

*Forest Hill Church
Worship Service
Palm Sunday and Baptism*

April 10, 2022 ~ 11:00 am

You may join worship online using this link:

https://youtu.be/Ag_w1qqKz8c

Centering Words

Exaltation and joy. Passover sacrifice and betrayal.

Death and life. Such is the terrain of Holy Week.

*Such are the waters that sweep us through the holy mystery of our faith
– the waters that reveal the joy and the cost of discipleship.*

(B.J. Beu)

PRELUDE

“Rhythms”

FHC Percussion Ensemble

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

Robert Lowry arr. Dale Wood

“Shall We Gather by the River”

Voices in Bronze

Greeting Our God with Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing glory to God in the highest heaven. **The King is coming!**

Even if we keep silent, the rocks will shout it out. **The King is coming!**

The King is coming! **Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

THE PROCESSION OF THE CHILDREN

HYMN 197

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna the little children sang;
through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

2. From Olivet they followed’ mid an exultant crowd,
the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud;
the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,
nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

3. "Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King.
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Let us come together to a moment of confession. Imagine Jesus entering our presence just as he entered Jerusalem some 2,000 years ago. Envision the palm branches, the donkey, the shouts of "hosanna." Understanding who he is and knowing who we are...

Leader: ...we pray together...

All: O God, you know us well. We are quick to speak of faith, but slow to live it fully. We shout "hosanna" as Jesus approaches, as did the people of Jerusalem many years ago; but we do not want him to come too close -- not close enough to really see...

Silent Confession

Leader: And we pray together...

All: O God, you know us well. We are quick to claim faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior; but, like the throng who greeted his entry into Jerusalem, we are fickle, slow to live fully and everywhere as faithful disciples. We know where we fail...

Silent Confession

Leader: And we pray together...

All: O God, you know us well. We are quick to want the blessings of faithfulness; but, like the Twelve who spent the last week with him, we are slow to accept the pain and suffering of authentic Christ-like living. Forgive our weakness and fear...

Silent Confession

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The Lord is God. The Lord brings light to those in darkness, forgiveness to those who truly confess, and pardon to all who seek to follow Jesus. Rejoice that the steadfast love of the Lord endures forever and ever. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, receive the love that never dies and never fails. Amen.

ANTHEM

African-American Spiritual
arr. Horace J. Scruggs, III

“Ride on King Jesus”

Chancel Choir

Ride on King Jesus, no man can-a hinder you
Ride on King Jesus, ride on, no man can-a hinder you
The kingdoms of this world are our God and King
(No man can-a hinder you)
So let the nations bow down and all creation sing
(No man can-a hinder you)
He reigns over us all let his praises start
(No man can-a hinder you)
And let the Lord of all be the Lord of our hearts
(No man can-a hinder you)
Ride on King Jesus, no man can-a hinder you
Ride on King Jesus, ride on, no man can-a hinder you
In that great get up morning, fare ye well!
Ride on King Jesus, no man can-a hinder you.
Ride on!

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Today we have the honor of baptizing **Emerson Grace Banks**, daughter of William and Kelsey Banks.

PRAYER OF WELCOME

Gracious God, giver of all life, we thank you for receiving Emmie by baptism. Keep her always in your love. Guide her as she grows in faith. Protect her in all the dangers and temptations of life. Bring her to confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to be Christ's faithful disciple through all her life. Amen.

HYMN NO. 488

"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"

- 1.** I was there to hear your borning cry; I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.
- 2.** When you heard the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on,
You were raised to praise the living Lord to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.
- 3.** In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.
- 4.** I was there to hear your borning cry; I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Luke 19:28-40

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

"If Only We Would Follow"

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/form/f861d6>
You may also mail a check to the church office.

OFFERTORY

Stephen Schwartz
“Beautiful City”
Jack Lentz, soloist

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God’s People

CLOSING HYMN NO. 198 “Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”

1. Ride on! Ride on in majesty! Hark!
All the tribes hosanna cry; thy humble beast pursues
its road with palms and scattered garments strowed.
2. Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die; O Christ, thy triumphs
now begin o’er captive death and conquered sin.
3. Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
The hosts of angels in the sky look down with sad
and wondering eyes to see the approaching sacrifice.
4. Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die; bow thy meek head to mortal pain;
then take, O God, they power, and reign.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Arr. By Anthony Gianmaco
“Ride on King Jesus”

**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:

Barb Cloud, Mark Davidson, Mark Hansen, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Dave Neff, the family of Terry Schenck (Elaine Tapié's Brother in law), Paul Tuggey (father of Christina Hidek), Grace Uhle, and Susan Way.

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 Jerusalem Care Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **April**. 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, Gail Larson** (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 **April 14 (for the May TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to office@fhcpresb.org.

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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