

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, September 1:

- Church office closed.

Saturday, September 6:

- Presbytery Fair Housing Workshop at 8:30 am located at North Church (4515 Superior Ave. Cleveland, OH 44103).
- Friends of the Heights Parks Native Plant Sale at 10:00 am.
- Protecting Democracy: A Free Community Forum at 9:30 am located at Pilgrim Congregational UCC (2592 W. 14th St. Cleveland, OH 44113).

Sunday, September 7:

- Last Summer Choir rehearsal at 9:15 am.

Thursday, September 11:

- Chancel Choir and Bell Choir rehearsals resume.

Saturday, September 13:

- Fiber Fellowship meeting at 10:00 am.

Sunday, September 14:

- Adult Spiritual Growth fall course, The “Other” Prophets – Challenge and Comfort in Troubled Times at 9:15 am in South Hall.
- Worship begins at 11:00 am. Special service to commemorate the 75th anniversary of FHC at this location.
- Fall Festival following worship.

Sunday, September 28:

- Labre Ministry Serving at North Church at 10:15 am.

Information on all events are listed on the church website (www.fhcpresb.org), monthly TOWER located on the church information tables in the church hallways, and our digital and paper bulletin boards located outside of the sanctuary. You may also scan the QR code below.



Special thanks to Marcie Denton and Ashlee Foreman for their help in worship today.

Prayer Requests: To request prayers for a personal concern, please email the church office (office@fhcpresb.org).

Prayers are requested this week for: Chris Bell, Elsie Boyd, Nancy Burcham, Janet Dauer, Bob Dawson, Diane Doyle, Deborah Howard, Chuck and Jane Ishler, Kemp Jaycox, Sonji Kenyatta, Jessica Owusu, Roz Peters, Ron Register, Joyce Senger, Kate Tzefronis, and Eileen Vizcaino.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Bob and Pat Jeffreys, Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Grace Uhle and Warren Young.

Care Groups will assist our pastor 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.

The Deacon Card Ministry, with cards for all occasions, is available in Fellowship Hall most Sundays after worship. Deacon Nathaniel Martin will be happy to help you pick a card for someone who needs to hear from you and our church. Brighten someone's day with a reminder of our care.

Thank you, office volunteers: Joan Bacon, Lynda Bernays, Cathy Ghiandoni, Nancy Grube, and Kim Hill.

Thank you, Stream Team Volunteers! Anyone interested in helping stream Sunday services should contact Kurt Haas at kurt@dangereddy.com.

Please remember to leave your name tag in the appropriate column on the magnetic board outside Fellowship Hall before you leave today. You want it to be waiting for you next week!

3031 Monticello Blvd., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118
Office: 216-321-2660

Custodian on Duty: 216-217-5257

Email: churchadmin@fhcpresb.org

Website: www.fhcpresb.org

The Rev. Dr. Gene McAfee, Transitional Pastor
Dr. Amy Wheatley, Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministry
Dr. QinYing Tan, Director of Music
The Rev. Carol Wedell, Parish Associate

Forest Hill Church: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

FOREST HILL CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN

August 31, 2025 – 10:00 AM

The 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



You may also join worship online using this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVDQgyrc7Eg>

****Please stand in body and/or spirit.***

Childcare is provided for children ages birth to five years from 9:45 am – 11:15 am in Rooms 201/203. Older children (ages 6+) join their families for summer worship in the sanctuary.

CENTERING WORDS

"Wisdom comes through suffering. And even in our sleep, pain that cannot forget falls drop by drop upon the heart, and in our own despair, against our will, wisdom comes to us by the awful grace of God." – Aeschylus

CENTERING MUSIC “Cradle Song” Ira B. Wilson

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP Marcie Denton

Come, beloved of God, upon whom grace has been poured, grace upon grace.

We come in response to that which we can never earn.

By grace we have been saved through faith – this is the seal and promise of God.

With grateful hearts we worship a God of mercy, love, and truth.

***HYMN NO. 14** “For the Beauty of the Earth”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful and loving God, you ask us to entrust our lives to you, but we prefer to trust in ourselves. We surrender our days to the charismatic leader, the pressure of the crowd, the allure of comfort, and the charm of the world. Our sins are sometimes open and notorious, and they are sometimes hidden and subtle, but they are our sins, and we sincerely and honestly confess them.

SILENCE

KYRIE HYMN NO. 456

“Listen, God Is Calling”

Leader

All

Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,
 Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,


of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.
 ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***RESPONSE** “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)

B \flat F B \flat F B \flat F Gm F



1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)

F B \flat E \flat B \flat Gm7 C7



and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)

C7 F A Dm



and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)

Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F



As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

ANNOUNCEMENTS/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.

MUSIC

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” arr. Lloyd Larson
Ashlee Foreman, soprano

Ushers will collect prayer requests.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

Our Loving Parent, 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 kin-dom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

CALL TO GIVING

OFFERING

By texting: 216-400-5300

You may give online with PayPal, credit or debit card:

www.fhcpresb.org

Or you may also mail a check to the church office

OFFERTORY “This Is My Father’s World” Franklin Sheppard

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Giving One, all that we have comes from you, and all that we can hope to be also comes from you. Having been so richly blessed, we now ask your blessing on what we have returned. May our offerings share your grace with your world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 55:1-13 (page 598)
Ephesians 2:1-10 (page 949)

***HYMN NO. 792** "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

SERMON "Grace and the Meritocracy"

***HYMN NO. 343** “Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”
(vv. 1, 4, 5, 6)

***BENEDICTION AND CHARGE**

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

DEPARTING MUSIC “Sortie in F” Gabriel Urbain Fauré