Forest Hill Church Service of Worship

June 21, 2020 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God! Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

https://youtu.be/5jwflKIsUls

Centering Words

Holy Spirit, as you did on the Day of Pentecost, may you rush into our hearts and inebriate our souls.

Empower us to live more faithfully to God our Creator and Maker. Amen.

WELCOME

PRELUDE Camille Saint-Saëns

Le Cygne Malina Rauschenfels, cellist

CHORAL INTROIT

David Haas

We are Called Malina Rauschenfels, soprano

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 86)

You are my God; be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you I cry all day long.

For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you. For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

Let us worship God!

HYMN NO. 401 Gather Us In

Here in this place new light is streaming Now is the darkness vanished away See in this space our fears and our dreamings Brought here to you in the light of this day Gather us in, the lost and forsaken Gather us in, the blind and the lame Call to us now and we shall awaken We shall arise at the sound of our name Not in the dark of buildings confining Not in some heaven light years away But here in this place the new light is shining Now is the kingdom, now is the day Gather us in and hold us forever Gather us in and make us your own Gather us in, all peoples together Fire of love in our flesh and our bones

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Renewing Our Relationship with God

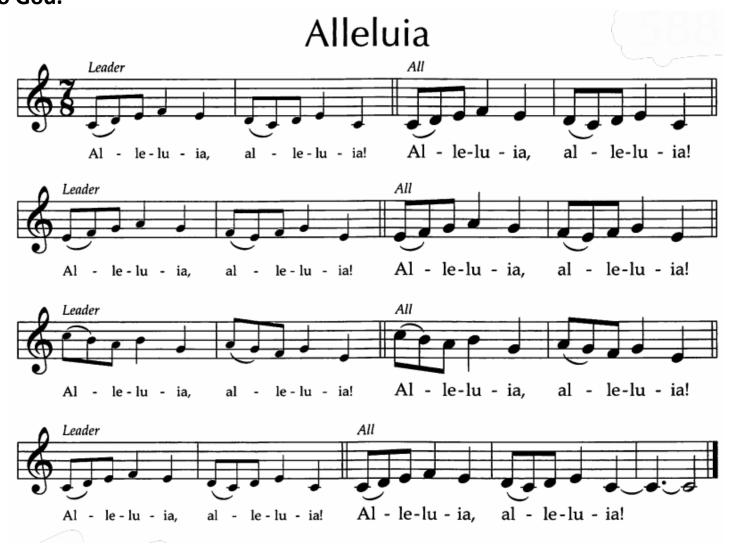
PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Lord, we confess that we have not always listened to you. We worry about trivial things and ignore your cry. We confess that we're not eager to hear what you have to say to us, convinced we know a better way. We've ignored your Holy Spirit more than once—today. Lord, we confess our faults and ask you to speak to us again. By your Spirit of Truth, speak to all that is false within us, and prepare our hearts to receive your words and follow your ways. Hear us now in silence...

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hasn't God already claimed us as family, the children of the Most High God? What more do we need? God is gracious and merciful and does not turn a deaf ear to those who turn their hearts to God.



ANTHEM

Stuart Hine and Mary McDonald

Then Sings My Soul (How Great Thou Art)

Malina Rauschenfels, soprano

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

FROM THE LIVING WORD

Matthew 10:24-39

²⁴ 'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! ²⁶ 'So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. ³⁰And

even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³² 'Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. ³⁴ 'Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; ³⁶ and one's foes will be members of one's own household. ³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 759

O God, We Bear the Imprint of Your Face

1 O God, we bear the imprint of your face:
the colors of our skin are your design,
and what we have of beauty in our race
as man or woman, you alone define,
who stretched a living fabric on our frame
and gave to each a language and a name.
3 O God, we share the image of your Son
whose flesh and blood are ours, whatever skin,
in humanity we find our own,
and in his family our proper kin:
Christ is the brother we still crucify,
his love the language we must learn, or die.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

Awaking to God's Image

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 or email the office.

