



Forest Hill Church
presbyterian



Family, Youth, and Children Ministries

Julia Koops Sharp



Name:

Julia Koops

Age:

8

Coming to
a church near
you.

Forest Hill Church Service of Worship

December 22, 2019 at 11:00 am

Advent 4- Christmas Pageant

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

Centering Words

“Because of God’s [just] mercy, the dawn from heaven will break upon us, to give light to those who are sitting in darkness ... and to guide our feet on the pathways of peace.”
-Luke 1:78-79

Welcome

Call to Worship
(Adapted from Isa. 7:14 and Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson) Nicole Lawrence

“There were days when I couldn’t breathe...I hadn’t experienced anything like this before in my life...I prayed, I read the Bible, and I’d be lying if I didn’t tell you that I was scared, terrified just about every day.”
In this season of mercy, we light candles in loneliness and in love,
as a reminder of the coming light of Christ.
As the Holy One has promised, in days to come God will give a sign.
Look, the young woman is with child. She will have a son and call him: “God-is-with-us”
In heartache and in love...
let us walk in the light of the Holy One.

* Processional Carol No. 113
“Angels We Have Heard on High”
*please stand as able

Lighting of the Advent Candle 4

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession
(Adapted from the Confession of Belhar (10.3))
God of hope, peace, joy, and love...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.

Kyrie J. S. Bach (from Christmas Oratorio)

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

Assurance of Pardon

*Carol No. 145
“What Child Is This”

Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word

Minute for Mission Ajah Hales
Scripture Passages Nicole Lawrence
Homily Rev. David Wigger

Christmas Pageant: “Tomorrow Starts Today”

Script by Sue Matsui, adapted by Anne Wilson and David Wigger

Cast	
Prophet 1	Rowan Trammell
Prophet 2	Henry Dyck
Child	Linnea Koops
Mother	Laura Minder
Landlord	Carl Jenks
Pastor	Tara Beverly
Narrators	Vaughn Ullom Noel Ullom Violet Majot Josh Koops
Gabriel	Colin Webster
Mary	Margaret Dyck
Joseph	Gavin Webster
Elizabeth	Julia Koops
Shepherds	Lillian Keefe Ganter Sarah Rose Castillo Keefe
Star Carrier	Kaylee Moran
Angel Chorus	Charlotte Pizsel Sydney Ball Chip Vandall
Holy Spirit	Maya Garrett

Music:

“Prepare a Road for the Lord”
Prophet 1

“They Take My Food”
Landlord, Mother, and Child

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”
Descant and Sine Nomine choirs

“There’s a Star in the East”
Descant and Sine Nomine choirs

“Long Ago, A Baby Was Born”
Angel chorus

“Tomorrow Starts Today”
Descant and Sine Nomine choirs

After the Pageant, children return to their families. Cherubs will be taken up to the Nursery.

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

Mack Wilberg

“One December, Bright and Clear”
Sine Nomine Choir

Gifts given in the labeled envelopes will be designated for the Christmas Joy Offering.

*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

* Carol No. 136

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

* The Commission and Blessing

Rev. David Wigger

* Passing of the Peace

Postlude

Louis Daquin

“Noel No. 8”



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.

Today the Poinsettias are given by:

- Barb Hansen in memory of Lamont Hansen and Ethel Van Fleet.
- Steve Marunowski and Peg Weissbrod in memory of all who have left us to live in the light.
- Eileen Vizcaino in memory of Michael and Irma Flowers, and Israel Vizcaino.
- Debbie Chapman and Lyn Hale in memory of loved ones.
- Carol and Tim Gifford in memory of our parents Mary and Robert Sacha, Marilyn and Dick Gifford. And in Celebration of our grandchildren Hailey and Peter.
- In loving memory of Walter A. Schultz from his family.
- Dave and Chris Bell in honor of family, with love.
- Rachel Martinez-Finn and Bill Finn in loving memory of their parents.
- Marina B. Grant in loving memory of her parents.
- Carol Leslie thankful for her family and friends.
- Jane Kowall in memory of parents Walter and Elaine Grasson and Paul and Dorothy Kowall.
- Iris and Albert Gilbert in memory of Walda Ann and Charles Gilbert.
- Nancy Burcham in memory of Dave Halkerston and Bill Burcham.
- Nancy Grube in memory of Donal Grube.
- Kathy and Derry Stauffer in memory of Pete and Jane Hanna and Dwight Stauffer. And in honor of Margie Stauffer.
- Jeanette Nemcek in celebration of Gianna Caminiti.
- Morag Keefe in memory of Tom Keefe.

- Robin Mervine in memory of Mel Mervine.
- Liz and Chris Wollaeger in memory of Nancy and Bill Olson, Madge and Rick Wollaeger from the Wollaeger and Olson families.
- Carolyn Sloan Smith in memory of Rev. Andrew Smith and parents, Dr. Dwight and Josephine Smith, and Robert and Grace Sloan.

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: Breisch Family, 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 **1/16/19 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.

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

Coming Up

TODAY

Pat Seeders will be at the South Hall entrance to register anyone who wants to join the Adult Ed classes studying 1st Samuel. Classes begin January 5.

Our Christmas trumpeters are Ahren Stock and Scott Lafferty.

Forest Hill Church Meet & Greet! Please join us for a 15-20 minute Meet & Greet immediately following the service. We will tour the church, share some information, and answer any questions you may have. We will meet at the front of the sanctuary.

Please give to the Christmas Joy special offering with the envelopes in the pew racks or text JOY to 20222 to give \$10 or go to www.presbyterianmission.org/give/Christmasjoy and identify FHC as your congregation. This important offering supports our past, present, and future leaders by providing financial support for current and retired church leaders and scholarships to colleges for promising students of color.

