

Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



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Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor
Anne Wilson, Director of Music
Rev. David Wigger, Interim Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministries
Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Service of Worship
September 16, 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 large print editions of the bulletin and
directions to our nursery for babies and young children.

Centering Words

Before worship, pause for a few moments and set aside any distracting thoughts. Slowly take three deep breaths as you clear your mind. Be aware that the Holy Spirit is with you and is helping you as you proceed in this journey of spiritual growth and discovery.

Welcome

Choral Introit

“Alleluia” (the Iona Community)

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship

Elder Dorothy Herd

Leader: Welcome! This is the place and the time to draw near to God and grow strong in God’s presence.

People: Today we will seek God’s wisdom together and know joy as God draws near.

Leader: Plant yourselves in the living water of God’s love and acceptance. Allow yourself to receive Christ’s peace.

People: Today we will draw near to God for God has already drawn near to us.

Leader: Let us worship God.

*** Processional Hymn No. 2**

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

**please stand if able*

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession

Elder Todd Webster

Wise and loving God, so many times you call, and we refuse to listen. So many times you reach out, and we ignore you. So many times doing the right thing requires sacrifice and suffering, and we choose safety and comfort instead. So many times we set our minds on human things, and forget to dwell on divine things. May our worship open our hearts to your call – a call that draws us into life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison (*Lord, have mercy*)

John Bell

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.



Poem

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

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Minute for Mission

Justice and Mission

Children's Moment

Pastor Lentz

Children are welcome to stay up front for a quiet activity during the sermon

*** Hymn No. 71**

*"Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me"
(Congregation sings the refrain)*

Scripture Lessons

1 Corinthians 13: 8-13

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Matthew 22: 34-40

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

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.

"Scorched Earth"

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

Children may return to their families

Offering

Offertory

Kathy Galloway

"The Spirit Is Moving in My Heart"

*** 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**

Going Forth to Live as God's People

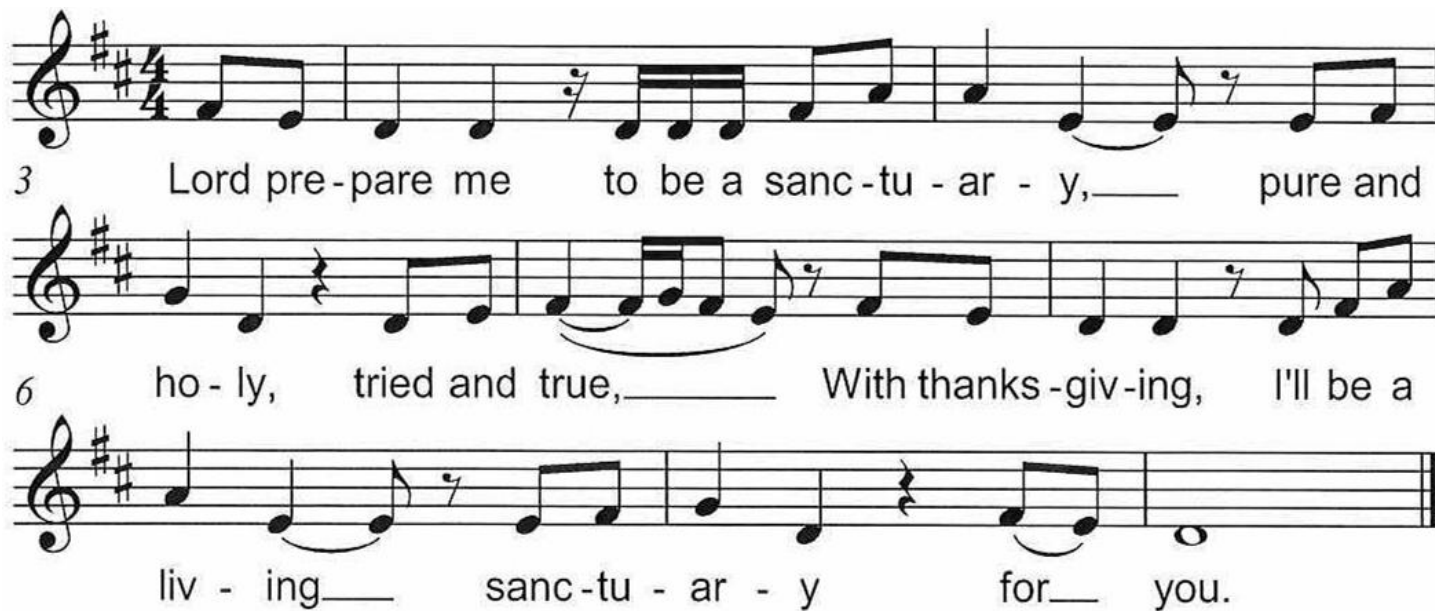
*** Closing Hymn No. 295**

"Go to the World"

