

Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



Image courtesy of Pixabay

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Website: www.fhcpresb.org

Rev. Dr. Veronica Goines, Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Co-Pastors

**Rev. David Wigger, Interim Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's
Ministries**

Anne Wilson, Director of Music

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Service of Worship
March 24, 2019 at 11:00 am

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship.
Please join us in wearing a nametag 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

*“Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you
as long as I live. I will lift up my hands in your name.”*

Psalm 63:3-4

Welcome

Prelude

Liam Lawton

Sine Nomine Choir

Soloists: Will Davis, Chip Vandall, Sidney Ball

“This Is (Song of Micah)”

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship (From Psalm 63, Isaiah 55)

Ann Williams

Welcome to the fabulous feast that God has prepared!

We come hungry, thirsty, and searching for God.

God is near, full of power and glory.

We are here to be fed by God’s word.

Lift up your hands in praise!

We will sing with joy on our lips.

Bless God, who upholds us with God’s strength.

We will bless God as long as we live!

*** Processional Hymn No. 625**

“How Great Thou Art”

**please stand as able*

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession

Nurturing One, you invite us to feast on your word and to be filled with love.
Your banquet is always before us, freely offered for us to enjoy, yet we
choose to spend our resources on things that do not satisfy. Forgive us when
we consume the very things that do not feed us. Help us abandon our
careless ways and self-seeking schemes that we might return to you, our
provider and sustainer.

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)

John Bell

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

Assurance of Pardon

God is faithful and will not allow us to be tempted beyond our abilities.

Even in our brokenness, God provides a path to wholeness.

When we confess our shortcomings,

God has mercy on us and is generous with forgiveness.

Through Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.

Thanks to be to God.

***Be Still and Know**

John Bell

All sing first time; 2nd time lower voices begin;
upper voices begin 1 measure later

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 for the first line of the hymn is written on this staff. The second staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody for the second line of the hymn is written on this staff. The lyrics 'Be still and know that I am God.' are written below the first staff. The lyrics 'Be__ still and know__ that I__ am God.__' are written below the second staff, with underscores indicating where the lower voices enter.

Anthem

Arr. Carl Wiltse

“Simple Gifts”
Voices in Bronze

Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word

Sacrament of Baptism

Today we have the honor of baptizing Hailey Alice Gifford, daughter of Ethan and Michelle Gifford.

Baptismal Prayer

Ever-living God, in your mercy, you promised to be not only our God, but also the God of our children. We thank you for receiving Hailey Alice Gifford by baptism. Keep her always in your love. Guide her as she grows in faith. Protect her in all the dangers and temptations of life. Bring her to confess Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior and be Christ’s faithful disciple to her life’s end; In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

*** Hymn No. 790**

“In Silence My Soul Thirsts”

Isaiah 55:1-9 (An Invitation to Abundant Life)

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come; buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Psalm 63 (Comfort and Assurance in God's Presence)

A Psalm of David, when he was in the Wilderness of Judah. O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name. My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings, I sing for joy. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

Luke 13:1-9 (Repent or Perish and The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree)

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.' Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree

planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.” ’

After the readings

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

“Thirsty?”

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

Caleb Wright, bass

“Libera me”—Gabriel Fauré

Sung in Latin: *Deliver me, O Lord; when the heavens and the earth shall be moved, rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord: and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

* Response

Hymn No. 697

5 Take my life_ and_ let it be con - se - crat - ted,_ Lord, to_ thee;

8 take my mo - ments and my days;_ let them flow in

cease - less_ praise;_ let them flow in_ cease - less praise.

* Prayer of Dedication

Going Forth to Live as God's People

- * Closing Hymn No. 699

"Fill My Cup"
- * Commission and Blessing
- * Choral Benediction

Sanctuary

* Passing of the Peace

Postlude

J. S. Bach

"Fugue in Eb (St. Anne)"



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 Flower Donations:

- Russ and Jennifer Dise in loving memory of Ann, Molly and Ralph Dise Sr.

Prayers are requested this week for the following: Laura Bell, Mark Davidson, Dan Fuller, Grace Glaros, Robyn Hales, David Hunter, Darla Character-Johnson, Wanda Nelson, Jim Seeders, Elizabeth Shaw, Jimmy Strong, Wesley Washington, and Ollie.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Marge Drollinger, Iris and Al Gilbert, Carol Himmelsteib (mom of Kathryn Himmelsteib), 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 Eden Care Group will for assist our pastors in meeting members’ needs during March. 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

Lunch with Hilltoppers: There will be a lunch following the church service from 12:30-1:30pm at Anatolia Café (2207 Lee Road).

