

Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



The Harp by Augusta Savage, displayed at the 1939 World's Fair in New York City

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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
February 24, 2019 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

“Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.”
—Jeremiah 17:7

Welcome

Choral Introit

Cherub Choir; Lisa Koops, director

“Ha La La La” —Anon

Leader: As we worship together in different
places...

Congregation: May God be with you there.

Children: May God be with you here.

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship

Cheryl Anderson

Loving God, when we were aliens and foreigners, you called us from
the corners of the world, to come home to belong.

Thank you for your faithfulness and justice.

We thank you for calling us to your ministry.

**Let all we do be done to your glory that it may strengthen your
Church.**

As we culminate this Black History Month, we commit to being agents
of your peace, justice, and reconciliation.

**Empower us for this great work, and prepare us now, body, soul, and
spirit to worship you.**

Let us worship God!

*** Processional Hymn No. 358**

“Steal Away”

**please stand if able*

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession

God of love, peace, and unity, you have welcomed us all just as we are. Thank you for making us equal as your children, for giving us your blessings as your children and for making us belong. But, we confess that too often we forget who and whose we are. Help us realize that we are all made in your image and likeness as one people belonging to you. Restore us to your mission as ambassadors of peace, unity, and justice to all your creation. This we ask through Christ our Savior, our brother, and our friend. Amen.

Time of Silent Confession

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

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

Assurance of Pardon

“...You are a royal priesthood...God’s own people, in order that you might proclaim the mighty acts of God who called you out of darkness into God’s marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.” Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen!
—1 Peter 2:9-20

*** Gloria** Paul Vasil

3 Glo-ry to God, whose good-ness shines on me, and to the

6 Son, whose grace has par-doned me, and to the Spir-it, whose love has

8 set me free. As it was in the be-gin-ning, is

now and ev-er shall be. A - men.

Anthem Keith Hampton
“Praise His Holy Name”

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Sacrament of Baptism

Today we have the honor of baptizing Caroline Jane Zednik, daughter of Erik and Beth Zednik and granddaughter of Ron Polderman (attending elder).

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 Caroline Jane Zednik 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. 482**

"Baptized in Water"

Scripture Lessons

Cheryl Anderson

Jeremiah 17: 5-10;

Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

Luke 6:17-26 (Jesus Teaches and Heals)

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be

filled. ‘Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ‘Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. ‘But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ‘Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. ‘Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ‘Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

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

“Neck Bone Faith”

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

Lily B, soloist

“Many Rains Ago”

*** 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 See page 11**

"Hold to God's Unchanging Hand"

* **Commission and Blessing**

* **Litany of Dedication**

Faithful God, we thank you that we are known by you, and you have called us to go into the world to do your work.

Lead us we pray.

You called us to love and be loved as we do works of justice in your world.

Help us we pray.

We come in humility asking that you will give us courage and wisdom to be ambassadors of your peace and reconciliation.

Hear us we pray.

You made us like you and called us to be unique, and at the same time, united.

Help us, Lord, that we may be able to stand up against any and all injustice.

Help us we pray.

We are glad to be your people as we all come together with one voice, answering your call and making the commitment that we will not keep quiet in the face of injustice, but we will stand up for the sake of love, peace, and reconciliation. We recommit ourselves to this endeavor in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* **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.

The musical notation is for a choral benediction in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts on a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. There is a measure rest, followed by a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F#5, and a quarter note G5. The second staff continues the melody with a half note G5, a quarter note F#5, a quarter note E5, and a quarter note D5. There is a measure rest, followed by a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The third staff continues with a half note G4, a quarter note F#4, a quarter note E4, and a quarter note D4. There is a measure rest, followed by a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note G3. The piece ends with a double bar line.

* **Passing of the Peace**

Postlude

arr. Joe Utterback

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"



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 Donations:

- Joan Bacon, in loving memory of her father Richard Benson
- From the Smith-Polderman and Zednik families in honor of the baptism of Caroline Jane Zednik
- Jordan Dail, Robyn and Ajah Hales in memory of Dorothy (grandmother and mother), Albert (grandfather and father) and Terri (Ajah's mom, Jordan's aunt, and Robyn's sister).

Prayers are requested this week for the following: Laura Bell, Mark Davidson, Dan Fuller, Grace Glaros, David Hunter, Darla Character-Johnson, 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 Calvary Care Group is responsible for assisting the clergy in meeting members' needs during February. 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.

