

*Forest Hill Church  
Service of Worship  
March 8, 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:*

Listen, for God is calling. Follow, and you will never be alone.

**Welcome**

**Choral Introit**

Anne Wilson

“In the Babble of a Baby”  
Sine Nomine Choir; Laura Minder, soloist

*Greeting Our God with Joy*

**Call to Worship**

Ron Zimmerman

The God of Abram leads us forward. **Lead on, O God... guide us home.**  
The God of Abram is here to bless us. **Bless us, O God, that we might be a blessing.**  
The God of Abram, leads us forward. **Lead on, O God...guide us home.**  
Let us worship God.

**\* Processional Hymn No. 49**

“The God of Abraham Praise”

*\*please stand as able*

**Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming**

## Renewing Our Relationship with God

### Prayer of Confession

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

### Time of Silent Confession

Kyrie Eleison (*Lord, have mercy*)

Anne Wilson

## Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

### The Assurance of Forgiveness

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ. We are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

\*Be Still and Know

John Bell

All sing first time; 2nd time lower voices begin;  
upper voices begin 1 measure later

5 Be still and know that I am God.

Be\_\_ still and know\_\_ that I\_\_ am God.\_\_

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The second staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The lyrics 'Be still and know that I am God.' are written below the first staff, and 'Be\_\_ still and know\_\_ that I\_\_ am God.\_\_' are written below the second staff.

Anthem

spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

“Walk Together, Children”

## Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Children's Moment

Rev. David Wigger

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

\*Hymn No. 65

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

### Scripture Passage

Psalm 121 (page 498) and Genesis 12:1-4a (page 8)

Ron Zimmerman

I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come?

**My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

**He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

**The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

**The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.**

After the readings

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

*"Into the Wilderness. . ."*

**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**

Mary Ann Breisch

*"There is a River"*

Mary Ann Breisch, vocalist

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

*Going Forth to Live as God's People*

**\*Closing Hymn No. 726**

*"Will You Come and Follow Me"*

*Stanza 1 – All; Stanza 2 – Low Voices*

*Stanza 3 – High Voices; Stanza 4 and 5 – All*

**\*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 a 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 starts with a measure rest of 6 measures, followed by the lyrics: "ho - ly, tried and true, With thanks-giv-ing, I'll be a". The third staff continues with the lyrics: "liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you." The music features various note values, rests, and phrasing slurs.

**\* Passing of the Peace**

*Postlude*

Pietro Yon

*" L'Organo Primitivo"*



*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](http://www.fhcpresb.org), for a list of upcoming events, education programs for all ages, and past sermon texts and audio.

## *Notes & Announcements*

### **Chancel Flowers:**

There are two arrangements donated anonymously.

### **Two types of 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.
- **Guests who attend the monthly Abundance Pantry Luncheon** are offered prayer request forms which they turn in if they would like a member of the congregation to pray for them. The following Sunday a member of the church will stand at each exit from the sanctuary after worship to distribute those requests to people who would like to connect with the guests in prayer.

**Prayers are requested this week for the following:** Mark Davidson, Marcie Denton, Rita Grube, David Hunter, Joanna Klingenstein, Elspeth Peterjohn, Graham Peters, Dean Sieck, and Sharon Wiggins.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Marge Drollinger, Iris and Al Gilbert, Florence and Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, 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 Canaan Care Group*** will assist our pastors in meeting members' needs during **March**. 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, Rob Reynolds**.

**Thank you,** Deborah Erwin and Robyn Hales (**head ushers**), along with the rest of today's usher team; **all office volunteers:** Ellen McChesney, Cathy Ghiandoni, Lynda Bernays and Anne Smith; **and the 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 **3/19/20 at 8:00 am**. You may submit your written request to [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org).

**To stay up to date on family programming,** please subscribe to the Christian Education Newsletter: [bit.ly/ceNewsletter](http://bit.ly/ceNewsletter).

