Forest Hill Church Worship Service

July 25, 2021 ~ 11:00 am

Gather around the computer to worship God! Please join our YouTube Live Stream:

https://youtu.be/4cPfGKUYm8c

Centering Words

This is a place to pause from the busyness of our days. This is a time to listen to God's Word, be moved by song, find joy in the face of our neighbor, and dwell in the Spirit of the Lord.

PRELUDE Aleksandr Scriabin

"Prelude for the Left Hand Alone, Op. 9" Irwin Shung, piano

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT John Newton

"Amazing Grace"

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP (Ephesians 3):

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. May you have the power to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge.

Now to the One who is able to accomplish far more than all we can ask or imagine.

To God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN NO. 733

"We All Are One in Mission"

1. We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all. A single, great commission compels us from above to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love. 2. We all are called for service to witness in God's name. Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same: to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace, so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace. Now let us be united and let our song be heard. Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word.

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (unison)

Blessed Redeemer, have mercy upon us as we confess our sin. You endow us with goodness while we squander your blessings. We yearn for what our neighbors enjoy. Envy, greed, and selfishness vie for our loyalty. Quiet our longing for that which does not satisfy, and make us content in Christ our Lord, who provides for our every need. In His name, we pray. Amen.

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS: (unison)

And now, may "Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love, that you may have the power to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth and length ad height and depth. May we know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with all the fullness of God," confident and assured of our forgiveness.



ANTHEM Jim Strathdee

"What Does the Lord Require of You"
Chancel Choir

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

2 SAM 11:1-15

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, 'This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite.' So David sent messengers to fetch her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, 'I am pregnant.'

So, David sent word to Joab, 'Send me Uriah the Hittite.' And Joab sent Uriah to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, 'Go down to your house, and wash your feet.' Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. When they told David, 'Uriah did not go down to his house', David said to Uriah, 'You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?' Uriah said to David, 'The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing.' Then David said to Uriah, 'Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back.' So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. In the letter he wrote, 'Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die.'

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 475

"Come Thou Fount"

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love! 2. Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood. 3. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

"Power"

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

William Howard Doane

"To God Be the Glory"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Going Forth to Live as God's People

CLOSING HYMN NO. 748

"Go with Us, Lord"



POSTLUDE Johann Pachebel

"Canon and Gigue"
Alan Choo and Guillermo Suarez, violin
Addi Liu, viola and David Ellis, cello
Qin Ying Tan, harpsichord



Prayer Request:

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:

Leslie Clement, Mark Davidson, Dara Elliot, Beth Garrett, Robyn Hales, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Steve Marunowski, Elspeth Peterjohn, Doreen Underwood, Grace Uhle, Susan Way, the family of LeAnn West, Sharon Wiggins and Betsy Wolf.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Robert Kellermeyer, Florence and Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Emelia McGuire, Margaret Sentell, Elaine Tapié, Beryl and Henrietta Williams.

Care Group: The Nazareth Care Group will assist our pastors with members' needs in July. 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 August 19 (for the September TOWER) at 8:00 am. Please submit your written requests to office@fhcpresb.org.

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