

*Forest Hill Church:
Third Sunday in Lent*

March 20, 2022 ~ 11:00 am

You may also join worship online using this link:

<https://youtu.be/KE3Cl6OZ77I>

Centering Words

*Faithful God, our parched spirits thirst for you.
Here in your sanctuary, help us witness again your power and glory.
Feed our hungry souls with the food that truly satisfies.
Quench our dry mouths and fill them with your praise.*

PRELUDE

Fanny Mendelssohn

“Lieder for Piano”

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT: “AS THE DEER”

Martin J. Nystrom
Chancel Choir

As the deer panteth for the water
So my soul longeth after Thee
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee
You alone are my strength, my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship Thee

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 63: 1-5

Welcome to the fabulous feast that God has prepared!

We come hungry, thirsty, and searching for God.

God is near, full of power and glory.

We are here to be fed by God’s word.

Lift up your hands in praise!

We will sing with joy on our lips.

Bless God, who upholds us with God’s strength.

We will bless God as long as we live!

OPENING HYMN NO. 790

“In silence My Soul Thirsts”

1. In my silence my soul thirst for God; For God alone I wait.
My enemies may chase me down; Love shields me from their hate.

Refrain:

**God is my Rock; God is my strength;
God is my salvation, my refuge, my abiding peace.
I shall not be shaken.**

2. In stillness I pour out my fears; the solitude builds trust.
My refuge rests in God’s great grace. My anxious thoughts are hushed.
3. In quietness my Lord conferred two truths I now declare:
No greater love than God’s is known; no power can compare.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Nurturing One, you invite us to feast on your word and to be filled with your love. Your banquet is always before us, freely offered for us to enjoy, yet we choose to spend our resources on things that do not satisfy. Forgive us when we consume the very things that do not feed us. Help us abandon our careless ways and self-seeking schemes, that we might return to you, our provider and sustainer.

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

God is faithful and will not allow us to be tempted beyond our abilities.
Even in our brokenness, God provides a path to wholeness.
When we confess our shortcomings,
God has mercy on us and is generous with forgiveness.
Through Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE: HYMN 414

“Be Still and Know That I Am God”

Be still and Know that I am God. (2X)

ANTHEM: “I BELIEVE”

Mark Miller
Chancel Choir

I believe in the sun (2X)
Even when, even when it's not shining
I believe in the sun (2X)
Even when, even when it's not shining
I believe in love (2X)
Even when, even when I don't feel it
I believe in love (2X)
Even when, even when I don't feel it
(I believe in love) (3X)
Even when, even when I don't feel it
(I believe in love) (3X)
Even when, even when I don't feel it
I believe in God (2X)
Even when, even when God is silent

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Psalm 63:1-5

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips.

Isaiah 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 466

"Come and Fill Our Hearts"

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia! **(3X)**

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Veronica R. Goines

"Soul Thirst"

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: “DUST”

Jean Reinhold

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust
What precedes death?
Life, some sort of fire.
How then do you burn,
slow and steady,
flickering, explosively?
How then do you live,
smoking a chain of your own addictions,
flaming molehills into mountains?
From a core of anger,
or from a core of heat?
Do people shrink away
from you out of fear?
Or does your life beckon,
causing people to encircle you,
lift their hands, and reach out
for your light and warmth.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CLOSING HYMN NO. #699

“Fill My Cup”

(Refrain)

**Fill my cup; let it overflow; fill my cup; let it overflow; fill my cup;
let it overflow; let it overflow 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 the strength to face each day;
stay with me through each dark night. **(Refrain)**

Going Forth to Live as God’s People

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Marcel Dupré

“Souvenir Op. 65bis”

**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:

Connie and Steve Biddinger (family of Nick Baumgartner), Barb Cloud, the family of Laura Cosgrove (Mike Cosgrove's sister-in-law), Mark Davidson, Mark Hansen, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Deanne Lentz, Dave Neff, the family of Jack Prentice, Paul Tuggey (father of Christina Hidek), Grace Uhle, Susan Way, and Karl Wheatley.

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 Corinth Care Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **March**. 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, Dean Sieck** (deacons@fhcpresb.org).

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

The deadline for the bulletin and weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **March 24 (for the April 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, Director of Music

Rev. Carol Wedell, Parish Associate