

*Forest Hill Church  
Service of Worship*

*October 18, 2020 at 11:00 am*

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/JCRAgWleIYA>

*Centering Words*

*As we gather today, God is with us. The Holy One knows us.  
The Living God shines through us.*

**PRELUDE**

George Gershwin

*Prelude in C-sharp Minor*

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

arr. Harry Burleigh

*Little David, Play on Your Harp*  
Betty Garrett, mezzo-soprano

*Greeting Our God with Joy*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Charity, Ahren and Emmett Stock

Brothers, sisters and siblings, we are loved by God.

**The ruler of heaven and earth knows us by name.**

God hears and answers our cries for help.

**God shows compassion and kindness to us.**

May our lives praise and magnify our great and awesome God.

**We have come to worship the one whose image is imprinted within us.**

**HYMN NO. 406**

*"We Are Standing on Holy Ground"*

We are standing on holy ground, and I know that there are angels all around;

Let us praise Jesus now; we are standing in his presence on holy ground.

We are singing on holy ground, and I know that there are angels all around;

Let us praise, Jesus now; we are singing in his presence on holy ground.

We are praying on holy ground, and I know that there are angels all around;

Let us praise, Jesus now; we are praying in his presence on holy ground.

*Renewing Our Relationship with God*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**O God, our God, you have shown us your ways and promised to walk with us. Through your Son, Jesus, you have given us an example to follow, that we might be imitators of your divine love. But we have not been who you call us to be. Lover of justice, forgive us when we forget whose image we bear. May the deep convictions of our faith be displayed through acts of kindness, compassion and mercy, in your holy name we pray. Amen.**

*Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Our God is a God who forgives, showing kindness and compassion to all. When we call on God, God hears and answers us. Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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!

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

Stewardship Ministry

**ANTHEM**

*Thou Art Worthy*  
Wright Family Singers

*Opening Our Hearts to God's Word*

**THE LIVING WORD**

**1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,  
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of people we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place where your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

*After the readings*

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

**HYMN NO. 451**

*Open My Eyes that I May See*

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!  
Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.  
And while wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.

**Sermon**

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

*“Imitating Christ”*

**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**

Irwin Shung

*Ragtime Fantasy on 'In Christ There Is No East or West'*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*Going Forth to Live as God’s People*

**CLOSING HYMN NO. 749**

*Come! Live in the Light!*

Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!  
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God.  
We are called to act with justice; we are called love tenderly; we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.  
  
Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will reign, and we’ll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love.  
We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly; we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

**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.  
(2ndverse by Rev. Ann Jefferson)

**POSTLUDE**

*Be Thou My Vision*



*FHC NOTES*

**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, Pastor Veronica Goines, Rita Grube, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Laura Stauffer, and Susan Way.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** Doris Brandt, Rev. Robin Craig, Marge Drollinger, Robert Kellermeyer, Florence and Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Emelia McGuire, Kitty McWilliams, Margaret Sentell, Elaine Tapié, Beryl and Henrietta Williams, and Warren Young.

**Care Group: *The Mt. Sinai Care Group*** will assist our pastors with members’ needs in **October**. 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, Tish Klein** ([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 **October 15 (for the November 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: **Deut. 34:1-12; Ps. 90: 1-6, 13-17; 1 Thess. 2:1-8; Matt. 22: 34-46.**