

*Forest Hill Church:  
Worship Service*

*October 23, 2022 ~ 11:00 am*

You may also join worship online using this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bkuPaskIEDo>

*\*please stand if able*

*Centering Words*

*Rejoice in the beauty of God's creation. God has blessed us with many gifts.  
Let us humbly thank our God.*

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

"Shall We Gather by the River"  
Voices in Bronze

*Greeting Our God with Joy*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 65)**

Willie Jackson

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed,  
**O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.**

When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

**Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.**

By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

**By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might.**

You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

**Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.**

You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

**You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.**

You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

**The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,**

the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

**Let us worship God!**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 12**

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

*Renewing Our Relationship with God*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**TIME OF SILENCE**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

**\*ALLELUIA**

Ha - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our  
 hearts with glad - ness are filled. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your  
 prais - es, all our hearts with glad - ness are filled. Now he  
 sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt, strong of  
 faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful Good News.

*Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

**CHILDREN’S WELCOME**

Amy Wheatley

*Children will leave the sanctuary with their adult leaders to go to Sunday School.*

**STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONY**

Sally Davis

**ANTHEM**

Kenneth Morris

Chancel Choir

Cheryl Murray, soprano soloist

“Yes, God is Real”

There are some things I may not know, there are some places I cannot go,  
 But I am sure of this one thing, that God is real for I can feel Him deep within.

**[CHORUS]**

**Yes, God is real, oh, He's real in my soul  
 Yes, God is real, for He has washed and made me whole;  
 His love for me is just like pure gold.**

**Yes, God is real for I can feel Him in my soul.**

Some folks may doubt, some folks may scorn, all can desert and leave me alone,  
 But as for me I'll take God's part, for God is real and I can feel Him in my heart. **[CHORUS]**

I cannot tell just how you felt. When Jesus took your sins away,  
 But since that day, yes since that hour, God has been real for I can feel His holy po'r. **[CHORUS]**

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

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

#### **Luke 18: 9-14**

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income." But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.'

#### *After the readings*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **HYMN NO. 435**

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

#### **SERMON**

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

"Before you Judge"

#### **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**

Duke Ellington

"Come Sunday"

#### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

#### **\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 539**

"We Will Go Out with Joy"

*Going Forth to Live as God's People*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*HYMN NO. 701**

Sanctuary

Lord, prepare me, to be a sanctuary  
Pure and holy, tried and true  
With thanksgiving I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for you.

**POSTLUDE**

Christian Cappelen

"Postlude in F"



**Prayer Request:**

To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz ([pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org](mailto:pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org)) no later than Thursday afternoon of each week for inclusion in next week's congregational prayer.

**Prayers are requested this week for:**

Kiva Bohanon, Mark Davidson, Susan (Kay) Dunlap, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Ginie Mast, Beverly Thomas, Grace Uhle, Susan Way and Mark Webster.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:**

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

**Care Group: *The Calvary Group*** will assist our pastors with members' needs in **October**. 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, Kemp Jaycox** ([deacons@fhcpresb.org](mailto: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 **November 10 (for the December 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**

**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. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor**  
**Dr. Amy Wheatley, Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministries**  
**Dr. Qin Ying Tan, Director of Music**  
**Rev. Carol Wedell, Parish Associate**