

Forest Hill Church
Service of Worship
April 5, 2020 at 11:00 am
Palm Sunday

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t6uuNMqrrvE&feature=youtu.be>

Welcome

Choral Introit

Rubén Ruiz Ávila

“Filled with Excitement”

Led by Beth Zych and Seth Ungemach

Greeting Our God with Joy

Call to Worship

Cheering crowds sang their praises as Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem to fulfil the ancient prophecy.

“Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

With palms and branches and with their clothes cast on the road to make a pathway, the people sang their joyous acclamation.

Ride on, Jesus. Ride through the crowds. Ride on to anguish. Ride on to betrayal. Ride on to the cross.

“Hosanna to the Son of David.”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Hymn No. 196

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

Refrain:

All glory, laud, and honor
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!
1 Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David’s royal Son,
who in the Lord’s name comest,
the King and blessed One. [Refrain]
2 The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayers and anthems
before thee we present. [Refrain]

Renewing Our Relationship with God

Prayer of Confession

O God, we are not eager to identify with Christ’s suffering at this difficult time. We prefer to avoid danger or, if the worst comes, to fight the battles our own way. We do not like to turn the other cheek and remain silent in the face of attack. We seek to justify ourselves, not empty ourselves. We want to wash our hands of all guilt and declare our innocence when some would accuse us of unfaithfulness. We cry, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken us?” when it is we who have done the forsaking. We cannot live with the burden of our sin. Grant us your forgiveness, in Christ’s name. Hear us now in silence.

Time of Silent Confession

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

The Assurance of Forgiveness

Our assurance of pardon is in Jesus, “who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave...and became obedient to the point of death...on a cross.” Through his obedience we are freed from whatever bondage enslaves us.

Thanks be to God. Amen!

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 and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts on a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a half note B4, and finally a half note A4. The lyrics 'Be still and know that I am God.' are written below the notes. The second staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. It starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a half note B4, and finally a half note A4. The lyrics 'Be__ still and know__ that I__ am God.__' are written below the notes, with underscores indicating a longer duration for some notes.

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

Children's Moment

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

Hymn No. 197

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

1 Hosanna, loud hosanna
the little children sang;
through pillared court and temple
the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them,
close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
the simplest and the best.
3 "Hosanna in the highest!"
That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer,
the Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise him
with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence
eternally rejoice.

Scripture Passage

Paraphrase of Philippians 2:5-11

That's Love

Jesus left heaven so he could be with us. **Left heaven to walk the streets with us?** That's love. Holds nothing back. God's love. Holds nothing back. Jesus emptied himself and took the form of a servant among us. **Denied power and glory; lived like one of us?** That's love. Holds nothing back, God's love. Holds nothing back. Jesus humbled himself upon a cross for us. **Became man and died a death for us?** That's love. Holds nothing back. God's love. Holds nothing back. Then God raised Jesus up and glorified his name. Raised Jesus up! Then let the world proclaim-Jesus is Lord. Voices I-4: Jesus is Lord. **Jesus is Lord.** (Kwasi Kena, Palm/Passion Sunday)

Matthew 21:1-11-Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

²¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' ⁴This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ⁵ 'Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.' ⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!' ¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' ¹¹The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

""Who is This?"

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.

Offering

Offertory

Taize Community

"Ubi caritas—8th century chant"

***Prayer of Dedication**

Loving God, may our offerings bring to others the promise of new life. Accept the gifts we offer to proclaim your love. Use our talents in ways that will set others free, that the liberating truth of Christ's gospel be heard, and seen, and felt.

Going Forth to Live as God's People

***Closing Hymn No. 198**

"Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!"

2 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die:
O Christ, your triumphs now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.
5 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
bow your meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O God, your pow'r and reign.

***Commission and Blessing**

*** Passing of the Peace**

The Next Exploring Membership Course! Join us on May 16 from 9 am-12 pm and May 17 from 9 am-10:30 am. Come join, explore, or just learn more about us! **Please RSVP to Angela (church growth ministry) at churchgrowth@fhcpresb.org to attend.** Light breakfast will be served.

Giving/donation options- Friends and family of FHC, during this time, you may give monetary donations using our website (www.fhcpresb.org) and click the PayPal link, or send payments using auto bill pay through your banking system. You may also mail in a check to the church (3031 Monticello Blvd. Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118).



Notes & Announcements

Prayer Requests:

If you would like to request prayers for a personal concern, please send an email to Pastor Lentz (pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org) and Pastor Goines (pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org). The pastors will include them in the congregational prayer.

