

Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts OH 44118
216-321-2660 Fax: 216-320-1214
Email: office@fhcpresb.org Website: www.fhcpresb.org

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Co-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: 4 Advent
Christmas Pageant
December 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

The goodness of creation, as stated in the beginning when God looked on all that had been made and called it very good, was affirmed in the Incarnation with God's at-oneness with humanity.

Welcome

Greeting Our God with Joy

Children's Moment

Rev. David Wigger

Lighting the Advent Candles

Adapted from *Isa. 7:14*

Leader: In this season for reconciliation,

Children: we light this candle in pain and in peace,
as a reminder of the coming light of Christ.

Adults: As the Holy One has promised, in days to come...

God will give you a sign.

Look, the young woman is with child.

Children: She will have a son
and call him: "God-is-with-us"

All: In anguish and in peace...

let us walk in the light of the Holy One. Amen.

Children light the Hope, Faith, Joy, and Peace Candles.

Children return to their families until the Pageant.

*** Hymn No. 113**

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

**please stand if able*

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

God of peace, the Incarnation calls us to reconcile with God and with one another. Yet we forget that unity is both a gift and an obligation. We confess that we become distracted from the *active* waiting of Advent. In your love, forgive us. Help us experience, practice, and pursue community with one another, as we together come to know the depth of the love of Christ. Amen.

Adapted from the Confession of Belhar (10.3)

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison (*Lord, have mercy*) J. S. Bach (from *Christmas Oratorio*)

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

Assurance of Pardon

*All sing first time. Second time: low voices, begin;
high voices enter two measures later*

Response

5 Be still and know that I am God.

Be__ still and know__ that I__ am God.__

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, followed by a half note G4. The lyrics 'Be still and know that I am God.' are written below the staff. The second staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, followed by a half note G4. The lyrics 'Be__ still and know__ that I__ am God.__' are written below the staff, with underscores indicating a longer duration for the words 'know' and 'I'.

Hymn No. 145

“What Child Is This”

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Christmas Pageant: "Tomorrow Starts Today"

script and original songs by Sue Matsui

adapted by Anne Wilson and David Wigger

Cast

Prophet	Rowan Trammell
Little Child	Cassie Webster
Mother	Laura Minder
Landlord	Carl Jenks
Pastor	John Lentz
Narrators	Noel and Vaughn Ullom, Colin Webster
Gabriel	Berkeley Trammell
Mary	Margaret Dyck
Joseph	Will Janssen
Elizabeth	Sarah Dillenbeck
Shepherdess	Capri Gerteis
Baby Jesus	Mary Elizabeth Allen
Holy Spirit	Megan Allen
Singing Trio	Olivia Sormaz, Charlotte Piszal, Chip Vandall

Additional assistance

Kate Burleigh, Laurie Logan, Jessica Kelley,
Sandy and Kaylee Moran

"Prepare a Road for the Lord"

Rowan Trammell, solo

"They Take My Food"

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

"There's a Star in the East"

“Long Ago, A Baby Was Born”

“Tomorrow Starts Today”

Following the pageant, children return to their families.

Young children may be taken to the Nursery.



Christmas pageant 2017

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

Mack Wilberg

“One December, Bright and Clear”

*** Response**

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be,
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Going Forth to Live as God's People

*** Closing Hymn No. 136**

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

*** Commission and Blessing**

Leader: ...(ending with) Tomorrow starts today, tomorrow starts today.

All: **Merry Christmas!**

*** 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

Louis Daquin

"Noel No. 8"



Today's pageant is possible only because of the work and support offered by parents and staff of Forest Hill Church. Thank you to all involved!

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

Prayers are requested this week for: Nan Dorer, Dan Fuller, Max Harmon, David Hunter, Kemp Jaycox, Jane Larsen-Wigger, 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, 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 All-Church Care Group is responsible for assisting the clergy in meeting members' needs during December. 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. The Mt. Sinai Care Group will assist in January.

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

Coming Up

Dec. 24, 10:45 pm Musical Prelude, followed by Candlelight Worship
Milk and cookie reception following

Dec. 30 after worship: Bring your favorite dish for a casual
Christmas Potluck

TODAY

Thanks to our Advent trumpeters, Ahren Stock and Scott Lafferty.

