

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, November 30:

- Advent season begins.
- Christmas Joy Offering begins.
- Adult Spiritual Growth study, *Calling All Angels* begins.

Sunday, December 7:

- Training for ongoing organizing against ICE and working for peace and justice in Palestine located at Lee Heights Community Church (4612 Lee Road) starting at 1:00 pm.
- Gingerbread House Event at 6:00 pm.

Support for North Presbyterian Church

Forest Hill Church partners with other churches in the Presbytery of the Western Reserve to serve the needs of the inner-city North Presbyterian Church. Many of the congregants are temporarily homeless or in transitional housing. Donation bins are located outside the volunteer office in the CE wing.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is responding to Hurricane Melissa, which made landfall as a Category 5 hurricane in Jamaica, also striking Cuba and other island nations on its path through the Caribbean. Initial assessments show catastrophic destruction around the core path of the storm, and throughout the impacted region, devastating flooding and debris are isolating communities in several of these island nations. It will take years to recover. If you wish to donate, reach out to a member of our Justice Ministry or visit [Presbyterian Disaster Assistance after Hurricane Melissa - Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian](#).

Hurricane Melissa



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

Prayers are requested this week for: Melanie Alban, Doris Bartlett, Janet Dauer, Bob Dawson, Jeannine Gury, Deborah Howard, Chuck and Jane Ishler, Kemp Jaycox, Scott Lafferty, Mark Le Master, Karen Loughridge, Jessica Owusu, Roz Peters, Ron Register, Serena Shung, Joyce Senger, Carolyn Smith, Joel Tan, John Tan, Kate Tzepronis, Eileen Vizcaino, Ann Williams, and the family of Elsie Boyd.

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.

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!

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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

November 30, 2025 – 11:00 AM

The First Sunday of Advent



You may also join worship online using this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=67TQSQIj-7w>

****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
Love Is... A Journey from Advent to Epiphany
“God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.” — 1 John 4:16

“Love Is. . .” builds on the theme of this year’s Stewardship campaign while it ties into the incarnation and manifestation of divine love in Christ. This series of services offers flexibility for both personal reflection and communal worship by dovetailing with “Calling All Angels: An Advent Study of Fearlessness and Strength” that will be the Adult Spiritual Growth offering for the Advent season.

“Love Is. . .” is a **seven-week worship series** beginning with the **First Sunday of Advent** and ending with **Epiphany Sunday**, each week exploring a dimension of love that builds toward God’s self-revelation in Christ.

CENTERING MUSIC J.S. Bach
“Nun ruhen alle Wälder”

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT Berthier
“Prepare the Way of the Lord”
Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP Valeria Stutz
I will not leave you or forsake you, says our God.
We who must walk in darkness have received this promise.
God’s promises are trustworthy and true.
Therefore, we will gather, we will worship, we will sing, and we will praise!

***HYMN NO. 93** “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”
Candles on the Advent wreath will be lit each Sunday during the singing of the opening hymn. Charity, Ahren, Emmett, and Clara Stock are lighting the first candle this morning.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
God of faithful love, we acknowledge that our love for you and for your beloved creation is far from faithful. We love in thought, feeling, and word more than in deed. We love when the cost to us is insignificant. We love when it is convenient. Forgive us for loving so little, when you love us so much.

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”

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

MINUTE FOR MISSION Justice Ministry

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 Mary Ann Breisch
“Refugee”
Mary Ann Breisch, solo

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 Bach/Gounod
“Ave Maria”
Madelaine Matej MacQueen, soprano

***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**
God, as we prepare to celebrate your incarnation, we ask your blessing on all our gifts. May they and we incarnate your love for your world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS
Isaiah 11:1-9 (page 558)
Luke 1:5-33 (page 831)

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

***HYMN NO. 22** “God of the Sparrow” (vv. 1, 3, 5)

SERMON “Love Is . . . Promised”

***HYMN NO. 97** “Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

***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 J.C. Kittel
“Allegro”

Special thanks to Valeria Stutz for her help in worship today.