

Linian Age:____ Forest Hill Church Service of Worship December 15, 2019 at 11:00 am Advent 3-Lessons and Carols

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today for worship. Please sign in and join us in wearing a name tag so that we might greet you.

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Prayer of Preparation

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven. No ear may hear his coming, yet in this world of sin, Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Lord enters in.

Welcome

Carol:

* Processional Hymn No. 140

"Once in Royal David's City"

St. 1 Julia Koops, soloist St. 2 choir * St. 3 and 4—all stand and sing

*please stand as able

Lighting of the Advent Candle 3

Charity, Ahren, and Emmett Stock

"Let us walk in the light of the Lord"

Lesson 1: The Lamb, by William Blake

read by Gavin Webster

Polish carol

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" St. 1 Descant and Sine Nomine choirs; St. 2 congregation, seated

Lesson 2: *Luke 1: 26-38* Carol:

> "The Seven Joys of Mary" English Carol

Lesson 3: *Luke 2: 8-20* Carol: read by Marina Grant

read by Carolyn Smith

"Gloria" Spanish Carol, arr. Pablo Sosa

Lesson 4: *Mary, Pondering* (from the Iona Community) Carol:

> "The Annunciation" John Bertalot

Lesson 5: *Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7* *Carol No. 141:

"On This Day Earth Shall Ring"

read by Vaughn Ullom

read by Sydney Ball

Lesson 6: *O Lord, You Were Born,* by Ann Weems Carol:

read by Ralph Dise

"The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy"" African/Caribbean spiritual, arr. David Blackwell

Lesson 7: *John 1: 1-5, 9-14* Carol: read by Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

"Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree" Elizabeth Poston

Prayers of the People /The 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	Jason Krug
"In Dulcijubilo"	
*Prayer of Dedication	
Benediction	Tara Beverly
On the eve of Christmas hatred will vanish;	
On the eve of Christmas the earth will flourish;	
On the eve of Christmas war will be gone;	
On the eve of Christmas love will be born.	
When we offer a glass of water to a thirsty person,	
It is Christmas.	
When we clothe a naked person with a gown of love,	
It is Christmas.	
When we wipe the tears from weeping eyes,	
It is Christmas.	
When in my heart I no longer want to stay apart,	
It is Christmas.	
When I am buried in the being of God,	
It is Christmas.	
Sabeel Liberat	ion Theology Center, Jerusalem
* Carol No. 119	
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"	
* The Commission and Blessing	Rev. David Wigger
* Passing of the Peace	

Postlude



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:

David and Anne Hunter in memory of their mothers, Helen Hunter and Gwen Stephenson.

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, Mary Ann Breisch, Kathy Carr, Mark Davidson, David Hunter, Joanna Klingenstein, Keith Logan, and the Loughridge family.

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: All Church Care Group will assist our pastors 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 leader, Elaine Turley.**

Thank you head ushers, Deborah Erwin and Robyn Hales, along with the rest of today's usher team.

Thank you, all office volunteers: Ellen McChesney, Cathy Ghiandoni, Lynda Bernays and Anne Smith. You are appreciated!

Thank you, sound board team: David Bell, Bader Boland and Steve Marunowski.

The deadline for the bulletin or weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **12/12/19 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.**

Comíng Up

TODAY

Register for the upcoming Adult Education class, studying 1 Samuel, today with Pat Seeders before or after service in South Hall. Class will begin January 5.

We thank our Advent trumpeters, Ahren Stock and Scott Lafferty.

THIS WEEK

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Bible and Bagels (Bible Study) discusses next Sunday's texts on Wednesday mornings from 7:30 am to 8:30 am The lessons for this week are: Isa. 7:10-16; Ps. 80: 1-7,17-19; Rom. 1:1-7; Matt. 1:18-25.

NEXT WEEK

Adult Education (Advent 3) at 9:30 am located in South Hall. Mr. Lavert Stuart, who has been a guest organist at our church, will share his knowledge of music for the Advent season. All are welcome!