Abundance Pantry News: On February 19, the pantry provided an average of 50 pounds of groceries to 190 families. Monetary donations to the pantry ministry may be made to Forest Hill Church; in the memo line, please write Abundance Pantry or to Abundance Lunch.

- Abundance Pantry is open every Tuesday from 12-3 pm. Volunteers are needed to transport and sort food, register guests, and help with distribution. Email Paul Jennings (or call 440-570-6736) for more info.
- **Abundance Lunch** is served on the **FIRST TUESDAY** of each month. The next pantry lunch will be served next Tuesday, March 5.

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

Coming Up

TODAY

The Sine Nomine Choir will rehearse after worship today.

Please pick up your TOWER after service.

Today we welcome guest soloist Lily B, a versatile and well-known singer in the greater Cleveland area.

Stevie Wonder Concert CD's are available for purchase (from Caleb Wright) at the end of the service.

Pacesetters will host a dinner at Frederick's today at 5 pm (22005 Emery Rd, Warrensville Heights) and all are welcome to join the group. ***Please contact Bill or Sandy Ladebue about reservations at blloggix@gmail.com or 440-630-9011.*** We would love to see you there.

THIS WEEK

Bible Study: The lessons for this week are: **Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-42, Luke 9:28-36 (37-43).**

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

NEXT SUNDAY

Adult Education classes will continue studying from the book of Revelation through March 24. Classes start at 9:30 am and are located in South Hall and Bodwell Hall. Pastor Lentz will also lead a class in the Faith Leaders room. All are welcome!

LOOKING AHEAD

Are you interested in joining Forest Hill Church? We are excited about our Exploring New Membership classes being held on 3/17, 3/24, and 3/31 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!

Saturday, March 2 at 7:00 pm, please join us for “An Evening of Music” with internationally renowned soprano Chanàe Curtis, bass Caleb A. Wright, tenor Brian Skoog and the Forest Hill Church Chancel Choir. Chanàe sang in our choir while in high school, and now she is under professional management singing all over the world.

In commemoration of Earth Day 2019, all are invited to a free event at the Cleveland Museum of Art! The enlightening program "Next Silent Spring" will be held on Sunday, April 28, from 2 - 4 PM. Conservation advocate Laurel Hopwood, along with an excellent panel, will share how everyone can move forward to heal our soil and gardens and thus our communities. For more information, please contact Laurel Hopwood at lhopwood@roadrunner.com.

Flower Donation: Are you interested in donating a flower arrangement in honor or in memory of someone? The arrangements are \$45 each and you may donate the flowers (the deacons will find a recipient) or you may take them home. Please contact the FHC office if you would like to take this opportunity to help beautify the sanctuary.

An Update from the Worship Ministry: We are no longer using the online application for Lay Readers to sign-up. We are making direct contact with you to schedule Sunday readers. If you are interested in continuing to be a Lay Reader or if you are interested for the first time, we welcome you. **Please contact Linda Martin (martin3386@ameritech.net or 216-280-4049) to let her know of your interest, or with any questions.**

Register for the course “Reconnecting to God’s Creation in the 21st Century”. Classes will be held 4 – 6 p.m. every Sunday from March 17 – May 19 except for Easter Sunday and Mother’s Day. If interested, please register before March 1 by contacting the course co-facilitators:

Kemp: kempjaycox@yahoo.com or 216-785-5375

Stephen: goldens101@aol.com or 614-783-4467

Youth News

Every Sunday: Classes for youth (gr. 6-12) meet at 9:30 am in the Ruah Room.

Upcoming Sunday: Confirmation class will be held 03/03 and 03/06.

