

Forest Hill Church
Service of Worship
September 22, 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' directions to our nursery for babies and young children.

Centering Words

Take a moment to come to a place of stillness within. As you breathe in and out slowly, become aware that God wants only the best for you.

Welcome

Choral Introit

South African Traditional Song

“God Welcomes All”

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship

Jean Reinhold

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness. Come into God's presence with singing.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us worship God.

*** Opening Hymn No. 39**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

*please stand as able

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession (From Psalm 79, a confession of national sin)

Gracious and Holy One, do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive us our sins, for your name's sake.

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)

Appalachian Folk Melody

The congregation will sing the second time through.

The musical notation is presented in three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature is 6/8. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: Em, D, Em, Am, Em, D, Em, / on the first staff; Am, D, C, D, Em, C, Em, / on the second staff; and Em, D, G, Am, Em, D, E on the third staff. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined for emphasis: "You are the Lord, giv - er of mer - cy. You are the Christ, giv - er of mer - cy. You are the Lord, giv - er of mer - cy." The first staff ends with a slash, indicating a repeat. The second staff also ends with a slash. The third staff ends with a double bar line.

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

The Assurance of Pardon

The author of our salvation, the one who weeps for us and for our world, is the God of compassion. God meets us in our need and heals our many failings. Rejoice and be glad.

***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.



Poem

Derek Duncan

“God of Grace and Mercy”
Sine Nomine Choir

Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word

Minute for Mission

Marcie Denton

Small Plates

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

Scripture Passages

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 (page 619) and 1 Timothy 2:1-17 (page 963)

Jean Reinhold

After the readings

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

***Hymn No. 432**

“How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

St. 2-Low voices
St. 3-High voices

Prayer requests may be passed to the ushers during this hymn

Sermon

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz Jr.

“Stuck In The Middle With You”

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 Pablo Sosa (Caribbean Pentecostal Song)
"If You Only Had Faith"

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. 37 "Let All Things Now Living"

* Commission and Blessing

* Choral Benediction No. 701 "Sanctuary"

The image shows a musical score for a choral benediction. It consists of three staves of music in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff starts with a measure rest of 3 measures, followed by the lyrics 'Lord pre-pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and'. The second staff continues with 'ho - ly, tried and true, With thanks -giv - ing, I'll be a'. The third staff concludes with 'liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you.' The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests.

* Passing of the Peace

Postlude J.S. Bach
"Prelude in A Major"

❁❁❁❁
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:
Rachel Martinez-Finn in memory of Barry Finn, Jaime Martinez and Diana Martinez.

Prayer Requests:
If you would like to request prayers for a personal concern, please use one of the slips of paper in the pew rack. Ushers will collect the requests during the middle hymn and pastors will include them in the congregational prayer.

Prayers are requested this week for the following: Cheryl Anderson, Mark Davidson, the family of Peter Van Dijk, David Hunter, Allan Khoury, Joanna Klingenstein, David Sicking, Elizabeth Shaw, Beverly and Harold Thomas.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Nan Dorer, 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 Nazareth Care Group* will assist our pastors 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 leader (Chris Bell)**.

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

Thank You to all office volunteers (Ellen, Cathy, Pat, Lynda and Anne). You are appreciated!

The deadline for the bulletin or weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. **The next TOWER deadline** is 10/17/19 at 8:00 am. You may submit your written request to office@fhcpresb.org.

To stay up to date on family programming, please subscribe to the Christian Education Newsletter: bit.ly/ceNewsletter.

Coming Up

TODAY

Please start saving your egg cartons again! Place all donated egg cartons in the pantry shopping cart.

GCC members will be signing up participants for the 9/29 event in Fellowship Hall following worship.

Hurricane Dorian Relief Effort: To contribute, google PCUSA Disaster Relief and click on the active disaster link OR - write a check to Presbyterian Disaster Relief and write Dorian on the memo line and the office will make sure that the checks get to the PCUSA relief agency.

