

## *Forest Hill Church:*

### *Palm Sunday*

*April 2, 2023 ~ 11:00 am*

You may also join worship online using this link:

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

*\*Please stand if able*

### *Centering Words*

*On the back of a donkey, Jesus came to save us.*

*On the road to Jerusalem, Jesus came to heal us.*

*In the joy of laughing children and the shouts of loud hosannas,  
Jesus came to show us the way.*

### **WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### *Greeting Our God with Joy*

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

This is the day that the Lord has made. **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. **God's steadfast love endures forever.**

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. **This is the Lord's doing.**

**It is marvelous in our eyes.** Line the festival procession with branches.

This is the day that the Lord has made. **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

#### **\*HYMN NO. 197**

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

### *Renewing Our Relationship with God*

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Righteous One, we join the crowds shouting "Hosanna!" "Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!" Yet, we confess we also join the crowd in filtering away when you call us to follow you along the path of righteousness, justice, and peace. You call us to proclaim the gospel, but we remain silent in the presence of evil. You call us to be reconciled to you and one another, but we are content to live in separation. You call us to seek the good of all, but we fail to resist the powers of oppression. You call us to fight pretensions and injustice, but we stand idly by. Forgive us. Reconcile us by the power of your Spirit, and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others.**

#### **TIME OF SILENCE**

#### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

HYMN NO. 586

“Alleluia”

ANTHEM

“Ho, Ho, Ho, Hosanna!”  
“The Butterfly Song”  
Julie Minder, Director,  
Carol Wedell, Accompanist

Little Crescendos  
Folk Song (Anonymous)  
Words and Music by Brian Howard

*Opening Our Hearts to God’s Word*

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Matthew 21:1-11

*After the readings*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Carol Wedell

“Between Hosanna and Hallelujah”

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

Pepper Choplin

“Hosanna in the Streets”

Chancel Choir

**[chorus] Hosanna, hosanna! He is the King of Israel. Hosanna,  
hosanna, blessed is He Who comes. In the name of the Lord.**

*I heard He can raise the dead. Is it true? Oh yes! I saw it.*

*He called out to an open grave and from the dead a man he raised.*

*I heard that He calmed a storm Is it true? Oh yes! I saw it. He called out to the angry waves.*

*“Peace, be still,” and we were saved. He comes to save. All people shout: [chorus]*

*Could He be the promised One? Could he be?*

*Oh yes! The great Messiah. He will reign as a mighty King, deliver us and set us free.*

*Come and praise the holy One with a shout! Come shout with a voice of triumph! Spread your coats on the path before,  
prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way! [chorus]*

*Hosanna to the great Messiah. Hosanna to the holy King.*

*Hosanna with a voice of triumph, lift your head and sing: [chorus]*

*The King has come! Come shouting: Hosanna!*

## **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.**

*Going Forth to Live as God's People*

**\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 198**

“Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”

**\*BENEDICTION**

**THE REMOVAL OF THE CROSS**

## **EASTER SUNDAY PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**



**EASTER EGG HUNT 10:30 – 10:45 AM:** Meet us on the front lawn of church before worship and join in the fun of our annual egg hunt! Children ages birth to 10 yrs., accompanied by a parent or grandparent, are welcome.

**CHILDCARE 10:45 AM – 12:15 PM:** Childcare for little ones, birth to 5yrs., will be available in Rooms 201-203.

**WORSHIP FOR ALL 11:00 AM:** Children ages 6+ yrs. and youth worship with their families - no Sunday School or Youth Group classes today. There will be special Easter worship activity bags for young children – pick one up on your way into the sanctuary!



## What is a Matthew 25 church?

Matthew 25:31–46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, both the 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) exhorted the PC(USA) to act boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor.

## How the vision unites all Presbyterians

By accepting the Matthew 25 invitation, we recognize Christ's urgent call to be a church of action, where God's love, justice and mercy shine forth and are contagious. And we rejoice how our re-energized faith can unite all Presbyterians for a common and holy purpose: our common identity to do mission.

The invitation, open to any church or mid council, has three goals:

- **Building congregational vitality** by challenging congregations and their members to deepen and energize their faith and grow as joyful leaders and disciples, actively engaged with their community as they share the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed.
- **Dismantling structural racism** by fearlessly applying our faith to advocate and break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color.
- **Eradicating systemic poverty** by acting on our beliefs and working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.



## 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, 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](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).



**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, friend...**

**Enjoy lunch and a performance by actress Jeannine Gaskin, portraying  
Jane Edna Hunter**

A child of South Carolina sharecroppers, born in 1882  
Social worker, attorney, advocate who worked to improve the lives of African American women  
Founder of the Phillis Wheatley Association and the Women's Civic League of Cleveland  
Namesake of the Jane Edna Hunter Social Services Center on Euclid Avenue  
Buried in Lakeview Cemetery



**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](mailto:ce@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 Ministry  
Dr. Qin Ying Tan, Director of Music  
Rev. Carol Wedell, Parish Associate**