

*Forest Hill Church
Service of Worship
April 19, 2020 at 11:00 am*

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3-NNkc7KQM>

You are invited to participate in the Live Chat box to the right of the video screen if you so wish.

Those who find Chat distracting may select the Hide Chat option at the bottom of the Chat box.

To access the Bulletin link and the Giving link, look in the Comment section found directly below the video screen.

Centering Words

"The peace of the Lord be with you."...The truth of the Gospel is contained in the peace of God.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CHORAL INTROIT

Richard Klein

"Christ is Arisen"

Led by Beth Zych and Seth Ungemach

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

By God's great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through Christ's resurrection.

We have an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading.

By God's power we are guarded through faith for a salvation to be revealed in the last time.

As the outcome of our faith we obtain the salvation of our souls. Thanks be to God!

HYMN NO. 254

"That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright"

1 That Easter day with joy was bright:
the sun shone out with fairer light
when to their longing eyes restored,
th'apostles saw their risen Lord.

2 His risen flesh with radiance glowed,
his wounded hands and feet he showed;
those scars their solemn witness gave
that Christ was risen from the grave.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

We come to you, O God, a believing yet doubting people. We have seen too much evil around, and within us, to be convinced that Christ offers the last word. Still, we are drawn to the message and example Jesus lived. There is something authentic and compelling in his words and deeds that draw us to His side. Gracious Savior, enter our locked rooms, guide our inquiry, speak your peace, and enable us to trust and follow you, that we may be raised victorious with you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

God promises to be with us, to redirect our ways, to grant us peace. We are forgiven. We are loved. We are united with one another, and strengthened to mend our ways.

The God of love and peace abides with us. Hallelujah! Amen.

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ALLELUIA

Jeannette Sorrell

5 Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

ANTHEM

Don Pearson

“This Joyful Eastertide”

Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word

FROM THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’ ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’ ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’ ²⁸Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ ²⁹Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’ ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 233

“The Day of Resurrection”

1 The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad,
the Passover of gladness,
the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
from sin’s dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over
with hymns of victory.

2 Let hearts be purged of evil
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection light,
and listening to his accents,
may hear, so calm and plain,
his own “All hail!” and hearing,
may raise the victor strain.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

“Behind Locked Doors”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

To participate in our online Friendship Register, please leave a comment in the Live Chat box listing the names of those participating in this morning's Live Worship.

OFFERING

[Click here to donate to One Great Hour of Sharing](#)
[Click here to donate to FHC via PayPal](#)

OFFERTORY

Melchior Vulpus

“Easter Is Come”

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. 248

“Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

2 Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection,
not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.
3 Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us.
Sing Hosanna everyone!

BENEDICTION

PASSING OF THE PEACE



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 next week’s congregational prayer.

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

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Doris Brandt, Marge Drollinger, Al Gilbert, Florence and Ron Klein, Emelia McGuire, Margie Stauffer, Elaine Tapié, and Beryl and Henrietta Williams.

Care Group: *The Jordan Care Group* will assist our pastors with members’ needs in **April**. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will 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 **(5/14/20) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests 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

Giving/donation options- Monetary donations may be made through the PayPal link on our website (www.fhcpresb.org), by auto bill pay through your bank or by mail also mail to 3031 Monticello Blvd. Cleve. Hts., OH 44118.

Forest Hill Softball Season is here. 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 2:14a, 36-41; Ps. 116 1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; and Luke 24:13-35**.

April 26 at 12:30pm: Please join church growth for 30 minutes of fun on a zoom call! We want to meet all the new and regular visitors! **RSVP with church growth (churchgrowth@fhcpresb.org) for zoom call information.**

Exploring Membership: Please join the church growth zoom call 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.

From Beryl and Henrietta Williams: They would like to personally thank everyone that has extended prayers and cards their way. It truly means a lot to them. They have asked to please keep them in prayer.

Calendar: April 12-26

<p>Sunday, April 19: Easter Sunday 9:30 am Children’s Worship (online) 11:00 am Worship (online)</p> <p>Monday, April 20: 6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection 7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There’s Hope OA Big Book Meeting</p> <p>Tuesday, April 21: 11:00 am Abundance Pantry Registration and Distribution 5:00 pm Bulletin and Email Deadline</p> <p>Wednesday, April 22: 7:30 am Bible and Bagels (online) 12:00 pm Staff Meeting (conference call)</p>	<p>Thursday, April 23:</p> <p>Friday, April 24: 10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand</p> <p>Saturday, April 25:</p> <p>Sunday, April 26: 9:30 am Children’s Worship (online) 11:00 am Worship (online)</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