

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, January 19:

- Church office is closed due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Saturday, January 24:

- Tactics That Work: Restoring Our Democracy at 9:30 am.
- Pacesetters Planning Party at 6:30 pm.

Sunday, January 25:

- Labre Ministry serving at North Church at 10:15 am.
- Annual Congregational Meeting and Luncheon at 12:30 pm.
- Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC) meeting at 3:00 pm.

Sunday, February 1:

- One-woman presentation of acclaimed poet, writer, speaker, and thinker, Maya Angelou following worship.

Sunday, February 8:

- Story hour and African drumming circle following worship.

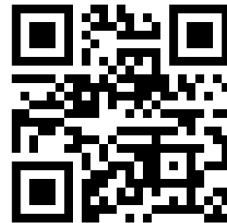
Sunday, February 15:

- Oral histories of members of our congregation following worship.

Sunday, February 22:

- Jazz concert organized by our FHC member, Antoinette Franklin (saxophone), with local talent, followed by a dessert reception. Time to be announced.

Information about events is listed on the church website calendar (<http://www.fhcpresb.org/calendar>), in our monthly newsletter, The Tower, and on our digital and paper bulletin boards located outside the sanctuary. Scan the QR code to link to the calendar on our website.



Donations for the Abundance Food Pantry:
Forest Hill Church operates a weekly food pantry to serve those in the community who could use some help with groceries. Monetary donations are always appreciated. You may donate here: <https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/foodpantrydonations>.

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

Prayers are requested this week for: Doris Bartlett, Janet Dauer, Bob Dawson, Deborah Howard, Chuck and Jane Ishler, Mark Le Master, Ellie Linden, Linda Martin, Kitty McWilliams, Jessica Owusu, Roz Peters, Deedee Pim, Serena Shung, Joyce Senger, Carolyn Smith, Joel Tan, John Tan, Kate Tzefronis, Doreen Underwood, Eileen Vizcaino, Ann Williams and the family of Ron Klein.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Kemp Jaycox, 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

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

January 18, 2026 – 11:00 AM



You may also join worship online using this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6yqJPFD9NxE>

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

Childcare is provided for children ages birth to 4 years from 10:45 am – 12:15 pm in Rooms 201/203. Children ages 5+ join their families for the opening moments of worship. Following the passing of the peace, children leave the sanctuary with their adult leaders to go to Sunday School.

CENTERING WORDS
“Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.”
– Martin Luther King, Jr.

CENTERING MUSIC Josef Rheinberger
“Andante”

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT Muscogee (Creek) hymn, arr. Brian Wren
“Heleluyan, We Are Singing”
Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP John Dugard
From wilderness places and crowded cities, from mountaintops of vision and valleys of struggle, God calls us together.
We come, trusting that God is still at work among us.
The God who showed Moses the promised land, the God who strengthened prophets and dreamers, the God who called disciples to follow—
—calls us now to worship with courage and hope.
We gather not because the journey is complete, but because God’s promise still unfolds.
Let us worship the Holy One, who leads us forward in justice and love.

***HYMN NO. 612** “We Praise You, O God”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Faithful and merciful God, you have shown us glimpses of your promised future, yet we confess that we often hesitate to move toward it. We confess that we settle for symbols when transformation is required; that we grow weary of justice-seeking when progress is slow; that we protect our own comfort while others bear the weight of injustice. We have accepted inequality as normal, division as inevitable,

and silence as harmless. Forgive us, God. Unclench our fear, soften our hearts, and reorient our lives toward your reign of love.

SILENCE

KYRIE (HYMN NO. 434) “Restore in Us, O God” (v. 1)
*Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;
Renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS (NO. 586)** “Alleluia”
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER/ANNOUNCEMENTS
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 Mark Miller
“Roll Down, Justice”
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
Improvisation on “We Shall Overcome”

***SONG OF DEDICATION**
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**
Generous God, receive these offerings as signs of our trust in you. Use them to heal what is broken, to challenge what denies life, and to nurture hope where it struggles to survive. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS
Deuteronomy 34:1, 4-5 (page 168)
John 1:43-51 (page 863)

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

***HYMN NO. 435** “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

SERMON “Beyond the Mountaintop”

***HYMN NO. 838** “Standing on the Promises” (vv. 1, 2, 4)

***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 Benedetto Marcello
“The Heavens Are Telling the Glory of God”

Special thanks to John Dugard for his help in worship today.

Thanks also to David Neiweem who has been serving as organist and music director during Ying Tan’s absence. We are grateful for David’s service to our church.