Yoga for Women of Color: This class offers a place for women of color to learn and explore this spiritual practice, whether they attend Forest Hill Church or not. Class is led by Dawn Rivers of Daybreak Yoga and is designed for all skill levels! Last class to join: **December 21 at 1:30 pm in Bodwell Hall.** Cost is \$12 per session. Spread the word! **For more information, contact Marcie Denton at marciedenton70@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. **

Stewardship Campaign Update:

As of December 9, 2019, we received 184 pledges for a total amount of \$707,915.00. This represents approximately 87% of our 2020 budget of \$810,000. We are almost there! If you have not yet submitted your pledge or would like to increase your pledge, there is still time to do so. You can bring your pledge card to church and submit it during Offertory. If you can't find your pledge card, there are extra pledge cards in the pews. Finally, you can mail your pledge card to:

Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian 3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

Our Family Home Center/ Labre Gifts and Gloves

The ministry of Justice and Mission is looking to raise \$550 to give presents to 57 children at Our Family Home Center in East Cleveland, Ohio. Your financial support will allow us to provide gloves and a small gift for our friends and neighbors at OFHC. With your help, we can reach our goal of distributing over 100 gifts for families in need this Christmas. Please visit our table located in Fellowship Hall before or after service to place your donation in the box. For more information please contact Jennifer Blakeney (216-526-8744), Ajah Hales (216-401-3412) or Jessica Kelley (410-562-1797).

Mark Chupp, Sharon Shumaker and family are going to be volunteering at the Arizona/Mexico border with Frontera de Cristo, a Presbyterian Border Mission Project the week of **December 16**. There is a need for winter clothing such as coats, scarves, mittens and hats. The desert is quite cold at night this time of year and many people do not have adequate outerwear. If you have gently used items you would like to donate please let Sharon know soon (they leave on the 14th). You can contact Sharon: sms2924@gmail.com to make arrangements to get the items from you. They could also use four suitcases that you do not want back.

America's Vigil to #EndGunViolence

This December Americans across the nation will commemorate more than 700,000 Americans killed or wounded by guns. This December Americans across the nation will commemorate more than 700,000 Americans killed or wounded by guns since the Sandy Hook shooting tragedy. Under the leadership of The Newtown Foundation and co-sponsored by nearly all of America's gun violence prevention organizations, more than 90 vigils are scheduled so far. The Cleveland area vigil is presented by "God Before Guns" at:

7:00 pm, Tuesday, December 17

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church

22111 Chagrin Boulevard

Beachwood, OH 44122

This event is free and all are welcome! We will remember and we will act.

Poinsettia Order form – 2019

Orders are due by December 20 at 8 am

Once again we will be adorning the sanctuary with poinsettias. The cost is \$15.00 each and you can purchase one or more to take home with you after Christmas Eve Candlelight service, or leave them to be delivered to our home bound members.

If you wish to contribute, Please let Antoinette Richardson know and forward your payment to the Church office.

~Linda Martin Worship Ministry

Name: _____

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Phone or email:

Number of poinsettias @ \$15 each _____

Would you like to donate or take the arrangement? _

Dedication: in memory of, in honor of, in thanksgiving for, to celebrate WHOM or WHAT.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Did you know, every 2 minutes someone needs blood and just 1 pint of blood can help up to 3 people in need? FHC will be sponsoring a Blood Drive on **Sunday, December 22 from 12:15 pm – 5:15 pm** in South Hall. The FHC Blood Drive will be in memory of Connie Reynolds, FHC Member Rob Reynolds' mother. Connie received blood from the kindness of strangers during her 5-year battle with cancer, which she lost 3 years ago. Everyone in good health is encouraged to donate; online appointments are encouraged. You can make your life-saving appointment at RedCrossBlood.org and typing in the Sponsor Code – FHC. **If you have questions about making your appointment, or about the blood donation process, please contact Rob Reynolds** (robert.reynolds@redcross.org).

Adult Education's Advent Program Advent: It's not just a WREATH; what are you waiting for?

December 22: Music of Advent, both old and new.

December 29: Christmas Celebration! A breakfast for the entire church family at 9:30 am. Main entrée will be provided. Bring a sweet treat to share with your church family.