You are invited to a concert in memory of Donal Grube, a long-time member of FHC and a faithful tenor in the Chancel Choir, this afternoon at 3:00 PM in our sanctuary. The Singers' Club (Don was a member) and the Chancel Choir will sing. A festive reception, prepared by Morag Keefe, will follow the concert. All the music is related to weather—a novel idea!

Engaging the Spiritual Practices: Join us on March 31 and April 14 at 9:30 am in the Chapel for a Lenten Study/practicum. Pastor Goines will teach basic principles of spiritual disciplines, introduce various weekly practices, and lead participants in communal practices to encourage the development of a rule of life for deepening faith. Please notify the office (office@fhcpresb.org) if you plan to attend.

Are you interested in joining Forest Hill Church? We are excited about our Exploring New Membership classes, which are being held on March 24 and 31 from 12:30-2:00 pm. Please reach out to the FHC office if you are interested and we will connect you with the Church Growth Team!

THIS WEEK

Bible and Bagels (Bible Study) discusses next Sunday's text(s) on Wednesday mornings from 7:30 to 8:30. The lessons for this week are **Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32.**

The deadline for the bulletin or weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. **The next TOWER deadline** is 04/11/19 at 8:00 am. You may submit your written request to office@fhcpresb.com.

Free Concert for the Pacesetters on March 29 at 8:00 pm at Kulas Hall located at the Cleveland Institute of Music (11021 East Blvd. Cleveland, Oh 44106). Margaret Brouwer's orchestral piece "Remembrances" will be first on the program.

Attention Group and anyone who loves chocolate. Join us for a delicious journey at Fantasy Candies (5338 Mayfield Rd, Lyndhurst) on April 6 from 5:00- 7:00 pm. Please RSVP to Jane and Chuck Ishler (chasish@yahoo.com) by **March 31.**

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education will start a new three-week series on salvation led by Tom Zych. All are welcome! Classes start at 9:30 am and are located in South Hall and Bodwell Hall. **Please see page 12 for the updated class information.**

LOOKING AHEAD

There will be three services of communion in April (04/7, 04/18, and 04/21). Anyone who has been received as a member of FHC can serve communion. Each time communion is served, eight volunteers are needed. This commitment does not require any extra meetings, just attendance at worship service. **If you are willing to add your name to the list of servers, please contact Mary Ball (ml.ball47@gmail.com or 216-255-0842).**

Iris Circle and Women of FHC! We will visit MACE (Muslim Association of Cleveland East) for a tour and prayer service on April 5 at 12:30 pm. We will car pool from FHC for those who are interested. We will leave FHC at **NOON.** MACE is located at: 26901 Chardon Rd., Richmond Hts. 44143. For questions, please contact Cathy Ghiandoni at 216 691-1905 or ghiandoni.c@gmail.com.

Attention Pacesetters! Please join us on Saturday, Apr. 7 for a docent history tour of Lake View Cemetery aboard Lolly the Trolley. Meet at Forest Hill Church Parking Lot. Lolly the Trolley will transport us from church to the tour) The 2.5 hour tour begins at 9:30 am *SHARP* and costs \$ 25.00 per person

Please RSVP to: Sheryl Dugard @ dugard.sheryl@gmail.com or
Deborah Erwin @ deberwinnash@aol.com

On April 28, Adult Ed and Justice and Mission will meet in South Hall at 9:30 am to discuss their Lenten experience. Come join us!

Coming soon! Small group sign-ups! If you are interested in joining a small group, watch for the bulletin board with a map of group locations and more details. Small groups will start after Easter, occur at various times during the week, and provide an opportunity to grow in faith with fellow FHC members and friends. Requested commitment: six meetings with your small group. Further details will be provided in the bulletin/email announcements in early April.

Soul Tending series at Ghost Ranch this summer! Many of you attended the 'Soul Tending' workshop last summer led by Rev. Anita Amstutz (cousin of Sharon Shumaker). The workshop was an introduction to her book 'Soul Tending: a guide to Sabbath keeping for your modern life'. Rev Amstutz will be offering a series of three week- long Soul Tending retreats at Ghost Ranch this summer **July 7-27, 2019**. More information is available on the Ghost Ranch website. Search 'Anita Amstutz' under 'Instructors'. **Please contact Sharon Shumaker (sms2924@gmail.com) for more details!**

Lenten Privilege Fast: As part of the One Great Hour of Sharing, the Ministry of Justice and Mission and the pastors encourage you to consider a “Privilege Fast” for Lent. Look at aspects of your life that so many in our country and around the world must do without. We don't ask you to give these up, but put aside a coin or a dollar bill for each privilege you have as guided by the One Great Hour of Sharing brochure or try one of the ideas below. Consider:

- People around the world and in our city who do not have a good education. Give a coin for every year you have gone to school.
- Children and adults who live in violent homes and neighborhoods. Give 10 coins if you've never had to leave your home in fear or dodge bullets.
- The millions who are malnourished. Give two coins for every hot meal you had last week.

