

Forest Hill Church *Service of Worship*

January 12, 2020 at 11:00 am

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.

Centering Words/ Prayer of Preparation

Rejoice in your baptism and receive anew God's merciful gifts!

Welcome

Prelude

Hugo Distler

"How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"

Tim Robson, guest organist

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship: Psalm 29

Kurt Haas

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings; ascribe to the Lord Glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God's name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

May the Lord give strength to God's people! May the Lord bless the people with peace.

Let us worship God!

*** Processional Hymn No. 490**

"Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters"

**please stand as able*

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession:

You have given Christ as a covenant to the nations, O God, yet your people continue to live at war. Your prophets proclaim justice and peace, yet we dwell amid hostility and oppression. You judge your people with fairness; we implore you to have mercy upon us. Give sight to eyes that are blind to your truth. Enlighten our darkness, that we may behold you even in the midst of our enemies. Free us from seeking your own grandeur, so that in humility we may live at peace with your people.

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie Eleison (*Lord, have mercy*)

John Merbecke

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

The Assurance of Forgiveness:

The promises of God are with us still. As the prophet foretold, a Servant is sent. A bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench.


He knows our weakness.

Trust the promises of God in Jesus Christ: **we are forgiven.**

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.



5 Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Anthem

James E. Clemens (Mennonite community)

“God, We Honor You”

Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word

Children’s Moment

Rev. David Wigger

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

*Hymn No. 488

“I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry”

Scripture Passages

Isaiah 42:1-9; Matt. 3:13-17

Kurt Haas

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

“Remember Your Baptism”

Prayers of the People

Prayers of the People /The Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

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

Calvin Hampton

“There's a Wideness in God's Mercy”

*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

“Wade in the Water”

Seated, congregation sings refrain

Refrain

Wade in the wat - er, wade in the wat-er, child-ren. Wade in the wat - er,

Fine

God's going to troub-le the wat - er. See that host all dressed in white, God's going to troub-le the

D.C. al fine

wa - ter. The lead - er looks like an Is - rae - lite. God's going to troub-le the wa - ter.

Who are these children dressed in red?
God's gonna trouble the water
Must be the children that Moses led
God's gonna trouble the water. *Refrain*

Jordan's water is chilly and cold.
God's gonna trouble the water.
It chills the body, but not the soul.
God's gonna trouble the water. *Refrain*

If you get there before I do.
God's gonna trouble the water.
Tell all of my friends I'm coming too.
God's gonna trouble the water. *Refrain*

*Commission and Blessing

*Choral Benediction No. 701

“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.

* Passing of the Peace

Postlude

Gordon Young

“Prelude in Classic Style”
Tim Robson, guest organist
❁❁❁❁
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:

The flower arrangements will be donated to our homebound members.

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: Doris Brandt, Breisch Family, Kathy Carr, Mark Davidson, Marcie Denton, Rita Grube, David Hunter, Joanna Klingenstein, and the Loughridge family, Bill Proudfit, Jeff Smith and Kathy Hanna-Stauffer.

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: *The Calvary Care Group* will assist our pastors in meeting members' needs during **January**. 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, Mary Hosier**.

Thank you, Deborah Erwin and Robyn Hales, head ushers, along 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.

Coming Up

TODAY

This morning we welcome Tim Robson, today's guest organist. In addition to playing the organ, Tim is a retired librarian and a writer about music for ClevelandClassical.com and Bachtrack.com. Anne Wilson is in North Carolina today, accompanying the choir tour of Nebraska Wesleyan University.

Flower donations are needed for January and February! 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 email office@fhcpresb.org if you would like to take this opportunity to help beautify the sanctuary.**

The Immigration Task Force is seeking volunteers to assist with welcoming our guests from Burkina Faso. Current volunteer needs include: overnight volunteers (male only), daytime hospitality volunteers, and meal drop-off. Future needs may include English tutoring and transportation. **Please email the Immigration Task Force at ITF@fhcpresb.org** if you are interested in becoming involved. Thank you for your support!

Following worship in South Hall, please join the members of the FHC GCC Core Team and Pastor Lentz for a brief update (no more than 30 minutes) about GCC's ongoing efforts to secure Mental Health and Addiction Crisis Centers in Cuyahoga County.

