

*Forest Hill Church:  
Worship Service*

*March 19, 2023 ~ 11:00 am*

You may also join worship online using this link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ValXgMba90k>

*\*Please stand if able*

*Centering Words*

*Open my eyes that I may see, glimpses of truth thou hast for me.  
Place in my hands the wonderful key, that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes illumine me, Spirit divine.*

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

by George D. Elderkin  
Arr. Simpson-Cureton

“Jesus, the Light of the World”

Chancel Choir

Christ by highest heaven adored; Jesus the light of the world.  
Christ the everlasting Lord, Jesus the light of the world.  
We'll walk in the light, beautiful light.  
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.  
O, shine all around us by day and by night.  
Jesus the light of the world.

*Greeting Our God with Joy*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Light of our lights, **be our vision this day.**

Open our eyes to behold your glory. **Open our hearts to the warmth of your love.**

Open our minds to the flame of your truth. **Open our souls to the glory of living as children of the light, that others may see in our living the sacred mystery of your kingdom.**

Let us worship God!

**\*HYMN NO. 182**

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

*Renewing Our Relationship with God*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**In our weakness and sinfulness, O God, we often fear what we do not understand. In our blindness, we fail to see others as you do. Yet we long to see as you see and to perceive as you perceive. We yearn to cast aside the shadows of the night and live as children born anew in the light of your love. Forgive us and help us behold your glory this day, that we might reflect your light for all to see. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

**TIME OF SILENCE**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world, leads us through the darkest valleys, anoints us with love, fills our cups to overflowing, and brings us goodness and mercy all the days our lives. We accept that we are loved and forgiven. Amen.**

*Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

**HYMN NO. 586**

“Alleluia”

**CHILDREN’S WELCOME**

Amy Wheatley

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

**ANTHEM**

Lloyd Larson

“Leaning on Jesus”

Chancel Choir

**[Chorus]**

*I’m leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus.*

*Each day I am trusting in the Lord.*

*In his arms I safely rest; by his love I’m surely blessed.*

*By faith, I am leaning on Jesus.*

*Cast your cares on the Lord today.*

*Let Him hold you and guide your way.*

*He will walk with you in the sun and rain.*

*So trust the Lord in life’s joys and pain. [Chorus]*

*What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;*

*What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

*Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms.*

*Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms. [Chorus]*

*Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word*

**THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)**

John 9:1-41

*After the readings*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Rev. Sally Wile

**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**

Arr. Harry Burleigh

"No One Knows the Trouble"

Janice Alexander, soprano

## 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. 314

“Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness”

*Going Forth to Live as God's People*

## \*BENEDICTION

Mark Miller

“Make Me an Instrument of Peace”

*Make me an instrument (x2), make me an instrument of peace, of peace.*

## POSTLUDE

J.S. Bach

"Fantasy in A minor"

## 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, Virginia Weiss and I invite you to join us for a season of restoration and repair of our inner being.

**Wednesday, March 29, at 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.

**Thursday, April 6, Maundy Thursday Service.** Supper in Fellowship Hall at 6:00 PM and service at 7 PM. You will receive an email that will include the registration information or contact the church office.

**Friday, April 7 Good Friday.** We will join the Heights community at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Service begins at 12:00 noon and ends at 3:00 p.m. You may come and go as your schedule permits. Dr. Lentz will be a liturgist for the first hour. Several area pastors will give a meditation on one of the “Seven Last Words of Christ.”

~John and Ying



**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:**

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](mailto:deacons@fhcpresb.org)).

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

**Thank you, all Stream Team Volunteers!** Anyone interested in helping stream Sunday services should contact Kurt Haas at [kurt@dangereddy.com](mailto:kurt@dangereddy.com).

**The deadline for the bulletin and weekly email** is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **April 13 (for the May TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org).

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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