You might also contemplate your education and career opportunities: What skills and talents do you have that you might share with someone in the community? Ex.: mentor or tutor a student, help an entrepreneur develop a business plan, or offer your legal services pro bono. Please contact (jablakeney.13@gmail.com or ajah412@gmail.com) for more details.

“Lenten Privilege Fast with Justice and Mission Upcoming Dinners”
Reservations are needed by April 1st

Name(s) _____
How many individuals attending dinner? _____
Yes, I/we will attend ____ on April 3 ____ on April 12
You may place this in the offering plate

Youth News

Every Sunday:
Classes for all youth (gr. 6-12) meet at 9:30 am in the Ruah Room.
Looking ahead for the Youth (watch email for details):
Sunday, March 31: House Church with Fairmount Pres. and Church of the Covenant
Friday, April 12: Fish Fry - Intergenerational Outing (we plan to carpool)

Staff Emails

Antoinette Richardson	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
Rev. David Wigger	Family, Youth, Children	CE@fhcpresb.org
Anne Wilson	Music	annew@fhcpresb.org

Calendar: March 24TH -31ST

<p>Sunday, March 24:</p> <p>9:15 am Childcare begins</p> <p>9:30 am Adult Education</p> <p> Descant Choir (gr. 1-5)</p> <p> Youth Education</p> <p> (gr. 6-12)</p> <p> Engaging the Spiritual</p> <p> Practices</p> <p>10:10 am Pathways (gr. 1-5)</p> <p>10:30 am Chancel Choir</p> <p> Continental Breakfast</p> <p> Cherub Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>11:00 am Worship and Children’s</p> <p> Worship (Baptism)</p> <p>12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation</p> <p>12:30 pm Exploring Membership</p> <p> Class for new members</p> <p> GCC Training Session</p> <p>3:00 pm Concert in memory of Donal</p> <p> Grube</p> <p>4:00 pm Reconnecting with</p> <p> God’s Creation Class</p> <p>Monday, March 25:</p> <p>5:00 pm Presbytery Meeting</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, March 26:</p> <p>12:00 pm Abundance Pantry</p> <p> Registration</p> <p>5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise</p> <p>7:00 pm Black History Committee</p> <p> Meeting</p>	<p>Wednesday, March 27:</p> <p>7:30 am Bible and Bagels</p> <p>12:30 pm Staff Meeting</p> <p> AA: Wednesday</p> <p> Women’s Group</p> <p>7:00 pm Session Meeting</p> <p> GCC Meeting</p> <p>Thursday, March 28:</p> <p>1:30 pm English Country Dance</p> <p>4:00 pm ICE vigil</p> <p>5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise</p> <p>5:30 pm Ladies in Training (Drill</p> <p> Team Practice)</p> <p>6:20 pm Voices in Bronze (cancelled)</p> <p>7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p> <p> (cancelled)</p> <p>Friday, March 29:</p> <p>10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand</p> <p>Saturday, March 30:</p> <p>6:00 pm Black Caucus Meeting</p> <p>Sunday, March 31:</p> <p>9:15 am Childcare begins</p> <p>9:30 am Adult Education</p> <p> Descant Choir (gr. 1-5)</p> <p> Youth Education</p> <p> (gr. 6-12)</p> <p> Engaging the spiritual</p> <p> Practices</p> <p>10:10 am Pathways (gr. 1-5)</p> <p>10:30 am Chancel Choir</p> <p> Continental Breakfast</p> <p>11:00 am Worship and Children’s</p> <p> Worship</p> <p>12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation</p> <p>12:30 pm Exploring Membership</p> <p> Class For new members</p> <p>4:00 pm Reconnecting with</p> <p> God’s Creation Class</p>
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Adult-Ed
Lenten Program on Salvation
“Why Did Jesus Die?”

Our Lenten practices often focus on sacrificing a bit of life’s pleasures and preparing for Easter. We often fail to consider how Jesus’ death was and is a miraculous act of love in and of itself. Our three-week study will explore the why and the how crucifixion and death of Jesus provides a model of selfless love and what it means to triumph over death. We will use art, history, and as always our Biblical text to explore the meaning of Good Friday.

Class will begin March 31st and will include April 7th and April 14th. We will meet in South Hall at 9:30 am. Tom Zych will lead class. All are welcome!

