

Forest Hill Church: Worship Service

Welcome New Members

April 23, 2023 ~ 11:00 am

You may also join worship online using this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WkUm2hE99xg>

**Please stand if able*

Centering Words

Pause for a few moments to quiet yourself.

Take a couple of slow, deep breaths.

Call to mind that you are in the loving presence of God.

CHORAL INTROIT

John Michael Talbot

“Here I am, Lord”

Chancel Choir

Greeting Our God with Joy

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come walk with us. **We will join the journey.**

Let us talk together. **We will listen and speak.**

Christ goes with us. **Jesus guides our steps.**

Let us worship God.

***HYMN NO. 442**

“Just as I Am, without One Plea”

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of love and compassion, we often fail to understand the truth of your love. We are frequently confused and filled with doubt and fear. We feel anxious and burdened by the sins of the world and by our own brokenness. We wander off from community. Open our eyes now, that we may see your way of love and grace. Meet our confusion with the truth of your presence. Help us to accept your forgiveness. Help us to forgive ourselves. Help us to forgive others.

TIME OF SILENCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God’s promises are for you. By the power of the Holy Spirit you are forgiven, free to step into the newness of life, and the renewal of relationship. **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN NO. 589

“Alleluia”

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Following the reception of new members, children will go to Sunday School with their adult leaders.

ANTHEM

Arr. Hal H. Hopson

“Gift of Love”
Chancel Choir

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.
Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
But not be giv’n by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.
Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide ev’ry deed, by this we worship and are freed.
Amen, amen

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

Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23

After the readings
Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God’s people.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 250

“In the Bulb There Is a Flower”

SERMON

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

“Conflict Resolution”

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

John-Michael Tebelak
Stephen Schwartz

“Beautiful City”
Jack Lentz, soloist

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. 733**

“We All Are One in Mission”

***BENEDICTION**

“Sanctuary”

POSTLUDE

Felix Mendelssohn

“Allegro Maestoso”

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

FHC, PLEASE WELCOME ALL OUR NEW MEMBERS!



Anne Way
Anne Way grew up attending a Presbyterian church in rural NJ. Anne and her husband, Stan, raised their two children while working overseas. They then lived in several states, most recently Texas. Last summer Anne and Stan retired and moved to Cleveland where they enjoy being close to their 3 1/2-year-old grandson.



Monique Fagan
Monique Fagan was born and raised in Kingston, Jamaica and came to America for a better life in 2014. Monique now lives in East Cleveland with her son Ozzy, who is four years old.



Rayba Johnson
Rayba Johnson attended the University of Missouri, Kansas City, School of Dentistry. Rayba is married with one child and three (3) grandchildren.



Brittany Jones
Brittany Jones grew up in Shaker Heights and is concentrating on a career in Life Coaching. Brittany is devoted to following and hearing the word every day, and becoming the best version of herself as possible.



Sonji Kenyatta
Sonji Kenyatta has a private practice as a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor. She has two daughters.



José Luis Claude Villarroel and Chenoa Stock
Chenoa Stock and José Luis Claude Villarroel are married and have a five-year- old son, Leandro Aiden. Chenoa Stock is a double PK (pastor's kid) from Pittsburgh, PA. Since 2005, she has served as a PC (USA) Mission Co-Worker in Sri Lanka, Bolivia and Peru, and is currently serving our global partners in Peru remotely. José Luis Claude Villarroel is from Bolivia (South America) and is an economist. He served as a volunteer for PC (USA) in Peru and is now continuing his career as a banker in Cleveland.



Valeria Alejandra Stutz
Valeria Alejandra Stutz moved to Cleveland in August to start a Master of Social Work at Case Western Reserve University. She is originally from Argentina and grew up in Evanston, IL. She appreciates FHC's warm welcome and looks forward to becoming more involved in the life of the church!

**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, Robyn Hales, Deborah Howard, Julie Minder, 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, 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). The deacon for the month of April is **Susan (Kay) Dunlap**.

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 **May 11 (for the June TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to 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