Are you interested in becoming part of our Forest Hill Church Community? If so, our Exploring Membership Classes will be offered: **TODAY & Sunday September 29**. Both classes will be in Bodwell Hall from 12:30 to 2:00 pm. A lite lunch will be provided. Childcare can be available, if needed. **If you would like to attend, email Diana@ninthrung.com.**

The Cleveland Messiah Chorus needs YOU!! Rehearsals are at Forest Hill Church, beginning next Sunday, September 22nd from 2:00-3:30 in the Sanctuary. We will use the G. Shirmer edition and have scores available. Call Ginie Mast if you have questions 440-473-4224. She is excited to be conducting this group for the 12th year!

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING: Christ invites, and we also offer ourselves in the pursuit to end violence and bring about reconciliation through the Peace and Global Witness Offering of PCUSA. Our giving offers a word of peace to those incarcerated here and those crushed by civil war in places like the Democratic Republic of the Congo. 25% of the collection for this offering will stay in our community for a related project. Please give generously using the envelope or your usual method of giving. Mark it “Peace Offering.” Thank you, Ministry of Justice and Mission.

THIS WEEK

Bible and Bagels (Bible Study) discusses next Sunday's texts on Wednesday mornings from 7:30 to 8:30. The lessons for this week are: **Jer. 32:1-3a and 6-15, Psalm 91:1-6 and 14-16, Luke 16:19-31 and 1 Tim. 6:6-19.**

The city of South Euclid is holding an electronics recycling event September 23 from 9-3:30 at the South Euclid Community Center, 1370 Victory Drive (behind Giant Eagle). Bring **ANYTHING** with an electric cord or that runs on batteries (cell phones, printers, mp3s, bikes, grills, any metal, metal furniture, electric tools, space heaters, toaster ovens and all small appliances, mowers, desk top and laptop computers). Secure data destruction. NO LIGHTBULBS, NON FLAT-SCREEN TVs or CRTs. Please contact Linda Rainey (linda.rainey@att.net) for more information.

Build relationships and learn about GCC (Greater Cleveland Congregations) criminal justice reform! On September 29 from 1-2 pm at the UCC (South Euclid United Church of Christ -4217 Bluestone Road, South Euclid, Ohio 44121), GCC members Forest Hill Church & South Euclid UCC are partnering to present an inside look at GCC's ongoing criminal justice reform work. How do we act justly? Overcrowding in the County Jail has led to inhumane conditions and inmate suicides, with a disproportionate impact on the Black community. Approximately 1/3 of those kept behind bars should receive help in a mental health or addiction treatment center, reducing jail overcrowding & addressing many inmates' underlying needs. Presenters: Donna Weinberger, LISW, GCC Criminal Justice Coordinator, and Marcia Levine, LISW and GCC leader. Come learn how this issue is being addressed through organized action by GCC also. Lunch will be provided. Rides will be provided, if needed. **See Scott Lafferty or Diana Woodbridge for more info.**

NEXT WEEK

Adult Education: From the book of Job has begun. One class meets in South Hall and one meets in Bodwell Hall. Class begins at 9:30 am and everyone is welcome!

Adult Education with Pastor Lentz 9:30 in the Chapel: "Saving Jesus," a video series listening to scholars talk about the relevance of Jesus for the 21st century. If you liked "Living the Questions," you will like this!

LOOKING AHEAD

Attention all Bread Bakers! October 6 is World Communion Sunday. We use a variety of breads on the Communion Table to commemorate the day. Rather than purchase breads this year, we invite you to bake and share a loaf of Bread of the World. It can be from your heritage or a favorite you like to bake. Please let me know your willingness to participate and the type of bread you plan to bake. We will arrange for you to get them to church to be a part of the celebration. **Contact Linda Martin (216) 280-4049 or martin3386@ameritech.net.**

The Trustees are pleased to announce that Genetha (Nita) Clark has joined the Forest Hill Church staff as our bookkeeper starting on August 16. Nita has 29 years of financial experience (retired from Medical Mutual financial office) and we are very excited to have her here at Forest Hill Church! She will generally be in the financial office on Tuesdays and Thursdays so please stop by to say "Hi!" When you get a chance.

