

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, December 31:

- New Year's Eve Party in Fellowship Hall at 7 pm.

Wednesday, January 1:

- Church offices will be closed New Year's Day.

Sunday, January 5:

- Preparation of Communication on Elements at 10 am in the Jin Room
- Writing and Drawing Class at 12:15 pm in South Hall

Sunday, January 12:

- Contemplative Scripture at 4 pm in the Chapel.

Saturday, January 18:

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

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 use the QR code below!



Thank you to Amanda Powell who played in and directed today's worship service. Amanda is UPCaM's Campus Minister at Case Western Reserve University.

Our worship services are live streamed and recorded. If you do not wish to appear in the video, please sit in the balcony or in the area on the side of the chancel, by the Big Teddy Bear in the rocking chair.

Christmas Door Wreaths: Thank you, Hilltop Garden Club, for your donation!

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, 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** (susandnp@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
Office: 216-321-2660

Custodian on Duty: 216-217-5257

Email: churchadmin@fhcpresb.org

Website: www.fhcpresb.org

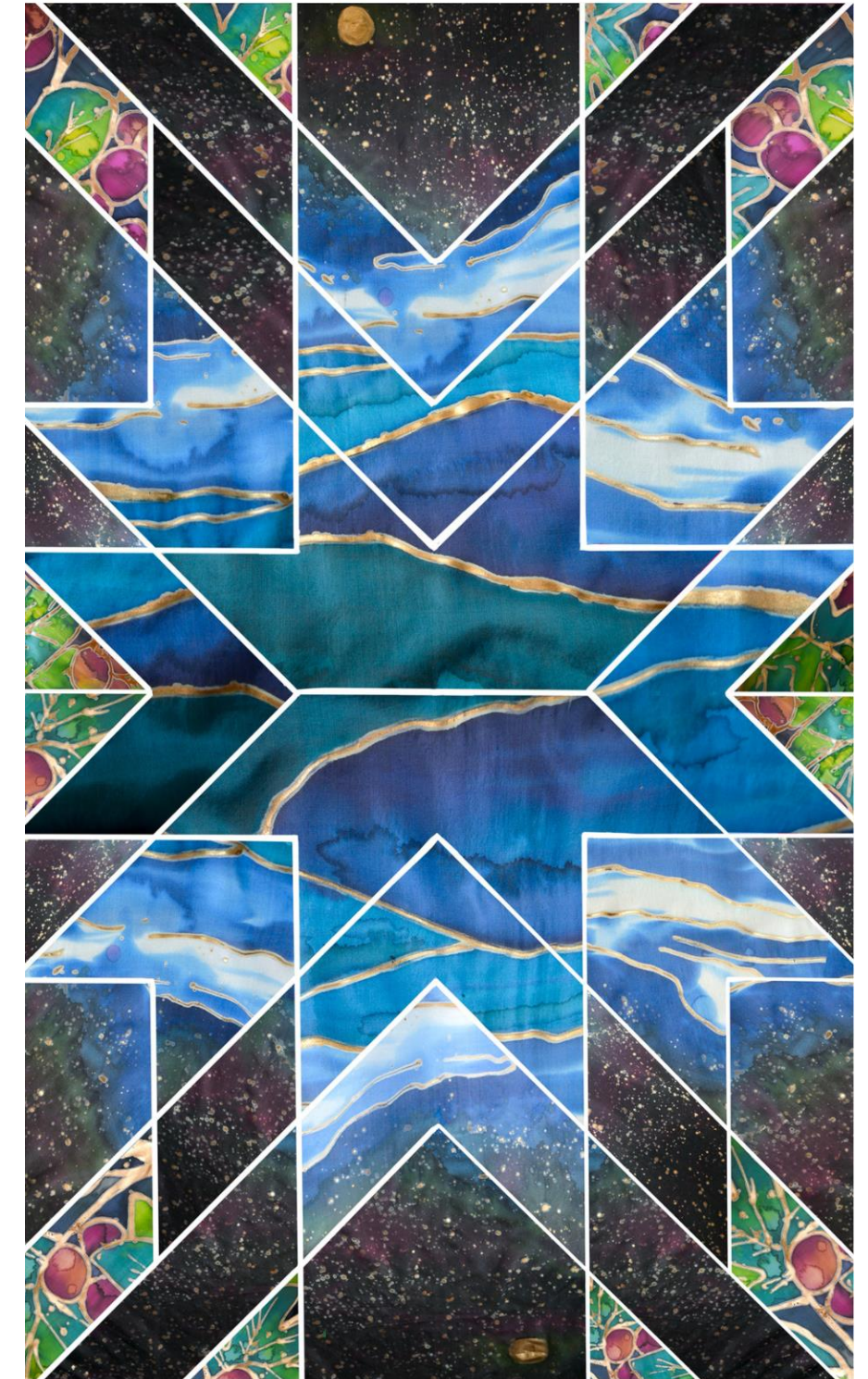
The Rev. Carol Wedell, Gap Pastor
Dr. Amy Wheatley, Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministry
Dr. QinYing Tan, Director of Music



*The cover image: "Let All Creation Dance" by Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org
The liturgy: A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

FOREST HILL CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN

December 29, 2024 – 11:00AM



You may also join worship online using this link:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VjEz_1ZJ4V8

**Please stand if able*

CENTERING WORDS

*“There is no remedy for love but to love more.”
~Henry David Thoreau*

PRELUDE

Improvisation
“Love Has Come”

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Linda Martin

We have named our joy out loud, and it is clear—
God is in our joy.
God is in this room.
We have reason to celebrate.
We have a reason to sing.
Thanks be to God for the bright hope of this day.

*HYMN NO. 110

“Love Has Come”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Joyful God, you told us that in order to enter the kingdom of heaven, we must be like children. Did you mean that like children, we must practice unhindered joy? Did you mean that like children, we should lean into laughter, release our cynicism, and open ourselves to delight? In a world as broken and battered as ours, we admit, this often is easier said than done. Forgive us, patient God, for the moments when we are so focused on the bad that we miss the good. Forgive us for hearing the nativity story and staying in our seats instead of jumping for joy. We know that even now you are sowing delight in our lives. Open up our hearts to it. With gratitude we pray, amen.

SILENCE

KYRIE (Hymn No. 576)

“Lord, Have Mercy”

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*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.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke: 2:10

“But the angel said to them, ‘do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people’...”

Isaiah 9:2-3a, 6

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied exultation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest...For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

After the reading

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

*HYMN NO. 136

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

TESTIMONIES

The Rev. Sally Wile

“When and where this year have I experienced joy?”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father Mother, 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 kingdom, and the power, and the 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

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.
Make Your Pledge for 2025 using the QR code below.



OFFERTORY

“In the Heavens Shone a Star”

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN NO. 132

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

*BENEDICTION

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.*

CHARGE

POSTLUDE

“Jesus, Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child”

*Special thanks to everyone
who participated in worship!*