Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



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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 2 Easter April 8, 2018 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

Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am, who I want to be, and what I can do, and use it for a purpose greater than myself.

Martin Luther King Jr.

Welcome

Prelude Joe Utterback

"Flutedance"

Choral Introit Anon

"Come into God's Presence"

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship Elder Doris Bartlett

Leader: We've come to worship God,

People: who loved us before we were yet born, who knows us even better than we know ourselves, whose presence never leaves us, and whose

love for us never ceases.

Leader: This is our God.

People: Let's worship together!

* Processional Hymn No. 625

"O Lord My God" (How Great Thou Art)

*please stand if able

Renewing Our Relationship with God

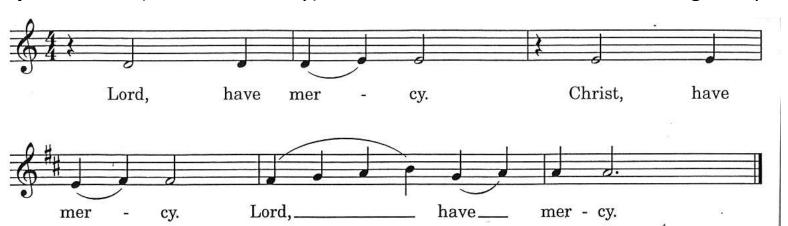
Prayer of Confession

Loving and gracious God, we admit that there are times when our faith leads to questions rather than a sense of joy or peace of mind. We admit there are times when we completely forget you or forget what you ask of us, absorbed in earthly concerns and worries. Some of us have even already dismissed the promise of Easter, just seven days ago. Come to us now, draw us near. Let us show you the scars of our hands, the wounds on hearts. Turn us around and upside down, break down the walls and barriers in our own lives. Forgive us, restore us and renew us. Amen.

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)

Craig Phillips

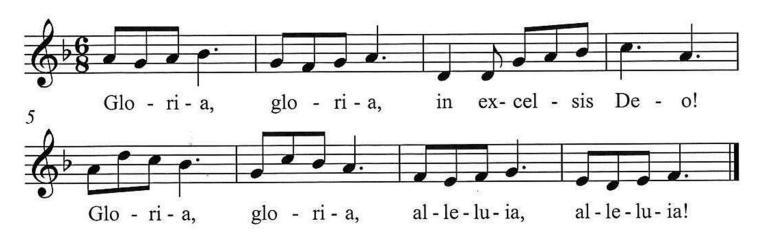


Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

Assurance of Pardon

* Gloria Taizé

All sing first time. Second time: low voices, begin; high voices enter two measures later; children and youth enter two measures after that.



Anthem

Natalie Sleeth

"Hymn of Promise"

Descant Choir; Capri Gerteis, soloist

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Minute for Mission

Melanie Alban

Report from the Long-Rang Planning Committee

* Hymn No. 286

"Breathe on Me Breath of God"

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 Lesson

John 20: 19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Facing Uncertainty"

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

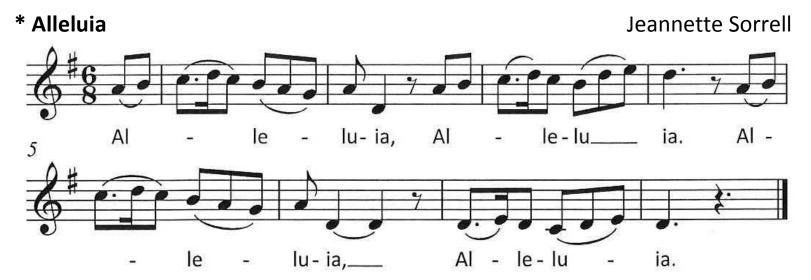
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Ritual of Friendship

Offering

Offertory Austin Lovelace

"Easter Is Come"

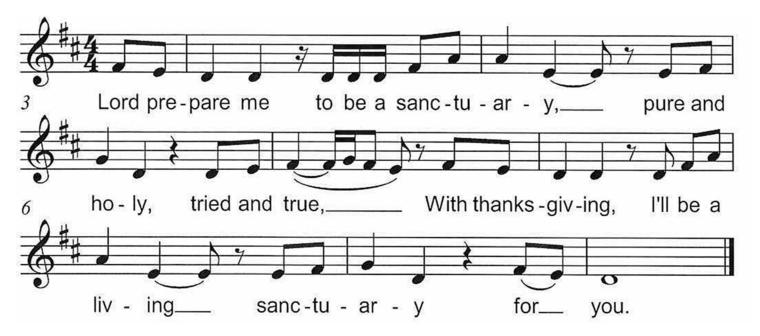


* Prayer of Dedication

Going Forth to Live as God's People

- * Closing Hymn No. 726
- "Will You Come and Follow Me" (The Summons)
- * Commission and Blessing
- * Choral Benediction

"Sanctuary"



* Passing of the Peace

Postlude

Sarah Glick

"This Joyful Eastertide"



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 Today's flowers are given by Barbara Hansen in loving memory of Lamont Hansen and Ethel Van Fleet.

