

**SERMON** “The Place in Between” The Rev. Carol Wedell

**\*HYMN NO. 22** “God of the Sparrow”

**\*CLOSING RESPONSES**

For loving the world and knowing our names, thank you,  
God.

**Thank you, God.**

For your strength that fills us and your love that heals us,  
thank you, God.

**Thank you, God.**

For your presence here with us today and for your hand  
that leads us into tomorrow, thank you, God.

**Thank you, God.**

Come bless us, hold us, wrestle with us, warm us in your  
embrace.

**For we are your people, and you are our justice  
and joy. Amen.**

**\*MUSICAL RESPONSE**

*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** “Blest Are the Faithful Souls” J. Brahms

*Special thanks to Mark Chupp for his help in worship today.*

**Gene McAfee** will be with the Celtic Pilgrimage to Ireland and Scotland from Monday, Oct. 6th until Monday, Oct. 20th. For urgent pastoral needs during that time, please contact the Church Office, 216-321-2660 (M-F, 9 am-3 pm) or FHC's Parish Associate, the Rev. Carol Wedell, 216-470-0152.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Sunday, October 12:**

- Samba Drum Circle after the worship service.

**Saturday, October 18:**

- Les Délices Concert: Bohemian Rhapsody at 7:30 pm.

**Tuesday, October 21:**

- Mostly Bones Concert at 7:00 pm.

**Friday, October 24:**

- Pacesetters cooking for Labre Ministry at 4:00 pm.

**Sunday, October 26:**

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

**Sunday, November 2:**

- Stewardship Luncheon after the worship service.

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

**Prayers are requested this week for:** Melanie Alban, Elsie Boyd, Janet Dauer, Bob Dawson, Jeannine Gury, Jenny Himmelman, Deborah Howard, Chuck and Jane Ishler, Kemp Jaycox, Jessica Owusu, Roz Peters, Ron Register, Pat Seeders, Serena Shung, Joyce Senger, Kate Tzeffronis, Eileen Vizcaino, and Ann Williams.

**Please remember these homebound members in your prayers:** 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](mailto: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  
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Custodian on Duty: 216-217-5257

Email: [churchadmin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:churchadmin@fhcpresb.org)

Website: [www.fhcpresb.org](http://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**

**October 12, 2025 – 11:00 AM**

**The 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**



You may also join worship online using this link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hNz7Vs1KwTI>

***\*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 and Children's Welcome, children leave the sanctuary with their adult leaders to go to Sunday School.

## CENTERING WORDS

In the gift of this new day,  
in the gift of the present moment,  
in the gift of time and eternity intertwined,  
let us be grateful,  
let us be attentive,  
let us be open to what has never happened before,  
in the gift of this new day,  
in the gift of the present moment,  
in the gift of time and eternity intertwined.  
(from *Sounds of the Eternal: A Celtic Psalter*, 2002,  
Phillip Newell)

**CENTERING MUSIC**      *“Pièce”*      Pierre de Bréville

# WELCOME

**CHORAL INTROIT**      *“Mungu ni mwema”*      arr. Edo Bumba  
Chancel Choir

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Mark Chupp

(The liturgy today is from *The Pattern of Our Days*, edited by Kathy Galloway unless otherwise designated)

If you come in certainty or in confusion, in anger or in anguish,

**This time is for us.**

If you come in silent suffering or hidden sorrow in pain or promise,

**This time is for us.**

If you come for your own or another's need, for a private wound or the wound of the world,

**This time is for us.**

If you come and do not know why, to be here is enough.

**This time is for us all.**

Come now, Christ of the forgiving warmth, come now,  
Christ of the yearning tears, come now, Christ of the  
transforming touch,

**This time is for you.**

**\*HYMN NO. 657**      “Sing to God in Joy and Gladness”  
(refrain and v. 1 choir, then all join)

## BLESSING AND REPENTANCE

God beyond borders, we bless you for strange places and different dreams, for the demands and diversity of a wider world, for the distance that lets us look back and reevaluate, for new ground where broken stems can take root, grow and blossom. We bless you for the friendship of strangers, the richness of other cultures, and the painful gift of freedom.

**Blessed are you, God beyond borders.**

But if we have overlooked the exiles in our midst,  
heightened their exclusion by our indifference, given our  
permission for a climate of fear, and tolerated a culture of  
violence,

**Have mercy on us, God who sides with justice. Confront our prejudice, stretch our narrowness, sift out our laws and our lives with the penetrating insight of your Spirit, until generosity is our only measure. Amen**

**SILENCE**

**KYRIE (HYMN NO. 578)** "O Lord, Have Mercy"  
(in Greek, v. 1 soloist, vv. 1-2 all)

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**\*RESPONSE (HYMN NO. 588)** "Alleluia"

### \*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**                      “Not One Falls”                      Heather Sorenson  
Laura Otis, soprano soloist  
Chancel Choir

*Ushers will collect prayer requests.*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

**(Celtic version by John Phillip Newell)**

**Holy One beyond all names, Eternal Wellspring, may love rise again in us today with food for every table, shelter for every family and reverence for every life. Forgive us our failings in love and free us from all falseness, that the light of our souls may shine and the strength of our spirits endure, for earth and all its people, this day, tonight, and forever.**

**Amen**

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

## OFFERING

By texting: 216-400-5300  
You may give online with PayPal, credit or debit card:  
[www.fhccpresb.org](http://www.fhccpresb.org)  
Or you may also mail a check to the church office

**OFFERTORY**    “In the Lord, I'll Be Ever Thankful”    Taizé  
Chancel Choir

## \*DOXOLOGY

*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** by Kimberly Bracken Long, adapted

**Gracious healer, your gifts to us are never-ending. Receive these offerings as signs of our gratitude and faith. Let them be more than ritual—let them become praise, rising from lives made whole in your grace. May we never settle for being merely clean when you call us to wellness, to joy, to thanksgiving. Make us a generous people, blessing others as you have blessed us. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

**GOSPEL READING** Luke 17:11-19  
(page 852)

**\*HYMN NO. 647** "Give Thanks"