

Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



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

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

*Forest Hill Church:
Worship Service
Lessons and Carols*

December 18, 2022 ~ 11:00 am

You may also join worship online using this link:

<https://youtu.be/JmR1mBacGcw>

**Please stand if able*

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Sinfonia”

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Reader 1: In a world where so many experience hatred,
God lights a candle of love in our hearts.

We wait together for a Savior,
who will be Immanuel, Christ the Lord.

Hear the word of the Lord:

Reader 2: For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that
everyone who

believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. John 3:16

All: Loving God, we open ourselves to you this Christmas season.

As these candles are lit, light our lives with your imagination.

Show us the creative power of hope.

Teach us the peace that comes from justice.

Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be
shared.

Magnify your love within us.

Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,

That we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

The Festival of Lessons and Carols

***HYMN NO. 88**

“O Come, O come Emmanuel”
(verses 1, 2, 5)

Reading 1: Isaiah 40:1-5

“Comfort Ye - Every Valley”
“Glory to the Lord”

Clayton Minder, tenor
Chancel Choir

Reading 2: Malachi 3:1-3

“But Who May Abide the Day of His Coming?”
“And He Shall Purify”

Linn Obery, bass
Chancel Choir

Reading 3: Isaiah 7:13-14

“Behold, a virgin shall conceive”
“O Thou that Tellest Good Tidings to Zion”

Laura Minder, alto
Chancel Choir

Reading 4: “After Annunciation” by Madeleine L’Engle

This is the irrational season
When love blooms bright and wild.
Had Mary been filled with reason
There’d have been no room for the child.

***HYMN NO. 129**

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/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.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

Voices in Bronze

“Carol of the Bells”

Reading 5: Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7

“For Unto Us a Child is Born”

Chancel Choir

Reading 6: Luke 2:8-14

“There were shepherds”

Madelaine Matej, soprano

“And lo, the angel of the Lord”-“And the angel said unto them”-And suddenly there was with the angel”

“Glory to God in the highest”

Chancel Choir

Reading 7: From “A Hymn to Humanity” by Phillis Wheatley

Lo! For this dark terrestrial ball
Forsakes his azure-paved hall
A prince of heav’nly birth!
Divine Humanity behold,
What wonders rise, what charms unfold
At his descent to earth.

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion”

Madelaine Matej, soprano

Reading 8: “What do I Want For Christmas?” by Ann Weems

What do I want for Christmas?
I want to kneel in Bethlehem,
the air thick with alleluias,
the angels singing
that God is born among us.
In the light of the Star,
I want to see them come,
the wise ones and the humble.
I want to see them come
bearing whatever they treasure
to lay at his feet
of him who gives his life.

What do I want for Christmas?
To see in that stable
the whole world kneeling in thanks
for a promise kept:
new life.
For in his nativity
we find ours.

***HYMN NO 134:**

“Joy to the World”

***BENEDICTION**

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

POSTLUDE

by Maurizio Machella

“A Christmas Medley”



CHRISTMASTIME



Christmas Door Wreaths: Thank you Garden group for your donation!

Prayer Request:

To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz (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:

Cooper Andrews, Kiva Bohanon, Mark Davidson, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Ginie Mast, Kitty McWilliams, Beverly Thomas, Grace Uhle, Susan Way and Sharon Wiggins.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

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

Care Group: *The All Church Group* will assist our pastors with members' needs in **December**. 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, Kathryn Himmelsteib** (deacons@fhcpresb.org).

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

Thank you, all Stream Team Volunteers!

The deadline for the bulletin and weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **January 12 (for the February TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to office@fhcpresb.org.

GUEST MUSICIANS

Costa Rican Baroque violinist Dr. Guillermo Salas-Suárez made his directorial debut with the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra in Fall 2021 and has performed with the Atlanta, Austin, and Lyra Baroque Orchestras, Apollo's Fire, Bourbon Baroque, The Newberry Consort, and CityMusic Cleveland. As a music scholar of 18th-century Spain and Mexico, he has presented his research in conferences at Boston, Indiana, and Oregon Universities, and Early Music America.

Cellist and viola da gambist Jane Leggiero is a native Clevelander and a candidate in the DMA program in Historical Performance Practice at Case Western Reserve University. She began her early music studies at Oberlin College and did her master's work at Boston University in Historical Performance and Musicology. She has performed as a soloist and ensemble member with modern and historical ensembles across the country and was a member of the Governor's Musick, the chamber ensemble in residence at Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia.

Violinist Phaik Tzhi Chua has just moved into Cleveland a year ago and has performed locally with Alchemy Baroque. She is currently pursuing a masters degree in historical performance practice under Julie Andrijeski in Case Western Reserve University. Phaik Tzhi holds a Bachelor of Music degree in violin performance from Queens College (CUNY), New York. While in New York, she has performed with Salon/Sanctuary Concerts, New York Continuo Collective, and Manhattan Opera Studio.

A "poised young musician," Andrew Hatfield has been performing throughout the United States and abroad for many years as a violinist and violist, appearing on stages as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player with both modern and period instruments. Andrew performs on a 2001 Francesco Toto violin with modern bows by Anthony DiMambro and Rodney Mohr, and period bows by Anthony DiMambro, Katherine Mohr, David Hawthorne, and Kate Buehler-McWilliams

Tracy Rowell is an active performer and teacher in the Cleveland area and currently serves as faculty at Oberlin Conservatory. Formerly the Assistant Principal Bassist of the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, Canada, Tracy currently serves as Principal Bass for CityMusic Cleveland.

Christmas Caroling!
Today, December 18
4:30pm-5:30pm
(note time change)

We'll meet at the church and go out to sing carols in the neighborhood around Forest Hill Church. All ages and voices are welcome. Dress for the weather, bring your friends and family, and help spread Christmas cheer to our neighbors.