Please contact Pat Seeders (216-832-7915 or @plseeders@gmail.com) for more information.

Volunteer Opportunities

The following are ways in which you can help Leonor and her family as needed:

- 1. Picking up Leonor and/or the boys when they need to come to Cleveland from Akron
- 2. Taking Leonor and the boys back to Akron
- 3. Providing meals when the family is in Cleveland
- 4. Providing activities for Luis Mario (8) and Adan (6) during the day and evenings when they are in Cleveland
- 5. Overnight stays with the family at the church
- 6. Food preparation with Leonor for special events (she is trying to earn money by cooking and selling her food and by catering events)
- 7. Transport of food from our food pantry to Leonor every week

If you are interested in becoming a part of this effort, please contact Charity Stock at charityrmcdonald@gmail.com. Your name will be added to the Sign up Genius list and you will be contacted as needed. Thank you for your continued support! -FHC Immigration Task Force

Please join our knitting, sewing and crocheting group, "Fiber and Fellowship". The next meeting: December 24 at 9 am. Please contact Carol (216-598-9730) or Chris (chris3040@aol.com) for more details.

Longest Night Service - in the Great Hall of Church of the Saviour, 2537 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, on Saturday, **December 21 at 5 pm**. People experiencing any kind of loss or difficulty during the holidays are most welcome. The planning team has woven comforting, healing elements into a beautiful liturgy that includes communion. All are welcome.

The 2020 Homeless Stand Down is scheduled for Saturday, January 11 and once again FHC will field a team of personal shoppers for the morning shift. If you want to join our team, simply email Jack Breisch at jackbreisch@gmail.com. Come and take part in a very gratifying experience!

CALLING ALL PACESETTERS! IT IS TIME TO PLAN FOR 2020!

What is a Pacesetter? Pacesetters began 35 years ago (or so) as a social group of 20-30 year olds at Forest Hill. Pacesetters, (now 50 -70 somethings) includes a mix of long-time and brand-new members and visitors, singles and couples, folks with kids or not who gather throughout the year for a variety of activities, both social and service-related.

All are Welcome to the 2020 Pacesetters Planning Party, hosted by Scott and Sue Lafferty. When: Saturday, January 25 at 7 pm

Where: 1969 Bromton Drive, Lyndhurst

Bring along your ideas of activities you would like to join in with the Pacesetters along with an appetizer, salad, beverage or dessert to share. Some soft drinks and juices will be provided. No RSVP necessary! As we seek to be the Welcoming Community, we encourage long time Pacesetters to greet a new member or visitor and bring them along with you on January 25. AND new members or visitors to Forest Hill to take a chance and Come and See what the fellowship of this group looks like! You won't be disappointed! Questions or directions, call Sue 440-669-4885 or Scott @ 440-429-2937 or email swlaff@sbcglobal.net.

"Reconnecting with God's Creation" is back for a third year! The course is one of several "small plates" offerings by the Ministry of Education and Spiritual Formation. Classes consist of readings, mixed media presentations, small group discussion, adoption of a place for nature observation, and field trips. Through the course, you will more clearly understand the deep connections between humans and nature and explore how you can act on your responsibility as a Christian for stewardship of the natural world. The 10 classes are focused around 4 themes: preservation and protection, stewardship, wonder and magic, and restoration. Environmental justice and climate change will be emphasized throughout the course. By the end of the course, you will draw closer to, learn from, and be empowered to serve God's creation. A suggested \$10 donation by participants would be appreciated to offset the cost of class materials and facility rental fee at one of the field trip locations. Please sign up soon as the course is limited to 12 people. Classes will take place on Sundays from 4-6 pm March 15 to June 7, 2020 excluding Easter (April 12), Mother's Day (May 10) and Memorial Day (May 24). They will be held at FHC in South Hall or will include field trips to nearby parks/nature preserves. If you have any questions and/or are interested in participating please contact Kemp Jaycox (kempjaycox@yahoo.com; 216-785-5375) or Steve Sedam (Goldens101@aol.com; 614-783-4467).

