# 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

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# Servíce of Worshíp September 23, 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.

# Prayer of Preparation

Pause for a few moments to be still.

As you breathe deeply, remember that you are in the presence of a loving God.

#### Welcome

# **Choral Introit**

"God Welcomes All"

# Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made;

- People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
- Leader: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
- People: Worship the Lord with gladness. Come into God's presence with singing!
- Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
- People: And also with you.
- Leader: Let us worship God!
- \* Processional Hymn No. 12 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

\*please stand if able

Deb Adrine

South Africa

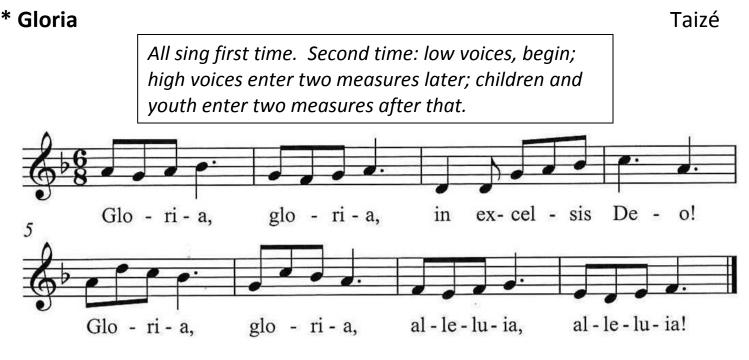
# Renewing Our Relationship with God

**Prayer of Confession** Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Time of Silent Confession** 

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

# Affirming the Good News in Our Lives **Assurance of Pardon**



Anthem

Karin Rehnqvist (Swedish folk song) "Life's a Fa-la-ra-la-ra-la"

John Merbecke

Pastor John Lentz

# Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Minute for Mission Pat Seeders and Leslie Clement "Adult Spiritual Formation"

#### **Children's Moment**

Pastor Lentz

"Be Thou My Vision"

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

\* Hymn No. 450

# Scripture Lessons

#### Psalm 1

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

#### Mark 9: 30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

#### After the readings

Leader: Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people. **People: Thanks be to God.** 

Sermon Rev. Sharon Core General Presbyter, Presbytery of the Western Reserve "Continuing on the Way"

#### **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

Mark A. Miller

"I Believe" Laura Minder and Beth Zych, soloists Seth Ungemach, conductor

\* 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.

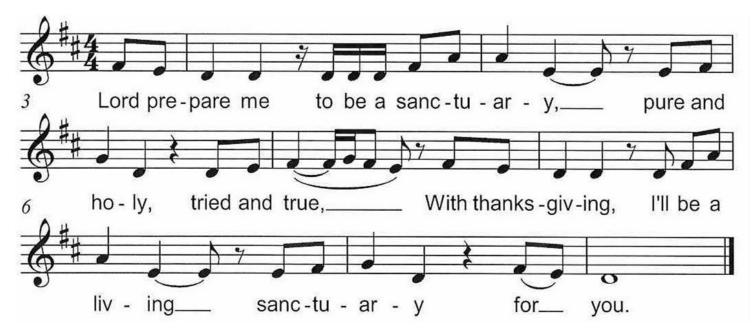
\* Prayer of Dedication

## *Going Forth to Live as God's People*

\* Closing Hymn No. 313

"Lord, Make Us More Holy"

- \* Commission and Blessing
- \* Choral Benediction



#### \* Passing of the Peace

Postlude

J. S. Bach

"Prelude in A Major"

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Welcome Vísítors!

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

Please welcome today's preacher, the Rev. Sharon Core, General Presbyter for the Presbytery of the Western Reserve. She comes to this work with a heart and love for parish ministry with 25 years as a parish pastor. She finds NE Ohio enchanting, exciting, fearless and faithful. While her books, stoles and knick-knacks are housed at 2800 Euclid Avenue, Suite 314, she considers her "office" to stretch from Amherst to North Kingsville and south to Medina. Her home is currently in Slavic Village. Her husband Nick and their dog Sassy live in Alexandria, VA. She is patiently waiting for them to move to Cleveland.

**Chancel Flowers** Today's flowers are given by the Marunowski and Weissbrod families in memory of the birthday of Ray Weissbrod.

**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, Wesley Washington, and Ollie.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers**: Marge Drollinger, Iris and Al Gilbert, Florence and Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Joyce Peters, Judy Sieck, 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 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

**Youth:** The Sine Nomine Choir will rehearse in the Chapel after worship. All youth from grade 6 through college are welcome!

