

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 30, 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

When did it start? . . .

I am drinking-in concord; dining on unity. I am at peace.

Thank you. Thank you, Lord.

(An excerpt from the poem, "When Did it Start" 7/22/09)

Welcome

Prelude

Romans 8: 31-39

Sine Nomine Choir

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship

Elder Seth Ungemach

Leader: Abba, God, help us to see you.

People: Help us to see you in every face we encounter.

Leader: Help us to see you in every voice we hear.

**People: Help us to see you in every touch of care, every embrace of love, every
dance of celebration, and in this and every act of worship.**

Leader: Help us to see beyond ourselves and see you in ALL of the world.

**People: For you are the Creator of all; Maker of all, Savior of all, and Lord of
all.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

*Adapted from Ray C. Jordan, **Africana Worship Book***

*** Processional Hymn No. 641**

"When in Our Music God Is Glorified"

**please stand if able*

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession

**Just and righteous God, have mercy on us as we confess our sin. We say
we love our neighbors, yet we make distinctions. We say we have faith,
but often our works do not show it. While our lips praise you, our hands
cast off strangers. We are not worthy to ask your forgiveness except for
the name of Christ, who pardoned the thief on the cross and forgave those
who put him to death. Forgive us, we pray, in Christ's name. Hear us now
in silence...**

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy) Craig Phillips

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Assurance of Forgiveness

All: Christ forgives the most impossible sins, overcomes the greatest fears, comforts the loudest cries, and breaks down the strongest barriers to God’s love and peace. Through Christ, we are drawn into a unity that transcends our differences, and a faithfulness beyond our ability to achieve.

Leader: Brothers and sisters, know that we are forgiven, and be at peace.

All: Praise God!

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.

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Anthem Bill Staines

“All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir”
Soloists: Margaret Dyck, Capri Gerteis, Julia Koops, Henry Dyck

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

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Minute for Mission

“Family, Youth and Children’s Ministries”

*** Hymn No. 401**

“Here in This Place”

Scripture Lessons

Psalms 124

If it had not been the LORD who was on our side—let Israel now say—

if it had not been the LORD who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us,
then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us;

then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;
then over us would have gone the raging waters.

Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Mark 9: 38-50

John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

After the readings

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Guest preacher

“Not One of Us”

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

David von Kampen

“Rivers of Delight”

Shelly Jesberger, soprano

*** 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**

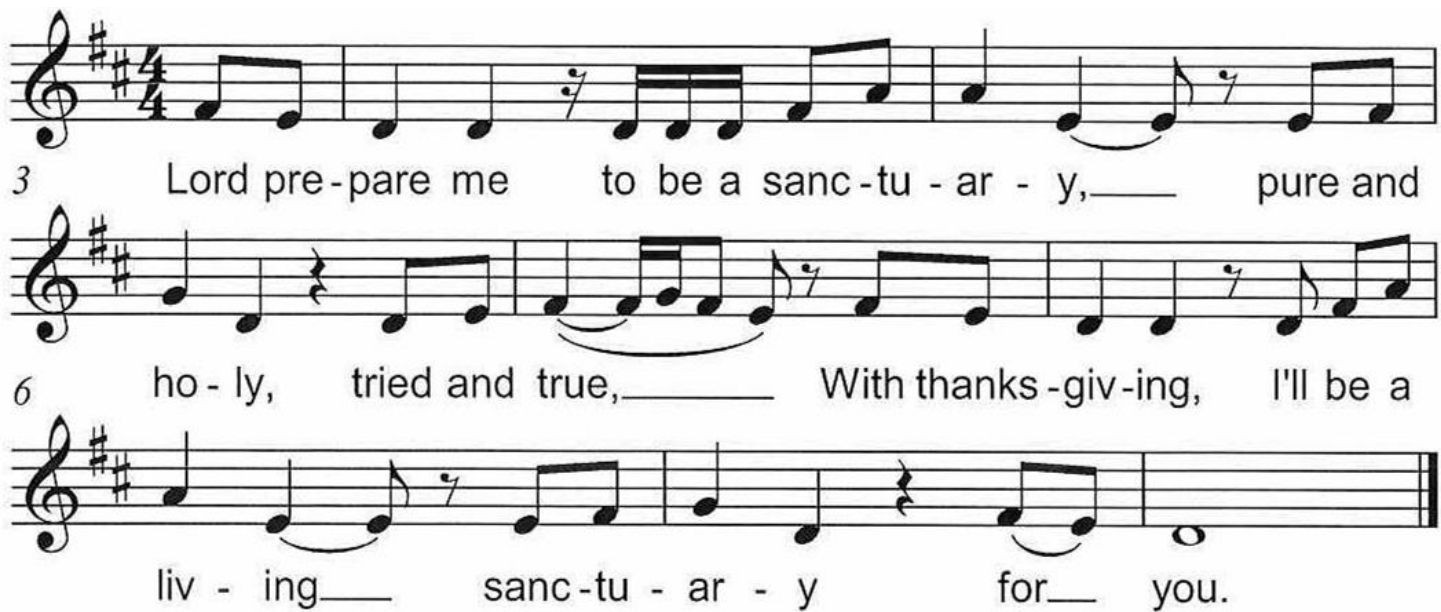
Going Forth to Live as God’s People

*** Closing Hymn No. 317**

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

*** Commission and Blessing**

* Choral Benediction



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

“We All Believe in One True God”



