

*Forest Hill Church
Service of Worship*

September 27, 2020 at 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XBA3dEM3918>

Centering Words

*"Where healing waters flow do thou my footsteps lead.
My heart is aching so; Thy gracious balm I need."*

--Excerpt from "A Prayer" by Paul Laurence Dunbar

PRELUDE

J.S. Bach

Prelude in C major, BWV 870

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Aaron David Miller

I Will Exalt You

Featuring Christine Fuller, soprano/ Jack Lentz, tenor

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 78)

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

We will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord and the wonders that God has done. How in the daytime the Lord led them with a cloud, and all night long with a fiery light.

God split rocks open in the wilderness, and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.

Let us drink deeply of the Lord's goodness. **Hallelujah, we enter God's courts with praise!**

HYMN NO. 741

"Guide My Feet"

Guide my feet while I run this race;
guide my feet while I run this race;
guide my feet while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!
Hold my hand while I run this race;
hold my hand while I run this race;
hold my hand while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!
Stand by me while I run this race;
stand by me while I run this race;
stand by me while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!
I'm your child while I run this race;
I'm your child while I run this race;
I'm your child while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain!

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

God of compassion, have mercy upon us as we make our confession. Wilderness is a common motif in the story of your people. But you never intended wilderness to be our home. Rather, it is that grace-filled place through which we pass for the purpose of spiritual formation. We confess that we are stuck in the wilderness of fear, confusion, and resistance. Help us to discern your voice amid the clamor, and to walk in and be your light in present darkness. You are the God of wilderness wanderers. Restore us to your purpose, we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news! Blessed are you when you make honest confession and seek to be part of God’s wider circle. Move out of the wilderness of sin. You are forgiven, set free and empowered to live more fully. **Praise be to God! Amen.**

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

Antonín Dvořák

Hear My Prayer
Featuring Lara Troyer, soprano

Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word

THE LIVING WORD

Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, ‘Give us water to drink.’ Moses said to them, ‘Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?’ But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, ‘Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?’ So Moses cried out to the LORD, ‘What shall I do with

this people? They are almost ready to stone me.’ The LORD said to Moses, ‘Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.’ Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, ‘Is the LORD among us or not?’

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

“Look Well Within”

1. Look well with - in, Wake to your soul, Touch the
2. Guilt has no pow'r, Shame can - not hide All the
3. When you were formed By heav'n a - bove You were
4. Look well with - in, Wake to your soul, Touch the

awe beau - ty that makes you whole. Op - en your eyes
that lives in - side Op - en your eyes
formed in per - fect love. Op - en your eyes
awe that makes you whole. Op - en your eyes

To re - al - ize The won - der of your soul. 8:
To re - al - ize The won - der of your soul.
To re - al - ize The won - der of your soul.
To re - al - ize God's pre - sence in your soul.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

“Behind Every Complaint”

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 is available by texting: 216-400-5300
Or you may give online: <https://fhc.breezechms.com/give/online/>
You may also mail a check to the church office.

OFFERTORY

Improvisation

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God’s People

CLOSING HYMN NO. 547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own.
In my love’s baptismal river, I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing - You are my own.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son’s story;
Here you touched Him, saw His glory,
Go my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Go, My children, fed and nourished, closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit’s power filled you;
Here His tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE

Dona Nobis Pacem
Featuring Chancel Choir



FHC NOTES

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 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, Jim Seeders, and Susan Way.

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 Jericho Care Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **September**. 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, Sue McCauley (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.

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. 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Ps. 19; Phil. 3:4b-14; Matt. 21: 33-46**.

3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Hts. OH 44118
Office: 216-321-2660 Fax: 216-320-1214

Pastoral Care Emergencies: 216-319-3596
Custodian Phone on Duty: 216-217-5257

Email: office@fhcpresb.org Website: www.fhcpresb.org

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
Rev. Carol Wedell, Parish Associate