## *Coming Up*

### **TODAY**

Want to lessen your carbon footprint, reduce CO2 emissions and the GHG effect? Of course! A special Earth Care event **following worship service in South Hall at 12:30 p.m.** David Zelasko of Third Sun Solar and David Neff, FHC Earth Care Leader, will present a discussion on *New Opportunities for Solar Panel Energy Generation for Homes and Churches*. **DO COME!**

**If you missed the *Ascension Concert*** or would love to relive the experience that was held on February 23, we have CD's for sale for \$15 each. **Please contact Cynthia Lehman (716.830.4330 or [lehman.cynthia@gmail.com](mailto:lehman.cynthia@gmail.com)) to reserve a CD.**

**Forest Hill Softball Season is here.** The team needs a few more players for the upcoming season. Games are played on Sunday afternoons at 4 pm and start on April 26 through the first Sunday in August. Anyone 16 and over can play! **If you are interested in joining the team for this year, please contact Jason Hidek at 440-264-3296 or [jason.hidek@att.net](mailto:jason.hidek@att.net).**

## 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: **Exod. 17: 1-7; Ps. 95; Rom. 5:1-11; and John 4:5-42.**

## NEXT WEEK

**Tom Zych will be leading a program entitled *Re-imagining the Eucharist: Discerning God's Call in Sacrament.*** The Lord's Supper is a sacrament common to substantially all Christian churches, the celebration of the Eucharist has divided the body of Christ instead of uniting us. We will study the biblical and traditional origins of Communion, dive into different ways Christians believe about the meaning of the meal and consider new and imaginative ways to encounter the body and blood of Jesus. Come prepared to open up to the mystery of Christ's sacrificial gift. **Class will be held at 9:30 am in South Hall.**

**Fiber Fellowship invites everyone to come be knotty!** We have a quilt on the quilt frame in Fellowship hall that is the final stages of completion. Please come add a knot! Instructions are posted. Next meetings are: **March 10 at 10 am (in the Faith Leader Room) and March 14 at 9 am in the Jin Room.** Please contact **Carol (216-598-9730) or Chris (chris3040@aol.com)** for more details.

**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.** You can also get copies from the ClevNet consortium or you can order the book via EBAY or Amazon.

**March 22, 29, and April 5 Pastor Veronica** will facilitate a grief-care fellowship titled "Into the Wilderness of Grief." This three-week introductory, hands-on exploration will guide participants through grief, loss, and bereavement in a safe and supportive environment. Wilderness implies the inherent realities of grief. It suggests the fear and discomfort of the unknown, as well as real and perceived danger. Yet it also implies the gifts and graces of an ever-present God, who miraculously led a grieving and disoriented people through the wilderness to a new orientation. This is our objective: to support the journey from disorientation to reorientation. **Register by Sunday, March 15.**

Learning Objectives: Participants will engage in varied forms of grief work, including:

- Learning the fundamentals and complexities of grief and loss
- Engaging in biblically-based spiritual practices to support healing and restoration
- Exploring artistic expression through our art-making sanctuary

***Pat Seeders will serve as our registrar for this course. Sign up at her registration table on Sundays, March 8 and 15 after worship service. Youth and adults welcome!***

**March 13 at 7:30 pm:** The Group and the Hilltoppers will attend the Singers Club concert at Heights High School

**March 17 at noon:** Iris Circle and the women of FHC will have a Pot Luck in Bodwell Hall. There will be a guest speaker, Debbie Haarburger (nutritionist) that will speak about proteins and carbs.



**Red Cross Blood Drive:** March is Red Cross Month and you can be part of the humanitarian mission by donating blood at the FHC Blood Drive on Sunday, March 29 from 12:15 pm – 5:15 pm in South Hall. Our FHC Blood Drive will again 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; however, online appointments are required and will take priority over walk-ins. You can make your life-saving appointment at RedCrossBlood.org and typing in the Sponsor Code – FHC. **Please contact Rob Reynolds (robert.reynolds@redcross.org) if you need assistance making your appointment or if you have a question about the blood donation process.**

**Save the Date – April 4: Racial Equity Buddies Workshop**

A second Racial Equity Buddies Workshop will be held Saturday morning, April 4, 9-noon, in Bodwell Hall. A continental breakfast will be provided beginning at 8:30. The workshop has three components:

- 1) Exploring how racial equity buddies form and thrive;
- 2) Speed dating to potentially choose a racial equity buddy; and
- 3) Dividing into four groups to discuss the 1619 project; Undesign the Redline; *Just Mercy* (the book or the movie) and criminal justice; or Focus on Tomorrow and education. We encourage people to register at this site: <http://bit.ly/FHCApril4>.

