

# *Forest Hill Church*

## *Service of Worship*

*August 30, 2020 at 11:00 am*

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4gOcsD0zLo>

### *Centering Words*

*Let love guide your path, for love is the holiest path of all.*

### PRELUDE

G. Frescobaldi

Toccata seconda e Legature per l'Arpa  
*Anna O'Connell, harp*

### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHORAL INTROIT

*I'll Be Somewhere, Listening for My Name*  
Anna O'Connell, soprano

### *Greeting Our God with Joy*

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy, holy, holy. **Holy God is here.**

Holy, holy, holy. **Love has called us here.**

Holy, holy, holy. **We gather to worship our holy God.**

#### HYMN NO. 1

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy, Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, holy, holy, though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinfulness they glory may not see.

Only Thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy, Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

### *Renewing Our Relationship with God*

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

In the midst of your holy presence, O God, we encounter a mystery deeper than the foundations of the earth. You are who you are, sacred and indefinable. Forgive us when we try to put you in a box, or frame you in our own image. Help us as we allow your divine image to define and shape us. Speak mercy and grace to us, when we deny the path before us, and guide us with your shepherding love, when we are unsure of how to follow. Strengthen us and give us the courage to say: "Here I am, ready to love and serve." In your holy name we pray. Amen.

#### FAMILY MEDITATION

A Welcome to Dr. Amy Wheatley  
Director of Family, Youth and Children

*Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming*

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Alleluia

Leader

All

Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia! Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia!

Leader

All

Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia! Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia!

Leader

All

Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia! Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia!

Leader

All

Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia! Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia!

ANTHEM

Vaughn Williams

The Call  
Anna O' Connell, soprano

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD

Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup>There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. <sup>3</sup>Then Moses said, ‘I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.’ <sup>4</sup>When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, ‘Moses, Moses!’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ <sup>5</sup>Then he said, ‘Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.’ <sup>6</sup>He said further, ‘I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. <sup>7</sup>Then the Lord said, ‘I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, <sup>8</sup>and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. <sup>9</sup>The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. <sup>10</sup>So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.’ <sup>11</sup>But Moses said to God, ‘Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?’ <sup>12</sup>He said, ‘I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.’ <sup>13</sup>But Moses said to God, ‘If I come to the Israelites and say to them, “The God of your ancestors has sent me to you”, and they ask me, “What is his name?” what shall I say to

them?’ <sup>14</sup>God said to Moses, ‘I am who I am.’ He said further, ‘Thus you shall say to the Israelites, “I am has sent me to you.” ’ <sup>15</sup>God also said to Moses, ‘Thus you shall say to the Israelites, “The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you”: This is my name for ever, and this my title for all generations.

*After the readings*

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God’s people.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN NO. 288**

*“Spirit of the Living God”*

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
(Sing through twice)

**Sermon**

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

*Curious?*

**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**

Robert J. Dufford

*Be Not Afraid*  
Anna O' Connell, soprano

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*Going Forth to Live as God's People*

**CLOSING HYMN NO. 69**

*I, the Lord of sea and sky*

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
(Refrain) Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord. I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.  
I the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts are satisfied. I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

BENEDICTION

1. Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary  
pure and holy, tried and true.  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

2. 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.

3. Lord, I'm ready to be a sanctuary,  
Filled with power from above—  
Please lead me this day to walk and talk in Your way,  
Bearing witness to Your great love.  
*(2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> verses by Rev. Ann Jefferson)*

POSTLUDE

Orlando A Mansfield

Alla Marcia in D



*Notes & Announcements*

**Prayer Requests:**

To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz ([pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org)) or Pastor Goines ([pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorgoines@fhcpresb.org)) no later than Thursday afternoon of each week for inclusion in 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 on weekdays and Saturday 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, Robert Kellermeyer, Florence and Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Emelia McGuire, Margaret Sentell, Elaine Tapié, Beryl and Henrietta Williams, and Warren Young.

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

**Bible and Bagels (Bible Study)** discusses next Sunday's texts on Wednesday mornings (virtually) from 7:30-8:30 am. The lessons for this week are: **Exod. 12:1-14; Ps. 149; Rom. 13:8-14; Matt. 18: 15-20**.

## **Our new Director of Family, Youth & Children Amy Wheatley**

A native of Lakewood Ohio, Amy Wheatley earned her undergraduate degree from Kenyon College, where she majored in Psychology and developed a love of young children as a volunteer at the Head Start program in rural Knox County. Following graduation, Amy was a teacher at Case Western Reserve University's lab school for children with disabilities. Amy attended graduate school at the University of Michigan, where she received her Ph.D. in Education. Her early career included research, teaching, and staff development in the field of early childhood/special education. As the director of several grants from the U.S. Department of Education, she worked at the University of Connecticut, the HighScope Foundation, and Akron Children's Hospital.

Amy and her husband Karl met while they were early childhood education consultants, traveling around the country conducting workshops with educators, parents, and administrators. They left life on the road when they settled in Lakewood to raise two terrific kids, David and Katherine, who are now young college-age adults. Karl begins his 27th year on the faculty of the College of Education at Cleveland State University this fall.

Amy grew up in the United Methodist Church and has terrific memories of faith-filled mentors, Sunday night youth group meetings, Easter sunrise services, and mission trips to Appalachia. From the time their children were small, their family has been blessed by the beautiful relationships and many spirit-filled moments they experienced as members of First Church Cleveland / University Circle United Methodist Church. For 12 years, Amy was privileged to serve such a diverse, inclusive, and loving congregation as Director of Education. During the past year, as Director of Faith Formation at Old Stone Church Cleveland, she has led an initiative to grow children's programming in a congregation in the heart of the city, and she has grown to love Presbyterians!

Creating safe and welcoming environments, helping young people build authentic relationships, and providing fun and engaging opportunities for learning and growth are Amy's passions. She believes that faith develops over a lifetime through a variety of experiences in which we recognize the presence of God in our lives and seek to live in the way of Jesus. "Faith Forming" moments can happen for young people in many ways - in worship, in nature, during shared meals and conversation, in service to others, and through play, storytelling, games, music, and art.

One of Amy's greatest joys is seeing the wonder, curiosity, energy, and enthusiasm that young people bring to a congregation! Amy is grateful for the opportunity to lead the Family, Youth & Children's Ministry at Forest Hill and looks forward to getting to know her new family of faith.

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**Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines, Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Co-Pastors**

**Dr. Amy Wheatley, Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministries**

**Dr. Qin Ying Tan, Interim Director of Music**

**Carol Wedell, Parish Associate**