

# *Forest Hill Church: Outdoor Worship Service*

*July 9, 2023 ~ 10:00 am*

You may also join worship online using this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iDlqITC2vuM>

*\*Please stand if able*

## *Centering Words*

*Breathe on me, breath of God; fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.*

## *Greeting Our God with Joy*

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

Christ calls those who are weary and heavy laden. **In Christ, we find rest.**

Christ calls us to bear his yoke and learn from him. **In Christ, we see God's ways.**

Christ is gentle and humble in heart. **In Christ, we know God's love.**

Come, let us worship for Christ calls us here.

### **\*HYMN NO. 188**

*"Jesus Loves Me!"*

*1. Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong.*

*They are weak but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

*2. Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago, taking children on his knee, saying "Let them come to me."*

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God, we do not understand why we do the things we do. Sometimes we do the very things that we know aren't right for ourselves or beneficial for others. We are complicit in systems that are not just and equitable. We have been harsh when we could have been gentle. We have been selfish when we could have been generous. We have been judgmental when we could have been accepting. Forgive our foolish ways. Give us the strength and courage to bear your yoke and to heed your call. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

### **TIME OF SILENCE**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea. There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Go and sin no more! **Thanks be to God!**

## *Affirming the Good News in Our Lives*

### **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR CASEY MARSHALL BALL**

### **CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME**

**Casey, you have been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through Baptism. By the power of the Holy Spirit, you have become a member of the household of God, to share with us in the ministry of Christ and the priesthood of all believers. With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into the body of Christ. Alleluia! Amen!**

ANTHEM

Marty Haugen, Arr. Mark Hayes

“Shepherd Me, O God”  
Madelaine Matej, soprano  
Mikhail Grazhdanov, piano

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

Matthew 11:16-30

After the readings

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

SERMON

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.

“Words to This Generation”

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

R. Schumann

“Mignon”

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Going Forth to Live as God’s People*  
\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 591

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!”

Refrain: Halle, halle, hallelujah! (4x)

O God, to whom shall we go? You alone have the words of life.  
Let your words be our prayer and the song we sing: hallelujah, hallelujah! (Refrain)  
My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord. When I call them they follow me.  
I will lead them to rest by the peaceful streams: hallelujah, hallelujah! (Refrain)

\*BENEDICTION

\*SANCTUARY

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.  
With thanksgiving I’ll be a living, sanctuary for you.

POSTLUDE

W. A. Mozart

“Allegro from Sonata in D major K. 284”

## 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.



### **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:**

Bob and Dianne Doyle, Deborah Howard, Rayba Johnson, Roz and Graham Peters, the family of Robert Kellermeyer, Beverly Thomas, Grace Uhle, Doreen Underwood, Anne Way, Susan Way, Sharon Wiggins and Warren Young.

### **Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:**

Florence and Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Emelia McGuire 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 **July 13 (for the August TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to [office@fhcpresb.org](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org).

## NOTES

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**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**