrae" is Latin for "darkness" or "shadows."

HOLY WEEK During the service we experience a symbolic portion of Christ's pain and suffering the day of his crucifixion. One of the most conspicuous features of the service is the gradual extinguishing of candles until only a single candle, considered a symbol of our Lord, remains. As it gets darker and darker we reflect on the great emotional and physical pain that was very real for Jesus that evening. Toward the end of the service, the Christ candle is hidden, typifying the apparent victory of the forces of evil over good. The hidden candle is then restored to its place on Easter morning. By dim light we all depart this service in silence.

### Good Friday: 12 – 3 pm at St Paul's Episcopal Church 2747 Fairmount (at Coventry), Cleveland Hts

A Community Ecumenical Service: The Seven Last Words of Christ

Music: Stabat Mater by F. Lachner, w/ female voices & strings

You may come and go as seven area clergy (including Rev. Annich) offer meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ

The Seven Last Words of Christ refer, not to individual words, but to the final seven phrases that Our Lord uttered as he hung on the Cross. These phrases were not recorded in a single Gospel but are taken from the combined accounts of the four Gospels. (From http://www.aguinasandmore.com)

#### Holy Saturday: 7:30 pm Easter Vigil

The Great Vigil of Easter can be traced to early Christianity. It proclaims the universal significance of God's saving acts in history through four related parts consisting of the services of Light, Readings, Baptism and the first Eucharist of Easter.

At Forest Hill Church we observe a variation of this ancient service. We begin outside around a fire, lighting the Christ Candle that had been extinguished on Maundy Thursday. We process into the darkened sanctuary to read a series of lessons reminding us of the promise of God's salvation to all people. We remember our baptism. This year we will celebrate the baptism of one coming to Christ. In the early church baptisms often took place at the Easter Vigil.

Our Easter Vigil begins outside the main entrance of the Sanctuary and lasts about an hour. The Eucharist (The Lord's Supper) will be celebrated at both services on Easter morning.