Prayers are requested this week for the following: Penny Chapman, Max Harmon, Elizabeth Hansen, Florence and Ron Klein, Wafa Kuri, Linda Martin, Elizabeth Shaw, Jimmy Strong, Bob and Linda Uhle, Wesley Washington 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.

Care Group: The Canaan Care Group is responsible for assisting the clergy in meeting members' needs during April. 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.

Members of the Canaan CARE Group are:

Rob Reynolds, Deacon leader Laurie & Keith Logan

Cheryl Anderson Ginie Mast

Mark Chupp & Sharon Shumaker Laurie & Eric Muller-Girard

Lisa Chuppa John Prentice

Leslie Clement Margaret Sentell

Bob & Joanne Dawson Franklin & Naana Soadwa

Muriel Dean Chuck & Rosanna Sprague

Libby & Andy Dolan & family Joy Stang

Beth & Bill Forsythe & family Don Ungemach

Carol Hopkins-Lutz Todd Webster, Vikki Nowak & family

Allan & Zivile Khoury LeAnn West

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.

In Memoriam We Remember
John MacMillan Borthwick
Who died March 28, 2018
I am the resurrection and I am the life, says the Lord

Coming Up

TODAY

The Black Caucus is meeting at 12:15 in Bodwell Hall.

THIS WEEK

Bible Study: The lessons for this week are **Acts 3: 12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3: 1-7 Luke 24: 36b-48. Bible and Bagels** discusses next Sunday's text(s) on Wednesday mornings from 7:30 to 8:30. All are welcome!

TOWER deadline: The May TOWER deadline is Thursday, April 12 at 7 am.

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education, 9:30 in South Hall: On April 15 and 29 the class will use Raymond Brown's book A Risen Christ in Eastertime as the basis for discussions led by Revs. John Lentz, Lois Annich and Laury Larson. On April 22, Peter Williams will lead us in a celebration of Earth Day and discuss the spirituality of his life, which has been dedicated to science and inventing.

Leadership Sunday 4/15: Please join us on April 15 for Leadership Sunday both during and after the service. Hear a Minute for Mission about how one of our members felt called to lead and what he has gained from his experience. Hear John Lentz preach about our call to leadership. Visit with elders and ministry leaders in Fellowship Hall after the service to hear about leadership opportunities available to our members and friends. Church is a dynamic place, where people encounter and grow closer to God, and reach out to others. Listen for God's call in your life. Consider your calling even if it seems unlikely or outrageous. God has given you gifts. Consider why God gave them to you.

Co-Pastor Nominating Committee 4/15 & 4/22: You are invited to join the Co-Pastor Nominating Committee (CPNC) for a chat after church on Sunday 4/15 and Sunday 4/22 in South Hall. Members of the committee would like to share updates, but most importantly we would like to hear from you. We hope to see you there!

Exploring Membership Classes 4/15 and 4/22: Interested in learning more about Forest Hill Church? Join us for the next two Sundays, April 15 and 22, at 9:30am as we explore membership. Please call the church or email Lia Clement at lia919@sbcglobal.net if you plan to attend.

Women of Forest Hill Church – Iris Circle 4/17: We will learn about Church of the Covenant's Bell Tower and Carillon, Tues. Apr. 17 at 11am. RSVP for lunch at Nighttown afterwards to Cathy Ghiandoni, ghiandoni@gmail.com or 216-691-1905. See Tower for details.

Labre Project: Warm, gently-used clothing and accessories – coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, blankets for men, women and children – are appreciated for the Labre Project in East Cleveland. Please leave donations in the bin in Fellowship Hall.

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.

Cookies for troops: A group of women meet each month and pack boxes of cookies (as well as books and toiletries) to send to deployed men and women, and they would like names and addresses of any folks you know who are serving overseas. Please send addresses to Doris Bartlett (grkitty6@aol.com or 216-382-5663) or Nancy Burcham (burcham@roadrunner.com or 440-446-0832).

The Practice of Gratitude 4/21: The Presbytery's Committee on Leadership will host Diana Butler Bass on Sat. Apr. 21 from 9am-12:30pm at the First Presbyterian Church in Willoughby (4785 Shankland Rd in Willoughby). Diana will be speaking about her most recent book, Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks. The cost is only \$10, but capacity is limited. Call 440-396-6593 or sign up online by 4/19 at https://tinyurl.com/dbbatpwr

The Great Spiritual Migration 4/28 St Paul's Episcopal Church, 8:30am-5pm Come hear Brian McLaren elaborate on his belief that Christian faith is not dying, but embarking on a once-in-an-era spiritual shift. Gather for coffee and conversation at 8:30am. The retreat begins promptly at 9:00. The \$75 fee includes lunch and snack breaks. (Notify us of dietary restrictions.) Call St Paul's (216-932-6815) or go to http://www.stpauls-church.org/ to register.

Youth News

Today Meet in the Ruah Room after worship to paint!