The Black Caucus of FHC proudly announces that Doris, the Vice President of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus will be our guest speaker today after service in Bodwell Hall. Doris is a native Clevelander and graduate of Cleveland Heights High, and holds a degree in Business Management from Cleveland State University. In addition, Doris is a Master of Divinity graduate of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary (L.P.T.S.) where she was awarded a Certificate in Black Church Studies. She currently serves as a Chaplain Fellow in Mental Health. Doris previously served as Seminarian to the Board of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus and is the current Vice President. She is a member of the Office of General Assembly Vision 2020 Guiding Statement Committee and the Association of Presbyterian Christian Educators Diversity Task Force Team.

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. 49:1-7; Ps. 40:1-11; 1 Cor. 1:1-9 and John 1:29-42.**

NEXT WEEK

The next Adult Education study of 1st Samuel will continue through February 23. There are two classes one led by Kathryn Eloff and Tom Zych in South Hall and one led by Pat Jenkins and Laury Larson which meets in Bodwell Hall. Class begins at 9:30 am and everyone is welcome.

The next Adult Education class with Pastor Lentz titled, “Questions of Faith” will continue in the chapel at 9:30 am.

Please join our knitting, sewing and crocheting group, *Fiber and Fellowship*. Next meetings are: **January 28 at 10 am and February 8 at 9 am.** Please contact **Carol (216-598-9730) or Chris (chris3040@aol.com)** for more details.

JANUARY OPPORTUNITIES FOR RACIAL EQUITY BUDDY ACTIVITIES

There are a few January events which provide great opportunities for an outing with a new, potential, or established racial equity buddy: - The movie adaptation of the book *Just Mercy*, which opens January 10 and is showing at several local theaters. - Cleveland nonprofit: Facing History and Ourselves is hosting a free and interactive Community Equity Forum on **January 15 from 5-7:30 pm** at John Carroll University (at the Dolan Center in the Donahue Auditorium). This forum is a space for our community to share ways in which each of us can be intentional about issues of equity within our personal and professional lives. Registration is free. - The '1619 PROJECT ' public discussion **on January 27 from 7-8 pm** at the CH-UH Lee Road Branch library (Meeting Rooms A & B). No registration is required for this discussion. **If you wish to find a racial equity buddy or want more information about this exciting program, feel free to speak with any of the organizers or send an email to: BlackCaucus@fhcpresb.org.**

Black Caucus Book Club: On Saturday morning, **March 21**, in Bodwell Hall beginning at 10 am. we will discuss the book 'Strength to Love' a compilation of sermons given by MLK, Jr. All people of good will are welcome and encouraged to attend. The Caucus has access to a few copies of the book 'Strength to Love'. **If you wish to borrow a copy please see or email Nicole Lawrence at nalawrence3@gmail.com.** Although the book is not in the Cleveland Heights library, you can get copies from the ClevNet consortium and have a copy delivered to you. Alternatively, one can order the book via EBAY or Amazon. -Black Caucus Book Club

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. We also encourage 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).**

Volunteer Opportunities for ongoing support of Leonor and family.

1. Transportation to/from Akron for periodic visits to the church
2. Invite the family for a meal when they visit
3. Invite the family for an overnight in your home.
4. Activities for the boys when they are in town.
4. Help with food preparation when Leonor does food sales at the church
5. Transport groceries from the food pantry to Leonor in Akron

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 Signup Genius list and you will be contacted as needed. Thank you for you continued support! - **FHC Immigration Task Force**

