

Forest Hill Church
Service of Worship
January 5, 2020 at 11:00 am
Epiphany

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

“I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.”
-Jeremiah 31:13

Welcome

Choral Introit

Luigi Cherubini

“Arise, Shine”

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship:

Sharon Shumaker

Praise the Lord!

How good it is to sing praises to our God!

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving.

God gathers the outcasts and heals the brokenhearted.

Great is God and abundant in power; God’s understanding is beyond measure.

Praise the Lord!

Let us worship the living and loving God.

*** Processional Hymn No. 401**

“Gather Us In”

**please stand as able*

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession:

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

**God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people.
We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the
poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us from
our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that forgiven and renewed, we may show forth
your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ.**

Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie Eleison (*Lord, have mercy*)

John Merbecke


Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

The Assurance of Pardon:

The Holy One fills us with the brightness of Christ, and makes us shine like a star in the deepest night. In the name of Christ you are forgiven.

In the name of Christ we are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

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!

Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word

Scripture Passages

Ephesians 1:3-14 (page 949)

Sharon Shumaker

After the readings

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

Sermon

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz Jr.

“Chosen in Christ”

Ritual of Friendship/ Offering

Offertory

David Hurd

“A Stable Lamp is Lighted”

***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**

Eucharist

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Sanctus

John Merbecke

Prayers of the People /The Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

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.

Communion of the People

Music during Communion

Carlton Young

"In the Singing"

Prayer after Communion

Loving and gracious God, from east and west, from north and south, you have gathered us at your table, called us your beloved, and fed us from your body. Transform us to be your body in the world, and fortify us by your Spirit, so that we may serve you and our neighbors with great joy. Amen.

Going Forth to Live as God's People

Closing Hymn No. 151

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

Seated, congregation sings refrain

*Commission and Blessing

*Choral Benediction No. 701

"Sanctuary"

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Sanctuary" in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are: "Lord pre-pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and ho - ly, tried and true, With thanks -giv-ing, I'll be a liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you." The score includes a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a time signature of 4/4. There are measure rests of 3 and 6 measures indicated at the beginning of the first and second staves respectively.

* Passing of the Peace

Postlude

Setting by Wilbur Held

"Joy to the World"

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

Poinsettias:

Cameron family in loving memory of Ann Cameron and all our loved ones.

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, David Hunter, Joanna Klingenstein 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: *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
Brief mandatory meeting in the library after worship today for all members of the FHC Homeless Stand Down team.

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.

Today's three kings are: Seth Ungemach, Sydney Ball and Carl Jenks. We give thanks to Bill and Kris Fay who dressed the kings in their sumptuous attire. The kings' clothing was given in memory of Bill Tapie.

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!

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. 42:1-9; Ps. 29; Acts 10:34-43 and Matt. 3:13-17.**

Heights Friends of Immigrants will be meeting Tuesday, **January 7** at St. Dominic Church, Shaker Hts. at 7 pm. This is a monthly opportunity to become informed about immigration issues locally and nationally and to learn about opportunities to become involved with support and advocacy. In the

January meeting Sharon Shumaker and other family members will share about their recent visit to the Arizona/Mexico border. **Questions contact Sharon at sms2924@gmail.com.**

NEXT WEEK

The next Adult Education study of the 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 11 at 10 am and January 14 at 9 am.** Please contact **Carol (216-598-9730) or Chris (chris3040@aol.com)** for more details.

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!

Thank you to everyone who donated winter outdoor wear for us (Shumaker Chupps) to take to the border last week. We experienced firsthand how appreciated and necessary these are as temperatures were in the 30s and windy during some of the days we were there (higher altitudes mean colder temps). **For more information about the trip attend the Heights Friends of Immigrants meeting at St Dominic.**

GCC Update: Following worship on Sunday, January 12 (in South Hall), please join 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. This important work will help in the fight against excessive incarceration and overcrowding in our County jail that unduly burdens the most vulnerable and people of color. In addition, we are seeking commitments from at least 100 members of FHC and friends to attend GCC's 1000+ member Public Meeting on February 27th to hold our county officials accountable for this important work. The location will be announced at a later date. Even if you cannot attend on January 12, **please contact either Diana Woodbridge at diana@ninthrung.com or Scott Lafferty swlaff@sbcglobal.net to let us know you will attend on February 27.**

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.**

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.**

Volunteer Opportunities for ongoing support of Leonor and family. Due to the wonderful generosity of FHC and the community we are in good shape at this point for financial support of Leonor and family. We will let you know if/when at some point in the future this becomes an issue again. Thank you so much for all the financial support. There are, however, other ways we can continue to support her.

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**

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

“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).**

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.

Calendar: January 5-12

<p>Sunday, January 5: 11:00 am Worship and Children’s Worship 12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation 7:00 pm Promises on Sunday</p> <p>Monday, January 6: 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 January 7: 12:00 pm Abundance Pantry Registration and Lunch 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise Bulletin and Email Deadline 7:00 pm Racial Equity Buddies GCC Training Black History Team Meeting</p> <p>Wednesday, January 8: 7:30 am Bible and Bagels 12:00 pm Staff Meeting 12:30 pm Wednesday Women's Group 7:00 pm Speak Life Bible Study Ministry Meetings</p>	<p>Thursday, January 9: 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 10: 10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand</p> <p>Saturday, January 11: 9:00 am Fiber and Fellowship</p> <p>Sunday, January 12: 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 5:00 pm Youth House Church 7:00 pm 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