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

Calendar: Apríl 8 - 15, 2018

7:30 am Bible and Bagels

12:30 pm Wed. Women's AA

7:00 pm Ministry meetings

	Calendar: April 8 - 15, 2018	
	Sunday, April 8: 2 Easter	Thursday, April 12
	9:00 am Child care begins	5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class
	Nominating Committee	6:20 pm Voices in Bronze
	9:30 am Adult Education	7:30 pm Chancel Choir
	Youth Education	Forest Hill Swim Club mtg
	Descant Choir	
	10:15 am Descant Choir activity	Friday, April 13
	10:30 am Continental Breakfast	10:00 am Al Anon
	Chancel Choir	
	11:00 am WORSHIP	Saturday, April 14
	Pathways to the Promise Land	9:00 am PRISM
	12:15 pm Coffee and Conversation	2:00 pm AA Anniversary dinner
	Youth — paint in Ruah Rm	6:30 pm The Group – potluck at Khourys'
	Black Caucus mtg	
	3:30 pm Labre ministry	Sunday, April 15: 3 Easter
	5:00 pm Faith Leader	9:00 am Child care begins
		9:30 am Adult Education
	Monday, April 9	Youth Education
	7:00 pm Al Anon	Descant Choir
	CPNC meeting	Exploring Membership class
	7:30 pm Borton Group (AA)	10:15 am Descant Choir activity
	Boy Scout Troop #403	10:30 am Continental Breakfast
		Chancel Choir
	Tuesday, April 10	11:00 am WORSHIP
	1:00 pm Abundance Pantry	Pathways to the Promise Land
	5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class	12:15 pm Coffee and Conversation
	7:00 pm Black History Team meeting	Advocacy Training
	GCC Training	Leadership Conversations
		5:00 pm Faith Leader
	Wednesday, April 11	
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Forest Hill Church 2024

What will Forest Hill Church look like as a worshiping community in five years? How will it carry out its mission and ministry? To help answer these questions, Session voted in early 2017 to develop a long-range plan. A design committee was appointed to map out the process and the roles and responsibilities for executing the process steps. Four specific issues were identified. In August, Session voted to accept and approve the long-range planning (LRP) design.

In the fall of 2017, the LRP Coordinating Team and the four issue-focused teams were recruited. An orientation was held in November. The teams are as follows:

Long-Range Planning Coordinating Team

Melanie Alban and Bob Fox, Co-Leaders

Leslie Clement Jeff Smith

Sheryl Dugard Issue-Focused Team Leaders

Ajah Hales John Lentz (ex officio)

Barbara Hansen

Building and Grounds Team	Technology Team	
Carol Leslie, Leader	Kurt Haas, leader	
Nick Baumgartner	LaDon Headen	
Tim Gifford	Steve Marunowski	
Jenny Himmelman	Deedee Pim	
Anne Smith	Dan Shaner	
Beth Zych		
Ann Donkin		
(Manager, Building & Grounds)		
Evangelism and Outreach Team	Financial Stability Team	
Rachel Martinez-Finn, Leader	Mark Wedell, Leader	
Lia Clement	Robin Mervine	
Chris Henry	Laurie Muller-Girard	
Keith Logan	Stephen Sedam	
Treva Offut		

Each team is developing a long-range plan that includes five-year goals, strategies and key actions to accomplish the goals, resources needed, alternatives, cost estimates, and metrics to monitor progress. Implementation of the Long-Range Plan will be the responsibility of Session. The target date for delivering the long-range plan to Session is October 2018.

The first step in the process was to develop five-year goals based on FHC's vision, mission and core values, as well as the historical information in the 2011 Discernment Task Force Report and the surveys and questionnaires collected by the 2016 Discernment Task Force. At its February meeting, Session approved the five-year goals presented by the LRP Coordinating Team.

Long-Range Goals for Forest Hill Church

Forest Hill Church is called by God into a dynamic tomorrow. We respect tradition, but are not bound by it. We appreciate our past, celebrate our present, and look forward to the future.

In the next five years, God is calling Forest Hill Church to follow Jesus by being and doing the following:

- Modeling a welcoming congregation that is warm, diverse, and inclusive.
- Creating opportunities for spiritual transformation.
- Being just and generous, invested in being a change agent both inside and outside the walls of the church.
- Engaging in transformative social action.
- Offering exciting, innovative worship experiences that meet the needs and desires of our diverse faith community.

As the teams continue into the next phases of development, you will be invited to participate along the way. Your input is a vital part of the planning process. Watch for opportunities to share your hopes and dreams for Forest Hill Church.

If you would like to know more about the LRP teams or process, contact Melanie Alban (melaniealban@aol.com) or any of the LRP members listed above.

Staff Emails

Rev. Lois Annich
Financial Office
Lynda Bernays
Kate Burleigh
Ann Donkin
Stavros Gazis
Shannon Headen
Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr.
Peg Weissbrod

Anne Wilson

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Finance
Administration
Children
Building mgr.
Custodial
Youth
Pastor
Outreach
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Cover image: Photograph of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Kitchen by Richard Beck. An award-winning author, speaker, blogger and Professor at Abilene Christian University, Richard also leads a bible study for inmates at the maximum security Robertson Unit prison in Abilene, Texas. His popular blog, "Experimental Theology," explores the theology of Johnny Cash, Scooby-Doo, and monsters.