

*Forest Hill Church  
Worship Service*

*September 26, 2021 ~ 11:00 am*

Welcome back to in-person worship!

You may also join worship online using this link:

[https://youtu.be/MM56X\\_aphiE](https://youtu.be/MM56X_aphiE)

*Centering Words*

*"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective."*

*--James 5*

**PRELUDE**

"Adagio"

by W.A. Mozart

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

"Let All The World In Every Corner Sing"

Christine Fuller, soprano

Linda Martin, alto

Dave Bell, tenor

Scott Lafferty, bass

*Greeting Our God with Joy*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, children of God, to sing a new song: clap your hands and shout for joy.

**Jesus is our good news, our joy, and our salvation.**

In steadfast love and faithfulness God has done marvelous things.

**Christ is alive and at work in us.**

Blessed are those who seek good counsel and avoid sin's fragmentation.

**We will delight in the law of God and make it our meditation day and night.**

Let us worship the Lord!

**HYMN NO. 298**

"Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

**1.** Lord, you give the great commission:

"Heal the sick and preach the word."

Lest the church neglect its mission,

and the gospel go unheard,

help us witness to your purpose

with renewed integrity:

with the Spirit's gifts empower us

for the work of ministry.

**2.** Lord, you call us to your service:

"In my name baptize and teach."

That the world may trust your promise,

life abundant meant for each,

give us all new fervor, draw us

closer in community:

with the Spirit's gifts empower us  
for the work of ministry.

4. Lord, you show us love's true measure:  
"Father, what they do, forgive."  
Yet we hoard as private treasure  
all that you so freely give.  
May your care and mercy lead us  
to a just society:  
with the Spirit's gifts empower us  
for the work of ministry.

### *Renewing Our Relationship with God*

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**Ever-present, ever-loving God, we come to you mindful of the things we have done and left undone. Forgive us when we see your daughters and sons as "other." Help us to see you in everyone we meet. Help us to be your hands, feet and voice in this world, that we may work for a world where no one is a stranger, and where all will be welcomed into your glory. Unify us by the power of your love through your Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.**

**SILENCE...**

### *Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

#### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

**With the nourishment of Christ, the Living Water, we are refreshed and made new. In God's mercy and grace, we are again claimed as God's children and called in God's service.**

#### **MINUTE FOR MISSION**

Joan Bacon

#### **ANTHEM**

by Mary Ann Bresich

"There is a River"

### *Opening Our Hearts to God's Word*

#### **THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)**

##### **Mark 9:38-50**

John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.' And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

'For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'

*After the readings*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

## **HYMN NO. 317**

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

1. In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north,  
but one great fellowship of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.
2. In Christ shall true hearts everywhere  
their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord  
close-binding humankind.
4. In Christ now meet both east and west;  
in him meet south and north.  
All Christly souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.

## **SERMON**

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

*"Not One of Us"*

## **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**

by Sondra Corbett

"I Worship You, Almighty God"

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## *Going Forth to Live as God's People*

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.

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

by François Couperin

“Le Tic-Toc-Choc”



### Prayer Request:

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:

Leslie Clement, Mark Davidson, Dara Elliot, Beth Garrett, Robyn Hales, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Elspeth Peterjohn, Grace Uhle, Doreen Underwood, Susan Way, and Sharon Wiggins.

### 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 Mt. Sinai 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, Laurie Rose** ([deacons@fhcpresb.org](mailto:deacons@fhcpresb.org)).

**Thank you, all office volunteers:** Joan Bacon, Lynda Bernays, Cathy Ghiandoni, and Nancy Grube.

**The deadline for the bulletin and weekly email** is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **October 14 (for the November TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org) Website: [www.fhcpresb.org](http://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, Director of Music**  
**Rev. Carol Wedell, Parish Associate**