

Forest Hill Church: Worship Service Mother's Day

May 14, 2023 ~ 11:00 am

You may also join worship online using this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GnijRaQn1Xo>

**Please stand if able*

Centering Words

We are living in an historic moment. We are each called to take part in a great transformation. Our survival as a species is threatened by global warming, economic meltdown, and an ever-increasing gap between rich and poor.

Yet these threats offer an opportunity to awaken as an interconnected and beloved community.

— Desmond Tutu

PRELUDE

“I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy”
“Rise and Shine (Arky Arky)”
Little Crescendos
Julie Minder, Director

George William Cooke
Folk Song

CHORAL INTROIT

“God of Great and God of Small”
Chancel Choir

Greeting Our God with Joy

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Thom Shuman

Come to worship, people of God, with praises on your lips.

We glorify the One who holds our hands when we slip.

Come into the presence of the One who calls us into this sacred space.

Where the doors to grace are thrown open so all may enter.

Come and hear the stories of the One who loves you.

We will tell of the joy and of the love, of the peace and of the hope which is ours.

***HYMN NO. 14**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Renewing Our Relationship with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we come this day as your community gathered, aware that too often we strain the bonds that tie us together. Forgive us when selfishness has made us want nothing but our own way, for intolerance which has kept us from seeing another's point of view, for putting up barriers that keep others at arms' length or insulate us from those beyond our doors. Remind us again of what truly matters, of your love that is for us and for all. Send your Spirit alongside us to help us live in unity with one another, that our life together might offer a glimpse of the Beloved Community you are creating.

TIME OF SILENCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

All of us have been created and called to be in community
Which today takes many forms!
Know this, but more importantly, live this:
As God's children we are loved and equipped for great ministry.
Follow Jesus' commandment to love boldly,
as you are held in the grace and love of God.

HYMN NO. 589

"Alleluia"

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

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ANTHEM

Franz Schubert

"Ave Maria"
Madelaine Matej, soprano

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Acts 17:22-31

John 14: 15-21

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 285

"Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

SERMON

Rev. Carol Wedell

"What Should Our Billboard Say?"

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

Andraé Crouch

"My Tribute"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God's People

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 767**

"Together We Serve"

***BENEDICTION**

"Sanctuary"

POSTLUDE

Scarlatti

"Sonata in A major"

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) no later than Thursday afternoon of each week for inclusion in next week's congregational prayer.

Prayers are requested this week for:

The family of Cooper Andrews, Kiva Bohanon, Deborah Howard, Jan Kious, Beverly Thomas, Grace Uhle, Doreen Underwood, Anne Way, Susan Way, the family of Beryl Williams, and Sharon Wiggins.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:

Robert Kellermeyer, 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)**. The deacon for the month of May is **Kathy Hanna-Stauffer (Canaan Care Group)**.

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 **July 13 (for the August 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