

*Forest Hill Church
Service of Worship*

August 16, 2020 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/owWKA8bcOic>

Centering Words

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:
The old has gone, the new is here!*

PRELUDE

Antonio Vivaldi

Allegro

Jack Neely and Malina Rauschenfels

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Este es el dia (This Is the Day)

Malina Rauschenfels and Kurt Haas

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

When hatred and division separate us, **God's love binds us together.**

When quarrels estrange us from one another, **Christ's light shows us the way to reconciliation.**

When we feel excluded and left out, **the Spirit's peace eases our pain.**

When all hope of fellowship seems lost, **God's grace restores our hope.**

Come! Let us worship God, who makes us one.

HYMN NO. 837

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Refrain: Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

Oh how sweet to walk in this pilgrims way leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms;
I have blessed peace, with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

Renewing Our Relationship with God

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION:

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. Amen.

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ALLELUIA CALL AND RESPONSE

ANTHEM

Arr. Lloyd Larson

By Faith

Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word

THE LIVING WORD

Matthew 15:10-28

Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.” Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 623

“I’ve Got Peace like a River”

I’ve got peace like a river; I’ve got peace like a river; I’ve got peace like a river in my soul.
I’ve got joy like a fountain
I’ve got love like an ocean

Sermon

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

Change Agent

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

Giving and Offering options are available on our website
You may also place your offering by texting 216-400-5300

OFFERTORY

Antonio Vivaldi

Largo
Jack Neely and Malina Rauschenfels

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God's People

CLOSING HYMN 700

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere Lord, any time! I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere Lord, anytime.
(2) I'm gonna work so God can use me.
(3) I'm gonna pray so, God can use me.
(4) I'm gonna sing so, God can use me.

BENEDICTION

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary
pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.
Consecrate me to do Your chosen ministry.
Show me all you'd have me do.
Your light possessing, make me a blessing,
sharing works through new life in you.
(2nd verse by Rev. Ann Jefferson)

POSTLUDE

This Little Light of Mine
Farewell & Blessings Praise Dance by Tara Beverly



Notes & Announcements

Prayer Requests:

To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz (pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org) or Pastor Goines (pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org) no later than Thursday afternoon of each week for inclusion next week's congregational prayer. Please direct all prayer concerns that arise between Friday and Sunday morning to the Pastor's on-call phone line (216-319-3596). The on-call phone is operational after office hours and from Friday through Sunday morning.

Prayers are requested this week for: Mark Davidson, Marcie Denton, Rita Grube, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Baldwin Sawyer, the family of Margie Stauffer, and the family of Harold Thomas.

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

Care Group: *The Nazareth Care Group* will assist our pastors with members’ needs in **August**. 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, Sheryl Dugard (deacons@fhcpresb.org)**.

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 **September 17 (for the October TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to office@fhcpresb.org.

Bill Ladebue is now home from Rehab Hospital. Got through that storm. God’s Blessings, Sandy

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: **Exod. 1:10; Ps. 124; Rom. 12:1-8; Matt. 16: 13-20**.

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Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines, Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Co-Pastors
Qin Ying Tan, Interim Director of Music