Calendar: September 22-29

<p>Sunday, September 22: TOWER pick up</p> <p>9:15 am Childcare begins</p> <p>9:30 am Adult Education</p> <p> Youth Education</p> <p> Descant Choir</p> <p>10:10 am Pathways</p> <p>10:30 pm Continental Breakfast</p> <p> Chancel Choir</p> <p>11:00 am Worship and Children’s</p> <p> Worship</p> <p>12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation</p> <p>12:15 pm Youth Bowling Trip</p> <p>12:30 pm Exploring Membership</p> <p>Monday, September 23:</p> <p>6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection</p> <p>7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There’s Hope</p> <p> OA Big Book Meeting</p> <p>7:30 pm AA: Borton Group</p> <p>Tuesday September 24:</p> <p>12:00 pm Abundance Pantry</p> <p> Registration</p> <p>5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise</p> <p> Bulletin and Email Deadline</p> <p>Wednesday, September 25:</p> <p>7:30 am Bible and Bagels</p> <p>12:00 pm Staff Meeting</p> <p>12:30 pm Wednesday Women's Group</p> <p>7:00 pm Session Meeting</p> <p> Speak Life Bible Study</p>	<p>Thursday, September 26:</p> <p>1:30 pm English Country Dance</p> <p>5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise</p> <p>6:20 pm Voices in Bronze</p> <p>7:30 pm Chancel Choir</p> <p>Friday, September 27:</p> <p>10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand</p> <p>Saturday, September 28:</p> <p>9:00 am CEIRS</p> <p>Sunday, September 29:</p> <p>9:15 am Childcare begins</p> <p>9:30 am Adult Education</p> <p> Youth Education</p> <p> Descant Choir</p> <p>10:10 am Pathways</p> <p>10:30 pm Continental Breakfast</p> <p> Chancel Choir</p> <p>11:00 am Worship and Children’s</p> <p> Worship</p> <p>12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation</p> <p> Sine Nomine</p> <p>12:30 pm Exploring Membership</p> <p>2:00 pm Messiah Chorus Rehearsal</p>
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Staff Emails

Antoinette Richardson	Administration	office@fhcpresb.org
Genetha Clark	Finance	finance@fhcpresb.org
Ann Donkin	Building Mgr.	adonkin@fhcpresb.org
Stavros Gazis	Head Custodian	custodian@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
Tara Beverly	Youth Leader	youthleader@fhcpresb.org
Anne Wilson	Music	annew@fhcpresb.org



BELOVED COMMUNITY manifests and protects agape love as guiding principle and expresses in the following ways:

1. Offers radical hospitality to everyone, an inclusive family rather than exclusive club.
2. Recognizes and honors the image of God in every human being.
3. Exhibits personal authenticity, true respect, and validation of others.
4. Recognizes and affirms, not eradicates, differences.
5. Listens emotionally (with the heart); fosters empathy and compassion for others.
6. Tolerates ambiguity; realizes that sometimes a clear-cut answer is not readily available.
7. Builds increasing levels of trust and works to avoid fear of difference and others.
8. Acknowledges limitations, lack of knowledge or understanding, and seeks to learn.
9. Acknowledges conflict or pain in order to work on difficult issues.
10. Speaks truth in love, always considering ways to be compassionate with one another.
11. Avoids physical aggression and verbal abuse.
12. Resolves conflicts peacefully, without violence, recognizing that peacefully doesn't always mean comfortably for everybody.
13. Releases resentment and bitterness through self-purification (avoiding internal violence through spiritual, physical, and psychological care).
14. Focuses energy on removing evil forces (unjust systems), not destroying persons.
15. Persists unyieldingly and unwaveringly committed to justice.
16. Achieves friendship and understanding through negotiation, compromise, or consensus, considering each circumstance to discern which will be most helpful.
17. Righteously opposes and takes direct action against poverty, hunger, and homelessness.
18. Advocates thoroughgoing, extensive neighborhood revitalization without displacement (this also applies to the Church, working toward responsible and equitable growth, discipleship, and worship).
19. Blends faith and action to generate a commitment to defeating injustice (not forgetting that injustice can also be found *within* the Church).
20. Encourages and embraces artistic expressions of faith from diverse perspectives.
21. Fosters dynamic and active spirituality; recognizes that we serve a dynamic God who is not left behind by a changing world or people, and that a passive approach will not work.
22. Gathers together regularly for table fellowship and meets the needs of everyone in the community.
23. Relies on scripture reading, prayer, and corporate worship for inner strength.
24. Promotes human rights and works to create a non-racist society.
25. Shares power and acknowledges the inescapable network of mutuality among the human family.