THIS WEEK

Bible Study: The lessons for this week are: **1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3: 12-17; Luke 2: 41-52**

Bible and Bagels will not meet on December 26. The group will meet (at 7:30 am) on January 2. The lessons for January 2 are Isaiah 60: 1-6; Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3: 1-12; Matthew 2: 1-12.

LOOKING AHEAD

The 2019 Homeless Stand Down: All volunteers, please come to an orientation next Sunday, December 30 at 12:30 in the library.

Adult Education in January: The Revelation to John

There will be three classes available for the next Kerygma series, the book of Revelation. On Sunday mornings at 9:30, there will be a class with Laury Larson and Pat Jenkins in the library, and a class with Tom Zych and Kathryn Eloff in South Hall. Ann and Peter Williams will lead an evening class on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. Pat Seeders will do registration for the classes every Sunday in December in South Hall after worship. Resource books are available for \$24.00. Dr. Timothy Beal,

author of **The Book of *Revelation*: A Biography**, will be a guest speaker (date to be announced later).

Staff Emails

Lynda Bernays	Administration	office@fhcpresb.org
Delilah Dervic	Finance	finance@fhcpresb.org
Ann Donkin	Building mgr.	adonkin@fhcpresb.org
Stavros Gazis	Custodial	office@fhcpresb.org
Rev. Dr. Veronica Goines	Co-Pastor	pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org
Rev. Dr. John Lentz Jr.	Co-Pastor	pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org
Peg Weissbrod	Outreach	pegw@fhcpresb.org
David Wigger	Family, Youth, Children	CE@fhcpresb.org
Anne Wilson	Music	annew@fhcpresb.org

The church office will be closed
from noon on Dec. 24 –Dec. 26, and on Dec. 31 – Jan. 1.
If a pastoral emergency occurs during these times, please contact
Rev. David Wigger, 216-702-7845 or ce@fhcpresb.org

Calendar: December 23 - 30, 2018

Sunday, December 23: 4 Advent 9:15 Childcare begins 9:30 Adult Education Descant and Sine Nomine Choirs and other pageant players 10:30 Chancel Choir Continental Breakfast 11:00 Worship: Christmas Pageant 12:00 Coffee and Conversation Monday, December 24 6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection 7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There's Hope 7:30 pm AA: Borton Group 10:45 pm Christmas Eve Musical prelude 11:00 pm Candlelight Worship 12:15 pm Milk and cookies in Fellowship Hall	Tuesday, December 25: Christmas Day Office closed Wednesday, December 26 Office closed 4:00 pm Kwanzaa Party Thursday, December 27 4:00 pm ICE vigil Friday, December 28 10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand Sunday, December 30: 1 Christmas 9:15 Childcare begins 10:30 Continental Breakfast 11:00 Worship 12:00 Christmas Potluck Homeless Stand Down orientation
--	---

Donations of cookies are needed for the reception following the
Christmas Eve service.

Please drop them off in the kitchen
as you arrive.



Please take note: Labre is no longer accepting clothing donations for Our Family Home Center (they have run out of space!).

Please take your donations elsewhere.

Here are a few options:

Goodwill at 6605 Mayfield Rd or 2720 Van Aken Blvd

Purple Heart: Schedule a pickup by going to <http://veteranpickup.org/>

The poinsettias are given by

Betsy and Joe Andrews in memory of Martin Bradley Andrews

Chris and Dave Bell in celebration of family

The Cameron family in loving memory of Ann Cameron and
all our loved ones

Deborah Chapman and Lyn Hale in memory of loved ones

Betty Clark in memory of the Clark and Fritz families

Nancy Grube in memory of Donal T. Grube

Barbara Hansen in memory of Lamont Hansen and Ethel Van Fleet

Jenny & Caty Himmelman in memory of beloved family

The Katan family in memory of Richard and Marjorie Sprague and
Fred and Clara Sturtevant

Cliff and Jane Kowall in memory of parents Walter and Elaine Grasson
and Paul and Dorothy Kowall

Carol Leslie in honor of Carter Hugh and Gavin Bruce Strachan,
Jackson Taylor Richards and baby boy Macklin

Peg Weissbrod and Steve Marunowski in memory of Ray and
Pat Weissbrod

Sue and Kerri McCauley in memory of Sue's parents Dale and Eloise
Wint, her sister Joanne Gorecki, and her fiancé John Allen
Charlotte and John McCumber and family, in loving memory of
Bill and Kay Currie

