

*Forest Hill Church  
Service of Worship*

*November 8, 2020 at 11:00 am*

Gather around the computer to worship God!

Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

<https://youtu.be/pwn11CjqYiw>

*Centering Words*

*Listen for the words of God and keep your lamp lit.*

*Listen...hear...receive...choose to let God in.*

**PRELUDE**

Arr.

*We Shall Overcome*

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

Stephen Caesurella

*A Right Spirit*

Christine Fuller and Seth Ungemach

*Greeting Our God with Joy*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Our ancestors have led us here. **We are witnesses of their faith.**

The wisdom of the ages has called us here. **We are children of its call.**

The choice to follow God lies before us. **We are heirs of its promise.**

The Lord of life welcomes us here. **We are here to worship the Lord.**

**HYMN NO. 301**

*Let Us Build a House All  
Are Welcome*

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions;  
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.  
Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard  
and love and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter;  
All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

*Renewing Our Relationship with God*

**PRAYER OF YEARNING**

**We long to have the courage to choose you, O God, each and every day. We yearn for the forbearance to wait patiently, through the long watches of the night – for we long to be found ready, when you appear in your glory. Fill our lamps with your grace that we might share your light with all your children and with the generations to come. Amen.**

*Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming*

*Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE (I THESS 4:17)**

Hold on to these words of hope: “We will be with the Lord forever.” Love the Lord of life and live!

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**

*What are we to do?*  
Mary Ann Bresich

*Opening Our Hearts to God's Word*

**THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)**

**Matthew 25:1-13**

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

*After the readings*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN NO. 346**

*For the Healing of the Nations*

For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord;  
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;  
to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.  
You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind;  
For our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind,  
That by our response and service earth its destiny may find.

**Sermon**

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

*“Get Some Oil”*

**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**

*Give me a Clean Heart*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*Going Forth to Live as God’s People*

**CLOSING HYMN NO. 699**

*Fill My Cup*

Fill my cup; let it overflow; fill my cup; let it over flow; fill my cup;  
let it over flow; let it over flow with love.  
Lord, let me be your instrument, spreading sunshine in the land;  
let people see your works in me; help me live the best I can.  
**(Refrain)**  
It’s my desire to live for you and to always walk upright;  
give me strength to face each day; stay with me through each dark night.  
**(Refrain)**

**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.  
(2<sup>nd</sup> verse by Rev. Ann Jefferson)

**POSTLUDE**

Frederic Chopin

*Polonaise in A major*



*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:** Kathy Cameron, Mark Davidson, Marcie Denton, Rita Grube, Lillian Houser, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, the family of Dick Peterjohn, 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, Margaret Sentell, Elaine Tapié, Beryl and Henrietta Williams, and Warren Young.

**Care Group: *The Calvary Care Group*** will assist our pastors with members’ needs in **November**. 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, Kathryn Himmelsteib** ([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 **November 19 (for the December 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: **Judges 4: 1-7, Ps. 123; 1 Thess. 5:1-11; Matt. 25: 14-30.**