For many years, Forest Hill has offered the Faith Leader program. Participants in this program meet once a week for about seven months to develop spiritual practices that help them grow closer to God and discern God’s call in their lives. During the off years when Faith Leader is not offered, Forest Hill has started offering Small Plates. Each of these experiences focuses on just one spiritual practice and is relatively short in duration. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Forest Hill will offer the following Small Plates experiences to nurture and stretch our spiritual growth:

Bread Making: The Spiritual Practice of Gratitude, Presence, and Care

What memory do you have about bread? Come share stories, faith and recipes as we bake bread together! This small plate offering will meet for five consecutive Saturday mornings starting October 26 and ending November 23. We will meet from 10:00 am until noon in the church kitchen. We’ll bake bread from different cultures, and even try our hand at making bread for our own Forest Hill communion service. Cost is \$5 per class. Registration will be for each class individually, and is limited to eight people per class. This class will be led by Deanne Lentz, Chris Henry and special guests! Registration information will be available soon. “I knead bread to experience God” - Deanne Lentz

Yoga for People of Color

While yoga originated in ancient India, its popularity among white people in the United States has made it so people of color do not always feel safe or welcome in yoga studios and classes. In the development of this small plate, God’s call for Forest Hill to provide a safe place to those who have been wronged has grown louder. People of color are invited to join a yoga class lead by Dawn Rivers of Daybreak Yoga. The cost is \$12 per each of five sessions which will be November 16, 23, 30, 14, and 21. Specific times for the sessions will be available soon. Spread the word! This small plate is intended for any person of color, whether they attend Forest Hill Church or not. For more information, contact Marcie Denton at marciedenton70@gmail.com.

“White Fragility” Book Discussion Group:

Come explore the book "White Fragility: Why it's so hard for white people to talk about racism" by Robin DiAngelo. This small group will read together and uncover the issues that make racism such a challenging topic for white people to deeply engage. Through study and conversation, become more aware of the barriers that prevent each of us from becoming active allies in the work of racial justice and reconciliation. Beginning on October 20, we will meet weekly on Sunday afternoons from 5 - 6. The class will conclude on November 24. COST: \$15 will cover the cost of the text and supporting materials. Email Todd Webster with any questions toddwebster1967@gmail.com.

Forest Hill is a community, and we are here to help each other out. If the cost for any of these Small Plates could be a barrier to your participation, please contact one of the organizers.

3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts. OH 44118

216-321-2660

Fax: 216-320-1214

Email: office@fhcpresb.org

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
Tara Beverly, Youth Leader
Anne Wilson, Director of Music



4PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

blessing of the animals

Front Steps of
Forest Hill Church

3031 Monticello Blvd
Cleveland Hts. OH



Exciting News for Greater Cleveland Congregations!

Keisha Krumm, an IAF (Industrial Areas Foundation) Organizer for more than 17 years will become GCC's new Lead Organizer on November 1st. We can't wait! John Lentz and I were privileged to be part of the interview/selection process, and I know I speak for both of us in saying how thrilled we are that Keisha said an enthusiastic *Yes!* to GCC's invitation. To play on Dr. Seuss, "Oh the places you will go," GCC. Keisha is a strong and proven leader and community-builder; she has committed her life to seeking justice where injustice reigns and to empowering others – individuals and congregations – to be part of this important work.



Keisha has a master's degree from the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary in Christian Community Development. She and her husband Stuart have a daughter, Olivia. Keisha comes to us from our sister IAF organization, Common Ground Milwaukee, where she has been Lead Organizer for the past 8½ years. Prior to that she was an IAF Organizer in Los Angeles and Seattle/Tacoma.

I had the opportunity to represent GCC at Keisha's farewell party. About 80 leaders gathered from multiple congregations, Black, White and Latino – and impressively, they seemed to all know each other. The program was chock full of memories and appreciations that characterized Keisha as a caring friend, a devoted mother and a leader passionate about injustice, full of the cold anger that stands firm in the face of power. Though I didn't think it possible, I came home even more excited about the gifts Keisha will bring to Cleveland and the work we will do together as GCC.

-Diana Woodbridge