THIS WEEK

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. 63:7-9; Ps. 148; Heb. 2:10-18; Matt. 2:13-23.**

NEXT WEEK

The Adult Ed class would like to invite the whole church family to the end of Advent celebration breakfast next Sunday at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall. The main entree is being provided by Morag. Please bring breakfast pastry or sweet bread to share with your church family.

Assistance needed Christmas Eve!! The worship ministry is asking your assistance to set up for our Christmas Eve services.

December 22: After worship, please help set up the aisle candelabra in the sanctuary. The more we have, the quicker it will go! 4 people would be great.

December 24: Prior to 5:00 service--need 2-4 assistants to set up the luminaries outside the front of the church. These individuals will need to be present by 4:10 pm. Also need 2-4 assistants to light aisle candelabra and window candles. Need to be present by 4:30.

Prior to the 11:00 service--2-4 assistants to light candles in windows and aisle candelabra. Need to be present by 10:30. **Please let me know if you are able to help any of these times. Linda Martin, Worship ministry (216) 280-4049, martin3386@ameritech.net.**



*Expecting something special this Christmas?
So are we!*



Forest Hill Church

presbyterian

3031 Monticello near Mayfield & Lee

216.321.2660 www.fhcpresb.org

Christmas Eve

5pm Intergenerational Service

11pm Candlelight Service

(milk & cookies reception following)

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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 **today 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).**

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!

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. **For more information please contact Jennifer Blakeney (216-526-8744), Ajah Hales (216-401-3412) or Jessica Kelley (410-562-1797).**

Please join our knitting, sewing and crocheting group, "Fiber and Fellowship." The next meetings are: **January 11 at 9 am and January 14 at 10 am.** Please contact **Carol (216-598-9730) or Chris (chris3040@aol.com)** for more details.

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

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

<p>Sunday, December 22: Advent 4 9:15 am Childcare begins 9:30 am Adult Education Youth Education Pageant Dress Rehearsal Descant Choir 10:10 am Pathways 10:30 pm Continental Breakfast Chancel Choir 11:00 am Worship and Children's Worship 12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation Blood Drive Pick up your TOWER 7:00 pm Promises on Sunday</p> <p>Monday, December 23: 6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection 7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There's Hope OA Big Book Meeting 7:30 pm AA: Borton Group</p> <p>Tuesday December 24: Office Closes at 12 12:00 pm Abundance Pantry 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise Bulletin and Email Deadline Christmas Eve Service 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service</p> <p>Wednesday, December 25: Office Closed</p>	<p>Thursday, December 26: Office Closed 4:00 pm Kwanzaa Program</p> <p>Friday, December 27: Office Closed 10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand</p> <p>Saturday, December 28:</p> <p>Sunday, December 29: 9:15 am Childcare begins 9:30 am All Church Breakfast 11:00 am Worship and Children's Worship 12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation 7:00 pm Promises on Sunday</p>
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Donations of cookies are needed for the reception following the Christmas Eve service.
Please drop them off in the kitchen as you arrive.



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!!

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|----------------------|-------------------|
| Melanie Alban | Betsy Andrews |
| Scott Berry | Jennifer Blakeney |
| Ben Breisch | Jack Breisch |
| Mary Ann Breisch | Sarah Breisch |
| Kay Dunlap | Henry Dyke |
| Jeff Dyke | Margaret Dyke |
| Kathryn Eloff | Cindy Fink |
| Suzanne Fitzpatrick | Anna Marie Geiger |
| Margy Glaros | Mike Glaros |
| Mariana Grant | Lil Hauser |
| Chris Henry | Mary Hosier |
| Kate Jaycox | Kemp Jaycox |
| Morag Keefe | Judy Killea |
| Scott Lafferty | Sue Lafferty |
| Deanne Lentz | Tracy Long |
| Karen Loughridge | Gary Lustic |
| Rachel Martinez-Finn | Ellen McChesney |
| Linda Rainey | Jim Roosa |
| Chloe Russo | Katie Russo |
| Matt Russo | Niki Russo |
| Linda Ryan | Sandy Schultz |
| Bob Scott | Frederica Scott |
| Holly Scott | Steve Sedam |
| Debbie Smith | Jeff Smith |
| Jenny Smith | Nonie Stack |
| Lara Troyer | Lisa Vahey |
| Sally Wile | Ann Williams |
| Diane Woodbridge | Tom Zych |

EPIPHANY PARTY!



Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020

5:00 - 8:00 PM

hosted by

Carolyn S. Smith

and her students and musical guests

held this year at

Gates Mills Club

Senior Living

6759 Mayfield Road,

Gates Mills, OH 44124

Since 2004, the Smith family has celebrated the tradition of hosting an Epiphany Party near the the 12th Day of Christmas. A good time is had by all, and more friends join in the fun each year.

Therefore, in the spirit of giving, we ask people to bring appetizers, salads, favorite dishes, desserts or drinks for the food table. I'll brew coffee and make punch. There will be a box for collecting cash (or check) donations for the Abundance Pantry at Forest Hills Church, which serves more than 300 families a month in Cleveland Heights and surrounding communities.

A Jam Session and Singalong always an annual bonus to our party, so feel free to bring your instruments and voices!

We hope that our Jewish friends have a blessed Chanukah, that those celebrating Christmas find Joy, that Kwanzaa is filled with good cheer and that the Winter Solstice will be cold and snowy! We also hope and pray once again that the New Year brings all of us closer to Peace in our troubled world.

Call 216-509-3928 for more information or questions.

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