

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty God: By the birth of your Holy One into the world you gave us the true Light to dawn on our darkness. As you have given us the grace to rejoice in your incarnation in this world and to become partakers through this meal of your divine nature, so in the world to come may we ever abide with you in the glory of your heavenly realm. For the sake of the One who came among us humble and weak, mighty and strong, Jesus the Christ, our sovereign Savior, we ask this. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 744 "Arise, Your Light Is Come!"

*BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

SANCTUARY (Hymn No. 701)

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

POSTLUDE Fryderyk Chopin
"Prelude in B-flat major"

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 5:

- Writing and Drawing class at 12:15 pm in South Hall

Sunday, January 12:

- Writing and Drawing class at 12:15 pm in South Hall
- Contemplative Scripture at 4 pm in the Chapel.

Saturday, January 18:

- Pacesetters planning party at 7 pm at the Lafferty's.

Sunday, January 19:

- Immigration Task Force meeting following worship in the sanctuary

Monday, January 20:

- Church office will be closed for MLK Day.

Sunday, January 26:

- Annual Meeting following worship

Friday, January 31:

- "A Spanish Affair" presented by The Resonance Project in the FHC sanctuary at 7:30 PM. Contact Ying for more information.

*Special thanks to everyone who
participated in worship!*

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

Prayers are requested this week for: Janet Dauer, Dorothy Herd, Sonji Kenyatta, Ellen McChesney, Cate Monaghan, Chiquitia Montgomery, Twanda Patterson and the family of Pat Jenkins.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Kemp Jaycox, Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Pat Musick, Roz Peters, 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, Susan Kay Dunlap** (susandnlp@gmail.com or deacons@fhcpresb.org).

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

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

3031 Monticello Blvd., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118
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Email: churchadmin@fhcpresb.org

Website: www.fhcpresb.org

The Rev. 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, PRESBYTERIAN

EPIPHANY

January 5, 2025 – 11:00AM



You may also join worship online using this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=55R2QNBY08s>

**Please stand if able*

CENTERING WORDS

"We are enriched by our religious diversity. Each faith is a candle; none is diminished by the light of others; and together they help banish some of the darkness in the human heart."
- Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

PRELUDE J.S. Bach
"Sheep May Safely Graze"

WELCOME Pastor Gene McAfee

CHORAL INTROIT Marty Haugen
"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"
Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP Diana Woodbridge
Lighten our darkness, we beseech Thee, O Lord.
Light of light, God of God, holiness in human form.
Star of the East, adorn our horizons.
Rise to give hope to those walking in darkness.
May it be so, now and always.
Amen and amen!

***HYMN NO. 151** "We Three Kings of Orient Are"
All sing on refrain
v.1: all, v. 2. solo, v. 3. solo, v 4. solo, v. 5: all

CALL TO CONFESSION Diana Woodbridge

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of life and light, be our light. Banish the darkness that surrounds us and infects us. As you appeared in loving radiance to those seeking deliverance from oppression, save us now from our own sinful ways. Deliver us from go-along-to-get-along complacency and fear. Break the grip of mindless materialism. Soften our hardened hearts. We confess our sins, private and corporate, knowing that you are a God slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

SILENCE

KYRIE (Hymn No. 576) "Lord, Have Mercy"
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Diana Woodbridge
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***GLORIA** (Hymn No. 582)
*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*
(sing twice)

*Children are invited to leave the sanctuary with
their adult leaders to go to Sunday School.*

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** Pastor Gene McAfee

ANTHEM Mary Ann Breisch
"Refugees"
Mary Ann Breisch, vocals and piano

LIVING WORD (NRSV) Diana Woodbridge
Isaiah 60:1-6 (page 602)
Ephesians 3:8-12 (page 950)

***HYMN NO. 138**
"Who Would Think That What Was Needed"
(vs. 1 & 2)

***LIVING WORD (NRSV)** Pastor Gene McAfee
Matthew 2:1-12 (Page 783)

After the reading
This is the Good News of Jesus the Christ.
Thanks be to God!

***HYMN NO. 138**
"Who Would Think That What Was Needed"
(vs. 3)

SERMON Pastor Gene McAfee
"And Here We Are"

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Pastor Gene McAfee
THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our parent, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive
us our shortcomings, as we forgive the shortcomings
of others. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver**

**us from evil. For thine is the KINGdom, with shared
power, for your incandescent glory, forever. Amen.**

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.

OFFERING Pastor Gene McAfee

By texting: 216-400-5300
You may give online with PayPal, Credit or Debit Card:
www.fhcbresb.org

Or you may also mail a check to the church office.
Make Your Pledge for 2025 using the QR code below.



OFFERTORY Robert Schumann
"Scheherazade" from Album for the Young

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Pastor Gene McAfee
Let us pray.

Generous and all-giving God, from the heart of your overflowing love we have received blessing upon blessing, and we return a portion of what you have given us. May our offerings be the tokens of our lives, dedicated to your glory and in service to your world. In the name of the One given for us, Jesus the Christ, we ask this. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you, **and also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION Courtney/Red
"In Remembrance of Me"
Chancel Choir