Calendar: December 15-22

Sunday, December 15: Advent 3-Lessons and	Thursday, December 19:	
Carols	1:30 pm English Country Dance	
9:15 am Childcare begins	5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise	
9:30 am Adult Education	6:20 pm Voices in Bronze	
Youth Education	7:30 pm Chancel Choir	
Pageant Dress Rehearsal		
Descant Choir	Friday, December 20:	
10:10 am Pathways	10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand	
10:30 pm Continental Breakfast	5:00 pm Last day to order Poinsettias	
Chancel Choir		
11:00 am Worship and Children's	Saturday, December 21:	
Worship	1:30 pm Yoga (Small Plates)	
12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation		
Lisa Koops Book Discussion	Sunday, December 22: Advent 4	
Pageant Dress Rehearsal	9:15 am Childcare begins	
5:00 pm Youth Christmas Party	9:30 am Adult Education	
7:00 pm Promises on Sunday	Youth Education	
	Pageant Dress Rehearsal	
Monday, December 16:	Descant Choir	
6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection	10:10 am Pathways	
7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There's Hope	10:30 pm Continental Breakfast	
OA Big Book Meeting	Chancel Choir	
7:30 pm AA: Borton Group	11:00 am Worship and Children's	
	Worship	
Tuesday December 17:	12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation	
10:00 am Fiber and Fellowship	Blood Drive	
12:00 pm Abundance Pantry	Pick up your TOWER	
Registration	7:00 pm Promises on Sunday	
5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise		
Bulletin and Email Deadline		
7:00 pm Black History Meeting		
Wednesday, December 18:		
7:30 am Bible and Bagels		
12:00 pm Staff Meeting		
12:30 pm Wednesday Women's Group		
7.00 nm Sneak Life Bible Study		

Session Meeting TransFamily East Meeting

3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts. OH 44118 216-321-2660 Fax: 216-320-1214 Email: <u>office@fhcpresb.org</u> Website: <u>www.fhcpresb.org</u> Rev. Dr. Veronica R. 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

Worship Notes			

Donate Blood in memory of



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Connie Reynolds

Connie Reynolds was a giving person who always helped others. During her five-year battle with cancer she received several blood products. Her family wants to honor her by giving back to those in need. They invite the community to give blood in memory of Connie and help ensure blood is available for patients in need this holiday season.

Blood Drive Reynolds Family Drive Forest Hill Church

South Hall 3031 Monticello Blvd. Cleveland, OH 44118

Sunday, December 22, 2019 12:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

To make your life saving appointment, please call 1-800 RED-CROSS or go to RedCrossBlood.org today.



Give a gift, get a gift. Come to give Dec. 19-Jan. 5 for an exclusive Red Cross long-sleeved T-shirt, while supplies last!

American Red Cross

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

The Labre Thanksgiving Meal at Our Family Home Center was a great success thanks to the following people who paid for the turkeys, cooked the turkeys, provided all the sides and desserts, served the meal, and worked the kitchen. Our neighbors in East Cleveland were most appreciative of the work and generosity. Many remarked how grateful they were not only for the delicious meal but also for our presence. Whatever wasn't served on Thanksgiving was served the following Thursday at the weekly meal. Over 250 meals in total were provided. Thank you all!!

Melanie Alban Scott Berry Ben Breisch Mary Ann Breisch Kay Dunlap Jeff Dyke Kathryn Eloff Suzanne Fitzpatrick Margy Glaros Mariana Grant Chris Henry Kate Jaycox Morag Keefe Scott Lafferty Linda Ryan Bob Scott Holly Scott Debbie Smith Jenny Smith Lara Troyer Sally Wile **Diane Woodbridge**

Betsy Andrews Jennifer Blakeney Jack Breisch Sarah Breisch Henry Dyke Margaret Dyke Cindy Fink Anna Marie Geiger Mike Glaros Lil Hauser Mary Hosier Kemp Jaycox Judy Killea Sue Lafferty Sandy Schultz Frederica Scott **Steve Sedam** Jeff Smith Nonie Stack Lisa Vahey Ann Williams Tom Zych