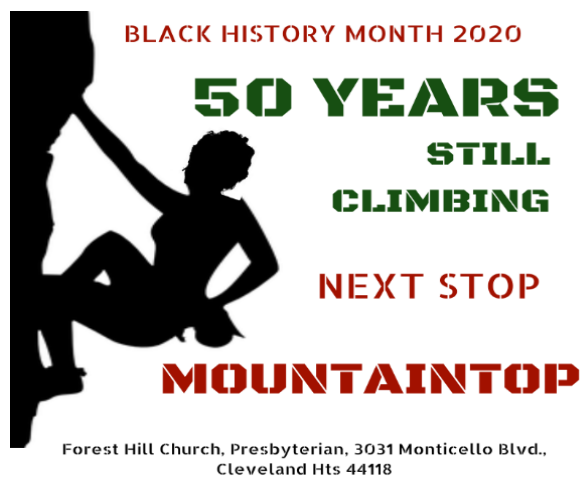
Calendar: January 12-19

<p>Sunday, January 12: 11:00 am Worship and Children’s Worship 12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation GCC Update Black Caucus 5:00 pm Youth House Church 7:00 pm AA: Promises on Sunday</p> <p>Monday, January 13: 6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection 7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There’s Hope OA Big Book Meeting Book Club Meeting 7:30 pm AA: Borton Group Boy Scout Troop #403</p> <p>Tuesday January 14: 10:00 am Fiber and Fellowship 12:00 pm Abundance Pantry Registration 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise Bulletin and Email Deadline 6:30 pm Nominating Committee 7:00 pm Black History Team Meeting</p>	<p>Wednesday, January 15: 7:30 am Bible and Bagels 12:00 pm Staff Meeting 12:30 pm Wednesday Women's Group 7:00 pm Guest Group: Speak Life Bible Study Session Meetings TransFamily East Meeting Jung Workshop</p> <p>Thursday, January 16: TOWER Deadline 1:30 pm English Country Dance 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise 6:20 pm Voices in Bronze 7:30 pm Chancel Choir</p> <p>Friday, January 17: 10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand</p> <p>Saturday, January 18: 8:30 am CEIRS Workshop</p> <p>Sunday, January 19: 9:15 am Childcare begins 9:30 am Adult Education 10:00 am Youth Education Descant Choir Pathways 10:30 pm Continental Breakfast Chancel Choir 11:00 am Worship and Children’s Worship 12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation Sine Nomine Rehearsal 7:00 pm AA: Promises on Sunday</p>
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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



This year, the Black History Education Committee has designed an interactive learning program complete with outings, fellowship, and (optional) group activities. Our theme for 2020 is: **50 Years, Still Climbing: Next Stop, Mountaintop.**

SAVE THESE DATES!

More information about all Black History Month offerings will be available soon

Saturday, February 15th

MA'AFA – a play written & directed by Terrence Spivey and performed at Olivet Institutional Baptist Church, 8712 Quincy Avenue. The drama, in song and dance, takes the audience on a mystical journey from present day to witnessing the torturous transatlantic slave trade to the antebellum, in order for a ten-year old girl to learn her family tree and save an African burial ground in the South. We have reserved blocks of tickets for both the 2 PM and 7 PM shows.

Saturday, February 22nd:

Cooking class by Chef Eric Wells of Sky LaRae's Culinary Services. A hands-on interactive program, held in Forest Hill Church, where we will cook a gourmet four course meal! After preparation, we will all sit and eat communally. Chef Wells is a Cleveland native and a graduate of Loretta Paganini's International Culinary Arts and Sciences Institute.

Sunday, Feb 23, evening:

Soul Food Potluck: We will have our traditional Soul Food Potluck with a novel approach. In keeping with our theme focusing on the last 50 years, we ask that people bring foods melding traditional Soul Food with elements derived from other food traditions: think barbecue chicken spaghetti, fried chicken biryani, bananas foster chimichanga, or kimchi cole slaw. Many other examples are readily available in restaurants and online.

Ascension: An Evening of African-American Music: The seventh annual Black History Month Concert Organized by musical director Caleb A. Wright, will be an evening of African American sacred music and jazz focusing on the last 50 years. Dear friend of our church and seminarian, Shannon Garrett Headon, will serve as host for the evening. Theron Brown, a national jazz recording artist & pianist, will direct a collective of creative and skilled local musicians, including Reginald Bowens, Michael Hives, Malika Turner, Adrianna Miller, Sierra Delaine, Toyia Wright-Reynolds and more. Local artist Eris Dyson will serve as our Poet Laureate. This is an evening of phenomenal music that you do not want to miss!

Signups, times, costs, and other necessary information for all events are coming soon