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 in celebration of the marriage yesterday of Gail Miller and Cory Gifford. Congratulations to Cory and Gail! Dr. Lentz officiated at their wedding.

Prayers are requested this week for: Jennifer Blakeney, 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 Nazareth Care Group is responsible for assisting the clergy in meeting members’ needs during October. 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. Many thanks to the members of the Bethlehem Care group for their service in September.

❖ Members of the Nazareth Care Group are:

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Chris Bell, Deacon leader | Laura Minder |
| Melanie Alban | Sandy Moran |
| Doris Bartlett | Dave & Allie Neff |
| Chris & Dave Bell | Cindy & Jon William Newton |
| Deborah Chapman & Lyn Hale | Dora Owusu |
| Ron & Patty Console | Elsbeth & Richard Peterjohn |
| Jim & Terry Daedelow | Scott Peters, Jeannine Gury & family |
| Beth Garrett | Lois Reilly |
| Jennifer & Barry Hartz & family | Eric Rich & family |
| Kathryn Himmelsteib | Jim Roosa & family |
| Audrey & Bob Kellermeyer | Peggy Sasso |
| Jane & Cliff Kowall | Kevin & Laura Stauffer & family |
| Wafa Kuri | Megan & Peter Tzefronis & family |
| Barb & Kermit Lind | Matt & Sarah Winters & family |
| Suzanne Marcy | |

Thank you to Deborah Erwin and Robyn Hales, head ushers, and today’s usher team.

Coming Up

TODAY

Congregational Meeting, 12:00 pm All are welcome to attend. All active members will vote. Childcare will be available.

THIS WEEK

Bible Study: The lessons for this week are: **Job 1: 1; 2: 1-10; Psalm 26; Hebrews 1: 1-4; 2: 5-12; Mark 10: 2-16**

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

Blessing of the Animals: We will be offering a Blessing of the Animals, a tradition done in honor of St. Francis, on Saturday, October 6 at 5 pm on the front steps of the church. All animals (leashed or carried) and their families are welcome.

Vigils at the ICE offices: There will be vigils at the ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) headquarters (925 Keynote Drive, Brooklyn Hts) every Thursday from 4:00 - 4:45 pm .

Members and clergy from participating organizations will lead the vigils with a brief program. Brooklyn Hts. police will be informed and we expect their assistance with parking.

This is an ongoing effort to have a regular presence at ICE to protest their inhumane and cruel treatment of immigrants. It is sponsored by an Immigration Coalition which includes Heights Friends of HOLA (HFOH), InterReligious Task Force (IRTF), Forest Hill Church, Pilgrim Church, La Sagrada Familia, Democratic Socialists of America, and Jobs with Justice.

Please make every effort to join us. You're welcome to bring your signs and friends. Those interested in carpooling should contact Sharon

Survey: Remember the Long-Range Planning Committee's survey from the late summer? You don't because you were on vacation? Or you just never got around to it? **You have another chance to make your voice heard!** Between now and October 14 copies of the survey will be available at church or on line (see the weekly email). Please take advantage of this opportunity!

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.

Black History Education Team presents: MAMA FASI, "The Drum Woman." Mama Fasi will play an African drum mini-solo during the last 5 minutes of worship, followed by a half hour African drum workshop in Fellowship Hall. MAMA FASI (Linda Thomas-Jones) is an accomplished musical director and teacher of more than 40 years and one of the nation's foremost female African percussionists. Come ready to participate! The workshop will be a culturally immersive experience and will include instruments for up to 30 participants. (for more information, go to drumwomanproductions.net).

The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be collected next Sunday. See p. 12 for details.

LOOKING AHEAD

October 16: Hilltoppers and Iris Circle (and anyone else who would like to join them!) will tour Old Stone Church and go to lunch in the flats afterwards. Please meet in the church parking lot at 9:45. **RSVP to Nancy Burcham** (214-233-8864 or burcham@roadrunner.com) by October 7.

