

Forest Hill Church: Worship Service

February 19, 2023 ~ 11:00 am

You may also join worship online using this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGMjYaHn_AU

**Please stand if able*

Centering Words

*Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive and go do it.
Because what the world needs is more people who have come alive.*

~Howard Thurman

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

*"We Are Marching in the Light of God"
Chancel Choir*

Greeting Our God with Joy

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Praise the Lord! **Praise God in the heavens. Praise God in the heights!**
Praise God all angels. **Praise God all hosts.**
Praise God, sun and moon; **praise God all you shining stars!**
Let everything praise the Lord. **God's name is to be exalted.**
God's glory is above earth and heaven. **Praise the Lord!**

***HYMN**

"Every Praise"

[Refrain]

Ev'ry praise is to our God, ev'ry word of worship with one accord. Ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise is to our God.
Sing Hallelujah to our God. Glory hallelujah is due our God. Ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise is to our God. (repeat 3x)
God, my savior. God my healer. God, my deliverer. Yes, he is. Yes he is.
Ev'ry praise is to our God, ev'ry word of worship with one accord. Ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise is to our God. (repeat)

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

TIME OF SILENCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.
God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! **By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**
Amen.

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, amen! In all I say and I do: Hallelujah, amen!

CHILDREN'S WELCOME

Amy Wheatley

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

"Freedom Train"

Chancel Choir

Woo! Woo! All aboard!
 Just get onboard! Get on board!
 Shout "Hallelujah!" All aboard the Freedom Train!
 Bound for Glory where peace and justice reign.
 One day we shall overcome. Can't go back to where we started from.
 Freedom Train's a comin', get on board!
 Get on board. Freedom Train's a comin', won't you get on board!
 Woo! Woo! All aboard!
 Just get onboard! Get on board!
 Shout "Hallelujah!" Gonna ride to Glory Land!
 On to victory, I'll join that heav'nly band.
 In a land where I will sing songs of the faith that help to set me free.
 Freedom Train's a comin', get on board!
 Get on board. Freedom Train's a comin', won't you get on board!
 You may hinder me here, but you can't hinder me there.
 The Lord in Heaven's gonna answer my pray'r.
 I am goin' home to see the elders there, to sing the songs of hope for freedom ev'rywhere. Oh!
 Get on board! Ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round!
 We shall overcome. Oh!
 Oh, Freedom! Oh, Freedom!
 Freedom Train's a comin', get on board!

*Opening Our Hearts to God's Word***THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)****Psalm 126**

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

Mark 10: 46-52

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

“Howard Thurman: Prophet of Jubilee”

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

“The Wayfaring Stranger”

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions.

Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 384**

“Soon and Very Soon”

Going Forth to Live as God’s People

***BENEDICTION**

“This Little Light of Mine”

POSTLUDE

Arr. Ralph Simpson

“He is King of Kings”

Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian's 11th Annual Black History Month Celebration

The Black History Education Committee of Forest Hill Church is happy to announce our 2023 theme: *Reparations vs. Jubilee*. During the month of February, the Black History Education Committee will lead the church in exploring this theme through a variety of interactive, open-to-the-public weekly activities.

Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian welcomes the opportunity to learn, grow and fellowship with our neighbors in Cleveland Heights and beyond.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

February 19 (immediately following worship): Teach-In and Talk on Reparations vs. Jubilee

What are the differences between reparations and Jubilee? This is the grounding question we will explore at our teach-in and talk. Black-owned Food Trucks will be available onsite, so grab a plate and settle in for a robust discussion!

February 25 at 6:30 PM: Honoring Mother Willie Mae Wright

The Wright Family Singers and Elégie will split the bill to offer a gospel concert on Saturday February 25th at 6:30 PM. FREE and open to the public.

This event comes with an extra layer of emotion for The Wright Family Singers, as it will be the first family concert since the passing of the family matriarch, Mother Willie-Mae Wright. Mother Wright was the original singer of the family and founded The Wright Family Singers with her 8 children in 1978. 3 of her children Bridgett, Deborah and Eric (the group's original accompanist) preceded her in death, yet the group continues on with her remaining living children and their children.

February 26 at 4:00 PM: Live Ancestral Listening

Join us for a special jazz concert at 4 PM which will feature local jazz musicians Robin Blake, Joshua Stone, Malika Turner, Kenesha Terrell and many others. This event will be followed by an open forum discussion facilitated by a special guest speaker, giving both participants and patrons the chance to discuss and perform the music. FREE and open to the public.



LOOK AHEAD March 2023 Events

Create In Me A New Heart **Lent 2023**

There is so much noise in the world, so many competing voices and so much division. How we long for the space and time to rest in the quiet, to move our bodies in gentle ways, to meditate on a passage from scripture, to join with others in a holy space.

This Lenten Season, Ying and I invite you to join us for a season of restoration and repair of our inner being.

Wednesday, February 22 (Ash Wednesday) 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Through sacrament, prayer, music and ashes we will enter the season of Lent, the 40 days before Easter.

Wednesday, March 1, 15 and 29 7:00 p.m. Join us in the Chapel for 30 minutes, or so, of contemplative worship, gentle bodily movement, scripture and song as we create space for God's spirit to clear and clean as we seek a new heart for the living of these days.

A light supper will be served (Deanne Lentz and Morag Keefe will be providing the meals) before each of these gatherings at 6:00 p.m. as we celebrate the sacramental gift of breaking bread together.

All are welcome to join us when you can. In order to have enough food we would appreciate that you register here <https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/c82a0c>. But know that there will be a place for you at the table.

~John and Ying



Music She Wrote, March 4 from 4-6 PM
Forest Hill Church Presbyterian
Tea reception and discussion at 4PM,
Fellowship Hall with Jessica Kelley
Concert at 5 PM in the Sanctuary

We are excited to kick off Women's History Month with a concert celebrating the works of female composers from the baroque era. Historically-informed musicians, Guillermo Salas-Suárez (violin) and Andréa

Walker (soprano), will present a dazzling performance of musical pieces with Qin-Ying Tan on the organ and harpsichord. In addition, our youth group will present recitations of poetry composed by female writers through the ages during the performance.

There will be a light tea reception and discussion of women's civil rights at 4PM in the fellowship hall prior to the concert led by CWRU sociology professor, Jessica Kelley.



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:

Doris Allen (sister Diane Wilson passed away), Cooper Andrews, Kiva Bohanon, Mark Davidson, Rita Grube, Deborah Howard, Joanna Klingenstein, Beverly Thomas, 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, Beryl and Henrietta Williams.

Care Groups will assist our pastors with members' needs. Please call the church office to report an illness, hospitalization, family emergency, birth or death. Information will be passed on to the **head of the Deacons, Dean Sieck** (deacons@fhcpresb.org).

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

Thank you, all Stream Team Volunteers! Anyone interested in helping stream Sunday services should contact Kurt Haas at kurt@dangereddy.com.

The deadline for the bulletin and weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **February 16 (for the March 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

Custodian Phone on Duty: 216-217-5257

Email: office@fhcpresb.org Website: www.fhcpresb.org

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