Prayers are requested this week for the following: Mark Davidson, Marcie Denton, Beth and Dave Garrett, Rita Grube, David Hunter, Joanna Klingenstein, Elspeth Peterjohn, Graham Peters, and Dean Sieck, Harold Thomas, the family of Lorian Thomas, Carolyn Vrtunski, Sharon Wiggins and Dene Young.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Marge Drollinger, Iris and Al Gilbert, Florence and Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, 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 Jordan Care Group* will assist our pastors in meeting members’ needs during **April**. 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, Bader Boland**.

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

The deadline for the bulletin and weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **(4/16/20) 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

Forest Hill Softball Season is here. The team needs a few more players for the upcoming season. Games are played on Sunday afternoons. Anyone 16 and over can play! We don't know when the season will begin given the current health crisis, but if you are interested in joining the team, **please contact Jason Hidek at 440-264-3296 or jason.hidek@att.net.**

THIS WEEK

Bible and Bagels (Bible Study) discusses next Sunday's texts on Wednesday mornings (virtually) from 7:30 am to 8:30 am. The lessons for this week are: **Acts 10: 34-43; Jer. 31:1-6; Ps. 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Cor. 3:1-4; John 20: 1-18; Matt. 28: 1-10.**



EASTER LILIES, 2020: PLEASE ORDER BY APRIL 10

Name of Donor _____
“Given by” if different from donor _____
Indicate which form of dedication: In memory of / In honor of /In thanksgiving
for/ To celebrate _____

Of plants @ \$20.00 per plant _____ Total cost _____
Of plants to be donated _____

Donated lilies will be taken to members who are ill or shut-in. Thank you for your donation. Please mail or deliver this to the church office. Please write Easter lilies on the memo line of your check.

UPDATE FROM THE FHC IMMIGRATION TASK FORCE

Due to the Lockdown in Ohio in response to the coronavirus pandemic, the FHC Immigration Task Force has developed new strategies for supporting both the men from Burkina Faso - Emmanuel, Idrissa and Issoufou - and Leonor Garcia and her family as face to face contact must now be limited.

Leonor

Meal drop offs and weekly visits to the Garcia family are cancelled. To replace in-person visits, weekly phone calls are being scheduled with Leonor. This way we can keep the friendship alive and lend support. **If you are close to Leonor and her family and wish to participate in this way, contact Sharon Shumaker at sms2924@gmail.com.** Her friends from FHC are encouraged to FaceTime with her and send cards. Cards should be made out to Leonor Garcia and family but mailed to the church: Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian (3031 Monticello Blvd., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118). We will collect the cards and send them to her.

Should you be particularly close to Margaret, feel free to contact her as well. She also needs to be reminded that she has our support.

Emmanuel, Idrissa and Issoufou

The men are doing well, are aware of and concerned about the severity of the international health crisis, have been instructed in handwashing and like the rest of us are washing their hands regularly. Tutors have provided a lot of homework to keep them occupied. **The scheduling of in-person tutoring is on hold for now. Meal drop-offs for the men are on hold as well.** Their current food supply with donations from the pantry seems sufficient at present. On their own, using their phone, they set up a Facebook page and are finding connections with friends and family back home. Thanks to the support of many caring members of the church, the Task Force will soon be purchasing a laptop for the men to allow them to communicate online. We will inform you once this is possible.

Thank you for your caring support of our dear immigrant friends! Please email the Immigration Task Force at ITF@fhcpresb.org if you have any other questions.

Calendar: April 5-12

<p>Sunday, April 5: 9:30 am Children’s Worship online 11:00 am Worship online 3:30 pm Reconnecting with Gods Creation 7:00 pm AA: Promises on Sunday</p> <p>Monday, April 6: 6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection 7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There’s Hope OA Big Book Meeting 7:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #403</p> <p>Tuesday, April 7: 11:00 am Abundance Pantry Registration and Distribution 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise Bulletin and Email Deadline 6:00 pm HCC Board Meeting</p> <p>Wednesday, April 8: 7:30 am Bible and Bagels (online) 12:00 pm Staff Meeting (conference call) 12:30 pm Wednesday Women's Group 7:00 pm Ministry Meetings (conference call)</p>	<p>Thursday, April 9: 5:00 pm Fitness Fusion Exercise 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday (Live Stream)</p> <p>Friday, April 10: 10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand</p> <p>Saturday, April 11: 10:00 am Easter Community Picnic AA Dinner</p> <p>Sunday, April 12: Easter Sunday 9:30 am Children’s Worship online 11:00 am Worship (online) 3:30 pm Reconnecting with Gods Creation 7:00 pm AA: Promises on Sunday</p>
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Rev. David Wigger, Interim Dir. of Family, Youth & Children’s Ministries
Tara Beverly, Youth Leader
Anne Wilson, Director of Music