*** 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

John Stanley

"Trumpet Voluntary"



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

There will be a Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary immediately after worship on Sunday, September 30. The Co-Pastor Nominating Committee will present their report. All active members are encouraged to attend; non-members are welcome but will not vote.

Chancel Flowers The flowers today are given by Joy Stang in memory of her Uncle Henry and her sister Barbara; and by Diana Woodbridge in loving memory of her husband Ted and her mom, Dorothy Smith.

Prayers are requested this week for: Kathleen Corcoran, Nan Dorer, Dan Fuller, Max Harmon, Mary Hosier, Jane Larsen-Wigger, Eleanor Magee, Elizabeth Shaw, Jimmy Strong, and Wesley Washington.

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

Please pray for Michael Broadwater (the Sunday custodian) and his family; Michael's sister Tiffany Broadwater died last week.

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 Deborah Erwin and Robyn Hales, head ushers, and today's usher team.

Coming Up

TODAY

Music: The Sine Nomine Choir will have its first rehearsal in the Chapel today after worship. All youth from grade 6 through college are welcome!

THIS WEEK

Bible Study: The lessons for this week are: **Proverbs 31: 10-31; Psalm 1; James 3:13 - 4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9: 30-37.**

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

Hilltoppers, Friday, 1 pm: Hilltoppers are invited to bring their travel stories and pictures to Fellowship Hall for a shared travelogue program.

Green Eggs and Ham, Saturday, 5 pm: All are invited to a family program of the operetta "Green Eggs and Ham," featuring Anne Wilson, Lara Troyer, and Peter Bush. The music will be followed by a potluck supper (please bring a dish to share).

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education, 9:30 Kerygma classes meet in South Hall, the Library and Bodwell Hall. Resource books are still available (the cost is \$25). Dr. Lentz's class, Living the Question, will meet in Rm 106.

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

September 29, 5 – 7 pm: Young Adults (and families) are invited to meet at Bottlehouse (2050 Lee Road) for pizza. You are welcome to bring a side or dessert to share. Drinks will be available for purchase. Contact Charity Stock with questions or to RSVP (charityrmcdonald@gmail.com.) Hope to see you there!

October 16: Hilltoppers and Iris Circle will tour Old Stone Church.

October 21: The Group will go to a Suburban Symphony concert.

October 27: Unexpected Guest dinners (see p. 9 for details)

Youth News

Every Sunday: Classes for all youth (gr. 6-12) meet at 10:10 am in the Ruah Room.

Today: Sine Nomine Choir (gr. 6-12) will meet in the Chapel immediately after worship.

Staff Emails

Lynda Bernays

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Calendar: September 16-23, 2018

Sunday, September 16

8:30 Nominating Committee
9:15 Childcare begins
9:30 Adult Education
Descant Choir (gr. 1-5)
10:10 Pathways (gr. 1-5)
Youth Education (gr. 6-12)
10:30 Chancel Choir
Continental Breakfast
11:00 Children's Worship class (4-kdg)
Worship
12:15 Coffee & Conversation
Sine Nomine Choir (gr. 6-12)
Blood Pressure check
4:00 Jung Education Center program

Monday, September 17

6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection
7:00 pm AI Anon: Now There's Hope
7:30 pm AA: Borton Group

Tuesday, September 18

12:00 pm Abundance Pantry registration
1:00 pm Abundance Pantry food
Distribution
5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class

Wednesday, September 19

7:00 am Bible and Bagels
10:00 am TOWER assembly
12:00 pm Bullshevicks (at Nighttown)
12:30 pm AA: Wednesday Women's Grp
7:00 pm TransFamily East
GCC Housing meeting

