Forest Hill Church: Worship Service

March 26, 2023 ~ 11:00 am

You may also join worship online using this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ykaDyFuyB1M

*Please stand if able

Centering Words

In this sacred moment, we look for God and find the promise of hope, steadfast love, and new beginnings.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"
Chancel Choir

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart; Wean it from earth; through all its pulses move; Stop to my weakness, might as thou art, And make me love thee as I ought to love.

Greeting Our God with Joy

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, all who are weary. Here, we wait for the Lord.

Come, all who have turned away from God. Here, we find forgiveness and healing.

Come, all who look for hope. Here, we embrace God's steadfast love.

Come, and fill your hearts with praise and thanksgiving. Let us praise God!

*HYMN NO. 35

"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, there are times when we are so lost we forget to look to you. Forgive us when we turn away from your love. Forgive us when we doubt our own feelings and the feelings of others. Forgive us when we forget that your Holy Spirit dwells within us. Help us to see your love and your presence in our lives. Help us trust you no matter what life may bring, and help us follow you faithfully. Amen.

TIME OF SILENCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

People of God, the steadfast love and redeeming power of God is with you today and always. You are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

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 Jean Bernger

"The Eyes of All Wait Upon Thee" Chancel Choir

The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of ev'ry living thing, The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. The eyes of all wait upon thee, wait upon thee.

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

John 11:1-41

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 699 "Fill My Cup"

SERMON Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

"Binding and Unbinding"

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 Marty Haugen

"Shepherd Me O God" Jack Lentz, tenor Seth Ungemach, bass

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. 769

"For Everyone Born"

- 1. For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread, a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead, and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace: yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!
- **2.** For all who share life, a place at the table, revising the roles, deciding the share, with wisdom and grace, dividing the power, for all who share life, a system that's fair, and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace: yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!
- **3.** For those we neglect, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song, the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for those we neglect, the right to belong, and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace: yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!
 - **4.** For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be, to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free, and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace: yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!

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

"Fugue from Chromatic Fantasie and Fugue, BWV 903"

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. Please register here: https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/25a55e15 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

Traits of the Beloved Community, a Working Document

- 1. Recognizes and honors the image of God in every human being
- 2. Recognizes and affirms, not eradicates differences
- 3. Takes the steps necessary to recognize and honor all voices, thereby fostering trust and embracing one another
- 4. Acknowledges limitations, ambiguity, lack of knowledge or understanding; listen and seek to learn
- 5. Speaks the truth in love, resolving conflicts peacefully and compassionately, without physical or verbal violence
- 6. Actively commits to justice through removing unjust systems without destroying people
- 7. Encourages and embraces artistic expressions of faith from diverse perspectives
- 8. Achieves friendship and understanding through negotiation compromise or consensus, considering each circumstance to discern which will be most helpful
- 9. Blends faith and action to generate a commitment to defeating injustice (not forgetting that injustice can also be found within the Church)
- 10. Promotes human rights and creates a just society by meeting the needs of everyone in the community, sharing power, and acknowledging the network of mutuality among all humans
- 11. Fosters dynamic and active spirituality through reliance on Scripture, prayer and corporate worship, recognizing God as dynamic and active in the world



Family Youth and Children's Ministry

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Fellowship Hall

Family-friendly taco bar, drinks and dessert

After-dinner games and activities for kids of all ages Dessert, coffee and conversation for grown-ups

This event is free for families, but please register before March 29:

https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/c79c4e.



Family Youth and Children's Ministry Invites you to SUPPORT THE GIRLS! A Luncheon for All Generations featuring a performance by Women in History

Sunday, May 7, 2023 12:15pm – 2:00pm FHC Fellowship Hall Cost: \$10 per person

No charge for those under 16 years of age Bring your mom, daughter, niece, granddaughter, friends! Be inspired by the first-person stories of two amazing women, in a performance by accomplished local actresses:



Jane Edna Hunter, portrayed by Jeannine Gaskin



Ruth Bader Ginsburg, portrayed by Juliette Regnier

This event will benefit *I SUPPORT THE GIRLS CLEVELAND*, a non-profit that collects menstrual hygiene products and distributes them to women and folx experiencing homelessness, poverty, or distress.

Please support the girls by bringing a donation of a new, sealed box of tampons or pads.

Register by April 30: https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/aaf78b

Contact: Amy Wheatley, ce@fhcpresb.org



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, the family of 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, 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.

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.

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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