Robin Mervine in memory of Mel Mervine

Jeanette Nemcek in memory of Bob Nemcek

Linda and David Rainey in thanksgiving for family

Marjorie Ravas in memory of her parents, E. J. and Dorothy Rieck

Anne and Jeff Smith in honor of our very good friends at
Forest Hill Church

Carolyn Smith in memory of Robert and Grace Sloan and
Dr. and Mrs. Dwight C. Smith

The Smith-Polderman and Zednik families in celebration of
Caroline Jane Zednik

Dene Young in memory of loved ones

The wreaths on the front doors are a gift from the Hilltop Garden Club

Cover image by Julia Koops, age 7

The Christmas Joy Offering celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, the truly “indescribable gift,” as well as the gifts of church leaders—past, present, and future.

50% provides critical financial assistance to church leaders in need

- Support grants that help retired church workers and their families with financial and housing needs
- Provide aid to church workers with urgent financial and medical needs

50% supports opportunities for future leaders at Presbyterian racial ethnic schools

- Give scholarships for racial ethnic students and future church leaders
- Equip racial ethnic leaders for ministry
- Support vital ministries in Presbyterian-related schools

Ways to give:

1. Give to the offering at Forest Hill Church (mark your check or envelope “Christmas Joy”)
2. Text JOY to 56512 to give \$10
3. presbyterianmission.org/give/christmasjoy

Recent graduate of Presbyterian Pan Am School wants to tackle issues that confront the developing world

By Pat Cole / Presbyterian News Service, Dec. 5 2018

LOUISVILLE — Growing up in Rwanda, Joshua Karangwa often saw rural women and children carrying heavy cans of water on their heads for miles, just so their families could survive.

His memory of people engaged in this back-breaking endeavor pierces his heart and challenges his mind.

Karangwa, a 2018 graduate of Presbyterian Pan American

School(Pan Am) in Kingsville, Texas, wants to tackle water accessibility and other issues that confront the developing world. He is now a first-year engineering student at Presbyterian-related Schreiner University.



Karangwa dreams of the day when women and children will no longer have to tote large water cans, whose average weight exceeds 40 pounds when filled. The task is exhausting and can lead to strained backs, shoulders and necks.

“It’s an issue that I want to address by using all the means I have acquired,” Karangwa says. He wants not only to design ways to make water more accessible, but also to help communities learn how to find their own solutions to problems like poor accessibility to water.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s Christmas Joy Offering helps Pan Am and other Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color prepare future leaders like Karangwa to serve the church and society.

Half of the offering supports the schools, and the other half provides assistance for current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial need.

At Pan Am, Karangwa experienced a school committed to meeting his academic and spiritual needs. He says that when he came to Pan Am, reading was an arduous task and he “couldn’t finish a book.” An intensive reading program at the school changed all of that. “They got me reading lots of books and now I enjoy books,” he says. “It’s a completely different view than what I had.”

While at Pan Am, Karangwa enrolled in dual-credit courses at the Texas A&M’s Kingsville campus, where he studied mathematics, English, economics and political science. His academic record enabled him to receive a full, four-year scholarship to Schreiner.

Karangwa says his faith began to flourish at Pan Am. He grew up in a Christian family, but he says Pan Am helped him “to find faith on my own.” He relished discovering the different ways the diverse student body at Pan Am interpreted the Bible. “It helped me grow in a lot of ways, and it added perspective to my faith,” he says.

A well-rounded student, Karangwa participated in three varsity sports — basketball, track and soccer. He was also a student ambassador. In this role, he visited congregations and shared his story and that of Pan Am.

As a student ambassador, he says he especially enjoyed learning from people in the congregations. “Most of them were from an older generation, and they have knowledge to share,” he says. “It was a fun experience.”

Karangwa says his character grew as he listened and learned from others while at Pan Am. Gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering helped shape his character, and continued support will shape the lives of more students, as well as support church workers and their families in times of need.



CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

*Every generous act of giving...
is from above.*

— JAMES 1:17



THE PERFECT GIFT.

Text JOY to 56512 to learn more or to donate

Go to presbyterianmission.org/give/christmasjoy