#### THIS WEEK

**Bible Study:** The lessons for this week are:

Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10, 9: 20-22; James 5: 13-20; Mark 9: 38-50. Bible and Bagels discusses next Sunday's text(s) on Wednesday mornings from 7:30 to 8:30. All are welcome!

**Young Adults, 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 (<u>charityrmcdonald@gmail.com</u>.) Hope to see you there!

#### **NEXT SUNDAY**

*Adult Education, 9:30* Kerygma classes meet in South Hall, the Library and Bodwell Hall. Books are still available and there's still time to join a class! Dr. Lentz's class, Living the Question, will meet in Rm 106. You are welcome to attend once or frequently.

*Congregational Meeting, 12:00 pm* All are welcome to attend. All active members will vote. *See p. 10.* 

#### LOOKING AHEAD

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. 8 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.

# Youth News

*Every Sunday:* Classes for all youth (gr. 6-12) meet at 10:10 am in the Ruah Room. Come at 9:30 for donuts and conversation.

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

# Staff Emails

Lynda Bernays Delilah Dervic Ann Donkin Stavros Gazis Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr. Peg Weissbrod David Wigger Anne Wilson Administration Finance Building mgr. Custodial Pastor Outreach Family, Youth, Children Music

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#### 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)

# Please pick up your TOWER

# in the Garden Foyer

# Calendar: September 23-30, 2018

#### Sunday, September 23

9:15 Childcare begins

- 9:30 Adult Education Descant Choir (gr. 1-5) Youth Donut Time
- 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
- 12:00 Coffee & Conversation Sine Nomine Choir rehearsal PRISM meeting Youth service project

#### Monday, September 24

5:00 pm PWR Meeting: North Church6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There's Hope7:30 pm AA: Borton Group

#### Tuesday, September 25

12:00 pm Abundance Pantry registration 1:00 pm Abundance Pantry food Distribution

5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class7:00 pm Long Range Planning meeting

#### Wednesday, September 26

7:00 am Bible and Bagels12:30 pm AA: Wednesday Women's Grp7:00 pm Session meeting

#### Thursday, September 27

5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class
6:20 pm Voices in Bronze bell choir
7:00 pm GCC Delegates assembly
7:15 pm Black History Team mtg
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

#### Friday, September 28

10:00 am Al Anon 5:00 pm Wedding rehearsal

#### Saturday, September 29

1:00 Wedding of Gail Miller and Cory Gifford5:00 Young Adults at the BottleHouse

#### Sunday, September 30

- 9:15 Childcare begins
- 9:30 Adult Education Descant Choir (gr. 1-5) Youth Donut Time
- 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 Special Meeting of the Congregation
- 2:00 Cleveland Messiah Chorus



Cover image: Monarch butterfly by Sean Stratton, unsplash.com

Special meeting of the congregation September 30, 2018 in the sanctuary immediately after worship. We will vote on the question: Do you accept the call of the candidate to be a Co-Pastor of Forest Hill Church? BLESSED are the Peace makers The Peace & Global Witness offering will be taken on Oct. 7

Your gifts will help more people experience the freedom and dignity that Christ wants for everyone. Let us offer the peace of Christ at all times and all ways.



#### of this Peace & Global Witness Offering

#### will stay with our community and our region

for ministries of peacemaking

and reconciliation.



#### of this offering will unite Presbyterians

who are working actively for peacemaking efforts around the globe.

Please give generously.

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

Princeton was only 13 when he was snatched by soldiers and taken to a military training camp. Two weeks later, he was carrying a gun as a soldier in Nigeria's civil war.



"I was going to fetch water for my mom when they grabbed me, and I didn't see my family again for two and a half years," he says. The unfortunate reality is that children are forced to become soldiers every day in war-torn places around the world.

Finally, at age 17 — several long and terrible years later — he came home. His wartime experience wounded more than his body; it left him angry and rebellious.

However, the peace of Christ worked in his life as he confessed his Christian faith for the first time. Today he is pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Midlothian, Texas. He serves the whole Church through national initiatives of Intercultural Ministries.

Princeton speaks from the heart when he says using child soldiers is "an evil that we need to exterminate, and we need to call attention to any system that supports this evil."

Thanks to your gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering, we are doing just that.