The Organizing Committee: Elizabeth Shaw, Kermit Lind, Barbara Cloud, Vikki Nowak, Chiquita Montgomery, Quentin Smith, and Lisa Vahey; Mark Joseph, consultant/advisor.

**The Forest Hill Church Safety Core Team (SCT)** is in place to develop plans and training that prepare the Beloved Community for any safety challenges we may encounter. The SCT asks you to review the information below regarding the global outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19):

By now we’ve probably all seen reporting of the global outbreak of Coronavirus. There are now documented cases being reported in the United States. At the time of this writing, there are no known cases of COVID-19 in the state of Ohio. You can be assured that the Forest Hill Church Building Staff and SCT are closely monitoring the situation and taking recommended precautions in the daily maintenance and care of our facilities.

We ask members and visitors to follow these everyday preventive actions recommended by the CDC and Ohio Department of Health to help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- If you are ill, staying home is best, except to get medical care.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects daily.

While in the Sanctuary, please use the hand sanitizers and tissues available in the pews. Please alert Usher Staff if supply needs to be replaced or replenished. During the time of heightened precaution, we ask that you refrain from close personal contact (handshakes and hugs) until the threat of this virus has passed.

**"Into the Wilderness..." Lent 2020**



Lent is a six-week season of the Christian year, beginning on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26 and ending on Easter, April 12. Lent is a time of introspection and prayer; it is shaped by the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness after his baptism. During this time Jesus became more aware of God's call in his life. We invite you into the wilderness of your own discovery.

**Maundy Thursday**

Thursday, April 9 6:30 p.m.  
Last Supper Meal and Service

This year the church family is invited to share in the intimacy of the remembrance of the Last Supper at the table with Forest Hill members. The Eucharist will be served in Fellowship Hall; we will also offer the opportunity for foot and hand washing to recall Christ's last meal with his disciples.

**Adult Education in Lent**

**Sunday mornings 9:30 to 10:30 South Hall**

*See announcements on p. 5 for details*

**March 15:** Tom Zych will lead a course on "Re-imagining the Eucharist."

**March 22, 29 and April 5:** Rev. Goines will teach a course on "Into the Wilderness of Grief."

***We encourage members to form dinner and house groups to build fellowship. If you would like recommendations about study guides or books, please contact Revs. Goines and Lentz.***

**RSVP for Maundy Thursday  
Last Supper Meal and Service  
April, 9 at 6:30 p.m.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of total guest attending:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Calendar: March 8-15

### **Sunday, March 8:**

11:00 am Worship and Children's  
Worship  
12:00 pm Coffee and Conversation  
12:30 pm Solar Panel Utilization  
7:00 pm AA: Promises on Sunday

### **Monday, March 9:**

6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection  
7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There's Hope  
OA Big Book Meeting  
Book Group  
7:30 pm AA: Borton Group  
Boy Scout Troop #403

### **Tuesday, March 10:**

10:00 am Fiber and Fellowship  
11:00 pm Abundance Pantry  
Registration and Distribution  
5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise  
Bulletin and Email Deadline  
6:00 pm Nominating Committee  
7:00 pm Black History Potluck and Evaluation

### **Wednesday, March 11:**

7:30 am Bible and Bagels  
12:00 pm Staff Meeting  
12:30 pm Wednesday Women's Group  
7:00 pm Ministry Meetings  
Guest Group: Speak Life Ministries

### **Thursday, March 12:**

1:30 pm English Country Dance  
5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise  
6:20 pm Voices in Bronze  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

### **Friday, March 13:**

9:30 am AMIS Board Meeting  
10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand  
5:00 pm Camp Lilac Spaghetti Dinner  
Fundraiser

### **Saturday, March 14:**

9:00 am Tax Prep  
Fiber and Fellowship  
3:30 pm FHHO Potluck

### **Sunday, March 15:**

9:15 am Childcare begins  
9:30 am Adult Education  
Youth Education  
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 Pressure Check  
Survey Sundae  
3:30 pm Reconnecting with Gods Creation  
5:00 pm Youth House Church  
7:00 pm AA: Promises on Sunday

**3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts. OH 44118**

**Office: 216-321-2660 Fax: 216-320-1214**

**Pastoral Care Emergencies: 216-319-3596**

**Custodian Phone on Duty: 216-217-5257**

**Email: [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org)**

**Website: [www.fhcpresb.org](http://www.fhcpresb.org)**

**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**