Thursday, September 20

5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class
6:20 pm Voices in Bronze bell choir
7:00 pm LRP meeting
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Friday, September 21

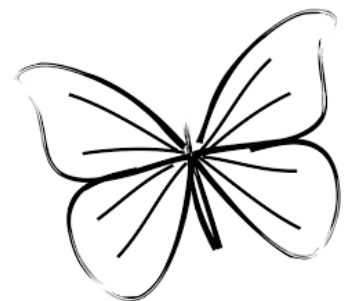
10:00 am	Al Anon
1:00 pm	Hilltoppers

Saturday, September 22

10:00 am	Labre cooking team
5:00 pm	"Green Eggs and Ham" opera and potluck supper

Sunday, September 23

9:15 Childcare begins
9:30 Adult Education
Descant Choir (gr. 1-5)
10:10 Pathways (gr. 1-5)
Youth Education (gr. 6-12)
10:30 Chancel Choir
Continental Breakfast
11:00 Children's Worship class (4-kdg)
Worship
12:15 Coffee & Conversation
Youth cook for Labre
Sine Nomine Choir rehearsal



The Unexpected Guest Dinner Party
Saturday, October 27, 2018
6:30 pm

Mark your calendar now and make plans to be a guest or a host at this year's Unexpected Guest event. Guests show up and bring their beverage of choice. Hosts plan and present a meal for 8 to 10 people. No one knows their dinner partners until they arrive!

Children are welcome this year, as we'll have some dinner groups planned around families with children of similar ages. No need to get a babysitter – bring the whole family!

To sign up for this year's party, use the link in the weekly email or contact Cindy Fink (216-571-7060). If you would like to host, contact Cindy by phone or email (finkcindy@gmail.com)

League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland presents

“Why should I vote? What's at stake in the November election?”

A forum organized and run by LWV; co-sponsored by the NAACP, Case Western Reserve University, and other nonpartisan groups

Thursday, September 27, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Forest Hill Church

Panel members:

Mike Brickner, Ohio Director, **All Voting is Local**

Tom Roberts, President, **NAACP Ohio Conference**

Camille Wimbish, Director, **Ohio Voters Rights Coalition**

moderated by Harry Boomer, newscaster, Cleveland 19 News

This forum will also offer attendees ways to get involved with non-partisan "Get Out The Vote" efforts led by NOVA and Alpha Omega Foundation.

Peace *is* ACTIVE,
not PASSIVE
Peace *is* DOING,
not WAITING

By giving to the Peace & Global Witness Offering, we work together to share Christ's peace with one another.

We seek peace in a chaotic world, finding strength in knowing that God is always near.

As we support the Peace & Global Witness Offering, we share Christ's peace with one another, beyond the doors of this church, beyond the limits of this town and beyond borders that may feel very distant.

As we become active peacemakers, sharing in the struggle for human rights and democracy with church partners in Madagascar.

As we connect with all Presbyterians to help bring an end to the scourge of human trafficking in all its forms through efforts like the Red Hands Campaign which encourages all countries to sign a protocol to forbid the use of child soldiers.

As we respond to those in need who make their homes among us as well as those who live in places far away.

God is always near.

Thank you for your participation.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT.

The peace and Global Witness Offering will be taken on World Communion Day, October 7.



Presbyterians help transform lives through our work for peace, with the tools God has given us. Together, in the Spirit of God, we work to break the power of hate, and heal the wounds of violence and division. We join in the Peace & Global Witness Offering because it is boundless peace God offers.

The Offering draws Presbyterians together as active peacemakers, and provides education and exposure to those who show us how to do this work well. It allows us to create resources for dealing with conflict and nurturing reconciliation, and stand in support of our global sisters and brothers, because the peace of Christ belongs to people everywhere.

Sometimes it feels the world is coming at us so quickly that we don't know which way to turn, where to look, what to do next. As we seek peace in a chaotic world, we find strength in knowing that God is always near.

Today, we are joining in Paul's prayer that God grant us "peace at all times, in all ways."

Let Us Pray,

We help to transform lives through our work for peace, with the tools God has given us. Together, in the spirit of God, we work to break the power of hate, and heal the wounds of violence and division. We join together to pray, and boldly take action for God's peace – at all times and in all ways.

PC(USA) Peace & Global Witness offering prayer