October 19: Margaret Brouwer's oratorio “Voice of the Lake” for solo voices, choirs and instruments will be performed on Friday, October 19 at the Cleveland Institute of Music, Kulas Hall. The performance runs from 7 – 8:20 pm. The soloists will be soprano Angela Mortellaro, mezzo soprano Sarah Beaty, tenor Brian Skoog, and bass Bryant Bush. Domenico Boyagian, Music Director of the Cleveland Opera Theater, will conduct

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

October 27: Unexpected Guest dinners (see p. 11 for details)

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 All youth, especially those who are confirmed, are encouraged to attend the congregational meeting after today’s worship.

Save the Date: October 21 for a trip to the movies to see ***The Hate U Give*** at the Cedar Lee.

Staff Emails

Lynda Bernays	Administration	office@fhcpresb.org
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David Wigger	Family, Youth, Children	CE@fhcpresb.org
Anne Wilson	Music	annew@fhcpresb.org

Calendar: September 30 – October 7, 2018

<p>Sunday, September 30</p> <p>9:15 Childcare begins</p> <p>9:30 Adult Education</p> <p>Descant Choir (gr. 1-5)</p> <p>Youth Donut Time</p> <p>10:10 Pathways (gr. 1-5)</p> <p>Youth Education (gr. 6-12)</p> <p>10:30 Chancel Choir</p> <p>Continental Breakfast</p> <p>11:00 Worship</p> <p>12:15 Special Meeting of the Congregation</p> <p>2:00 Cleveland Messiah Chorus</p> <p>Monday, October 1</p> <p>6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection</p> <p>7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There’s Hope</p> <p>7:30 pm AA: Borton Group</p> <p>Boy Scout Troop #403</p> <p>Tuesday, October 2</p> <p>11:00 am Abundance Pantry registration</p> <p>12:00 pm Abundance Lunch</p> <p>1:00 pm Abundance Pantry food</p> <p>Distribution</p> <p>5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class</p> <p>7:00 pm Friends of HOLA</p> <p>Wednesday, October 3</p> <p>7:00 am Bible and Bagels</p> <p>12:30 pm AA: Wednesday Women’s Grp</p> <p>7:00 pm Church Growth meeting</p>	<p>Thursday, October 4</p> <p>5:00 pm Fitness Fusion exercise class</p> <p>6:20 pm Voices in Bronze bell choir</p> <p>7:30 pm Chancel Choir</p> <p>Friday, October 5</p> <p>10:00 am Al Anon</p> <p>6:00 pm Jung Education Center</p> <p>Workshop</p> <p>Saturday, October 6</p> <p>10:00 am Jung Education Center</p> <p>Workshop</p> <p>5:00 pm Blessing of the Animals</p> <p>Sunday, October 7: World Communion</p> <p>Peace and Global Witness offering</p> <p>9:15 Childcare begins</p> <p>9:30 Adult Education</p> <p>Descant Choir (gr. 1-5)</p> <p>Youth Donut Time</p> <p>10:10 Pathways (gr. 1-5)</p> <p>Youth Education (gr. 6-12)</p> <p>10:30 Chancel Choir</p> <p>Continental Breakfast</p> <p>11:00 Children’s Worship class (4-kdg)</p> <p>Worship: Communion</p> <p>12:15 Black History program</p> <p>Sine Nomine Choir</p> <p>2:00 Cleveland Messiah Chorus</p> <p>4:00 Eagle Scout Court of Honor</p> <p>4:30 Youth: House Church</p>
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Cover image: butterfly photo by Jondolar Schnurr, pixabay.com

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)



The Peace and Global Witness offering will be collected next Sunday.

Paul's prayer in 2 Thessalonians (3:16) for God to grant us "peace at all times, in all ways" can often feel more like a wish than a plan in our world. Each year, the Presbyterian Church offers the opportunity to contribute to the Peace and Global Witness Offering, which funds global initiatives for resolving conflict, rebuilding after war, and fighting against violations of human rights. **Now through October 7**, you can contribute to this offering through the special envelopes in the pew or by marking your contribution clearly for Peace and Global Witness.

Twenty-five percent of this offering stays with Forest Hill Church, for us to decide how to use toward this mission of peace. This year, we will send our support to **Amos Health and Hope**, a Christian non-profit organization that brings health care to the most vulnerable populations of **Nicaragua**. Our contribution will help fund training of rural community health promoters in conflict transformation and restorative practices. The training gives people who have experienced trauma the tools that help them work through it and to help others resolve their conflicts peacefully. **Sue and Scott Lafferty's daughter Christy, who grew up at Forest Hill Church**, is a staff member at Amos Health & Hope. Please consider contributing to the Special Offering!

Thank you, from the Ministry of Justice and Mission

**Special meeting of the congregation
TODAY
in the sanctuary
immediately after worship.**

**We will vote on the question:
Do you approve the terms of call
of the candidate
and accept her and
the Rev. John Lentz
as Co-Pastors
of Forest Hill Church?**