

Forest Hill Church: Worship Service

May 28, 2023 ~ 11:00 am

You may also join worship online using this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pHli4jj76sc>

**Please stand if able*

Centering Words

*Holy Spirit, blow through our gathering
as you blew through that Pentecost gathering
so many centuries ago.
Breathe in us your new creation,
that we may be renewed
and revived to be your people once more.
Speak through our differences and our diversity,
and bind us together in unity and love.*

PRELUDE

Heineman and Cameron Reichart

“Big Sky”
Grant Heineman, jazz piano
Taylor Arbogast, bass
Joshua Leslie, drums

INTROIT

“Come, O Holy Spirit, Come”
Chancel Choir

Greeting Our God with Joy

***CALL TO WORSHIP (From Acts 2)**

When Pentecost Day arrived, **they were all together in one place.**

Suddenly a sound from heaven like a howling wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. **Come Holy Spirit! Come Holy Spirit! Come Holy Spirit!**

Pour out your Spirit upon us, O Lord. **We want to dream dreams and see visions!**

Breathe on us, Breath of God. Make us your people. **Young and old, sons and daughters and siblings. We are ready! Let us worship God!**

***HYMN NO. 408**

“There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

TIME OF SILENCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Through Christ, God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon us for the forgiveness of sins.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

HYMN NO. 589

"Alleluia"

Affirming the Good News in Our Lives

ANTHEM

Keith Hampton

"Praise His Holy Name"
Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S WELCOME

Amy Wheatley

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

Opening Our Hearts to God's Word

THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Acts 2:1-21

After the readings

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

Thanks be to God.

HYMN NO. 286

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

SERMON

Rev. George Walker

"When we speak, who listens?"

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

Arr. Ron Mallory

"Ain't No Mountain High Enough"
Voices in Bronze

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Live as God's People

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 300**

"We Are One in the Spirit"

***BENEDICTION**

"Sanctuary"

POSTLUDE

Grant Heineman

"Lean Not"

Grant Heineman, jazz piano

Taylor Arbogast, bass

Joshua Leslie, drums



Please welcome Rev. George Walker

George Walker serves as the Chief Equity Officer for Planned Parenthood Federation of America. He oversees the implementation and stewardship of diversity, equity and inclusion for the organization and he leads the team that drives the work throughout the national office, and assists in guiding the Federation. Prior to coming to PPFA, he led Diversity & Inclusion at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, the world's oldest cancer care facility. A proud former volunteer of the U.S. Peace Corps, he served in Guayaquil, Ecuador.

George Walker has worked extensively in social justice and philanthropic causes, as an employee and volunteer. He currently sits on the founding board of the Studio Design School, based in New York. In February 2012,

President Barack Obama appointed him to be a member of the White House Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), where he served until the end of the administration in 2016. He was selected to serve as a German Marshall Memorial Fellow, representing the US and learning about transnational partnerships on a variety of issues while traveling to five European Countries.

George is a graduate of Morehouse College (BA History) and The Divinity School, Duke University (M-Div). He is also a graduate of The Georgetown University, with a Certificate in Executive Coaching. He is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ (UCC).



Music will be provided by Grant Heineman, our homegrown talent, and his friends as we celebrate Pentecost with a Jazzy service!

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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

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).**

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.