Looking Ahead: House Church at the Dillenbeck’s home on 03/03/19 from 5-7:30 pm

Calendar: February 24th-March 3rd

<p>Sunday, February 24: 9:15 am Childcare begins 9:30 am Adult Education Descant Choir (gr. 1-5) Youth Education (gr. 6-12) 10:10 am Pathways (gr. 1-5) 10:30 am Chancel Choir Continental Breakfast Cherub’s Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship and Children’s Worship (Baptism) 12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation Blood Pressure Check Sine Nomine Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm Black History Program: African American Art Show</p> <p>Monday, February 25: 6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection 7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There’s Hope 7:30 pm AA: Borton Group Boy Scout Troop #403</p> <p>Tuesday, February 26: 12:00 pm Abundance Pantry Registration 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise</p> <p>Wednesday, February 27: 7:30 am Bible and Bagels 12:30 pm Staff Meeting AA: Wednesday Women’s Group 7:00 pm Session Meeting GCC Housing Meeting</p>	<p>Thursday, February 28: 1:00 pm English Country Dance 4:00 pm ICE vigil 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise 5:30 pm Ladies in Training (Drill Team Practice) 6:20 pm Voices in Bronze 7:30 pm Chancel Choir (Canceled)</p> <p>Friday, March 1: 10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand</p> <p>Saturday, March 2: 8:00 am Men’s Group 9:00 am CEIRS Session Retreat 5:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Concert: “An Evening of Music”</p> <p>Sunday, March 3: 9:15 am Childcare begins 9:30 am Adult Education Descant Choir (gr. 1-5) Youth Education (gr. 6-12) Confirmation Course 10:10 am Pathways (gr. 1-5) 10:30 am Chancel Choir Continental Breakfast 11:00 am Worship and Children’s Worship 12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation 5:00 pm House Church at the Dillenbecks</p>
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Save the dates and watch for more information!

Black History Month, February 2019

“They’ll see how beautiful I am” (Langston Hughes)

A celebration of African American Art

<p>Sunday, February 24</p>	<p>12:30 PM to 5:00 PM-Art Show of local contemporary Black artists organized by Gina Washington, local artist, photographer, and educator.</p>
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Hold to God's Unchanging Hand

Jennie Wilson

Franklin Lycurgus Eiland (1860-1909)

♩=100

1. Time is filled with swift tran - si - tion— Naught of earth un - moved can
2. Trust in Him who will not leave you, What - so - ev - er years may
3. When your jour - ney is com - plet - ed, If to God you have been

stand— Build your hopes on things e - ter - nal, Hold to God's un - chang - ing
bring, If by earth - ly friends for - sak - en, Still more close - ly to Him
true, Fair and bright the home in glo - ry, Your en - rap - tured soul will

rit.

Refrain

hand. Hold to God's un - chang - ing hand! Hold to
cling. Hold to His hand
view. Hold to His hand

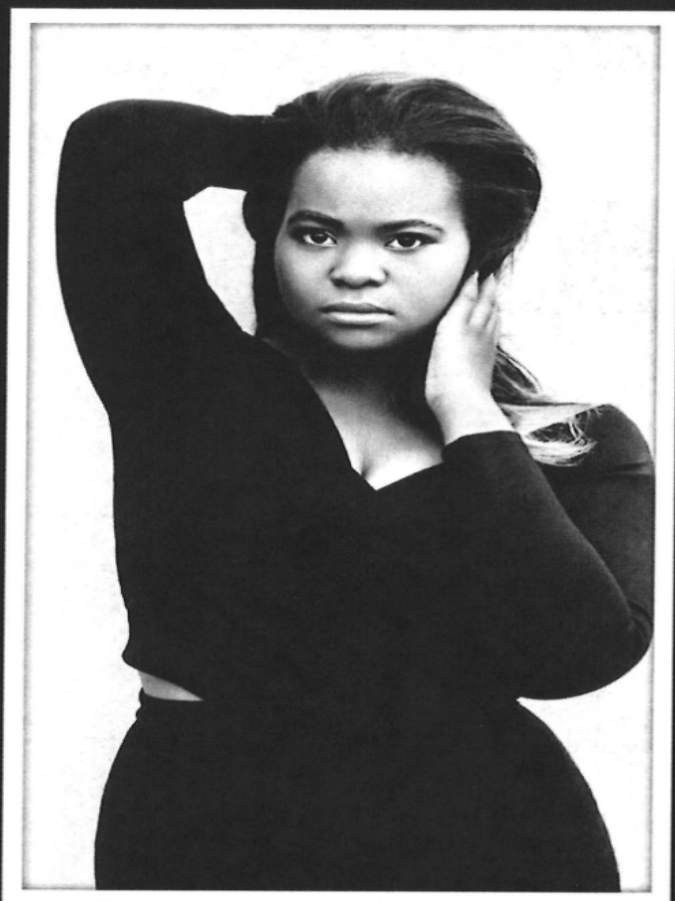
God's un - chang - ing hand! Build your hopes on things e - ter - nal,

rit.

Hold to God's un - chang - ing hand.

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Courtesy of the Cyber Hymnal™

An Evening of Music



With
Chanée Curtis,
Soprano

Featuring:
Caleb A. Wright,
Bass-Baritone
&
The Forest Hill Church
Chancel Choir

Saturday March 2nd
7:00 PM

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