OFFERING

Virtual Giving and Offering options are available on our website

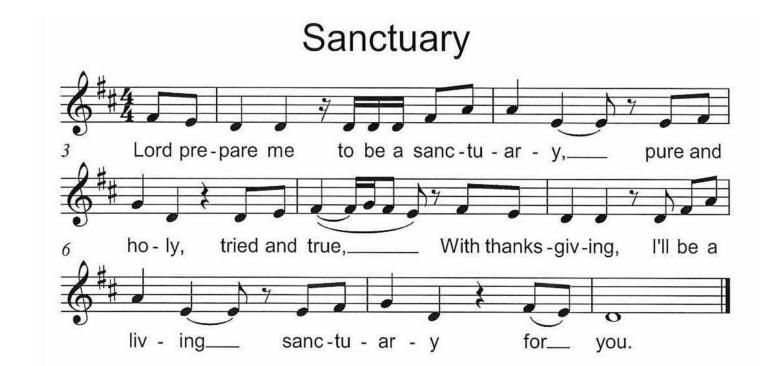
OFFERTORY PRAYER:

Mother-Father God, we feel like little children offering part of our allowance back to you. We joyfully offer what we have because you are a God who is able to transform our gifts into bread for the tables of those who hunger both for food and for love. Thank you for receiving the gifts we bring both great and small. Amen.

Amazing Grace

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God's People CLOSING HYMN 701



BENEDICTION

Go with heads held high.

Go with spirits soaring.

Go with the swiftness of the deer.

Go singing love songs to our Lord.

There in your homes, declare how much God has done for you! You have been blessed! Remember to be a blessing.

Amen!

POSTLUDE George Gershwin

Summertime Malina Rauschenfels, cellist



Prayer Requests:

To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz (pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org) or Pastor Goines (pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org) for inclusion next week's congregational prayer.

Prayers are requested this week for: Mark Davidson, the family of Joanne and Bob Dawson, Marcie Denton, Rita Grube, Deborah Howard, the family of David and Anne Hunter, Chuck Ishler, Joanna Klingenstein, Mamie Peterson, the family of Baldwin Sawyer, and Harold Thomas.

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 Jerusalem Care Group will assist our pastors with members' needs in June. 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, Laura Minder.

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

The deadline for the bulletin and weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is August 13 (for September TOWER) 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

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: **Gen. 22:1-14; Ps. 13, Rom. 6:12-23; Matt. 10: 40-42.**

NEXT WEEK

The Race Action Network of the Presbytery of the Western Reserve is hosting a self-study centered on the book "Me and White Supremacy" by Layla Saad. In Ms. Saad's words, this book "...is designed to help people with white privilege understand and take ownership of their participation in the oppressive system of white supremacy." This study will be provided in a closed Facebook group, entitled Me and White Supremacy Discussion Group, Presbytery of the Western Reserve. This closed group will give us the privacy we need for a productive conversation while making it accessible to anyone who chooses to join. Participants will respond to daily journal prompts provided in "Me and White Supremacy" and at least once a week share insights and questions from their work. The Facebook group will open June 15 and we ask that everyone has a copy of the book by June 29, when the journaling will begin. For more information, contact the Race Action Network at raceaction@preswesres.org or the Facebook group administrators from FHC (Marcie Denton, Mark Wedell and Ajah Hales).

Calendar: June 21-28

Sunday, June 21:

11:00 am Worship (online)

Monday, June 22:

6:00 pm AA: Progress not Perfection 7:00 pm Al Anon: Now There's Hope

Tuesday, June 23:

11:00 am Abundance Pantry

Registration and Distribution

5:00 pm Bulletin and Weekly Email Deadline

Wednesday, June 24:

7:30 am Bible and Bagels (online)

12:00 pm Staff Meeting (conference call)

Thursday, June 25:

Activities are postponed until further notice

Friday, June 26:

10:00 am Al Anon: Hand in Hand

Saturday, June 27:

Activities are postponed until further notice

Sunday, June 28:

11:00 am Worship (online)