

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Thursday, December 12:

- Funeral Service for Beverly Thomas: Viewing at 10 am and Service at 10:30 am

### Sunday, December 15:

- Coffee Hour: Sign up with a Deacon to donate cookies for the reception after the 10 pm Candlelight Service.
- After worship: Fair Trade Bazaar
- Contemplative Scripture Study at 4 pm in the Chapel

### Tuesday, December 24:

- Church offices will be closed half day for Christmas.
- Christmas Eve Service at 5 pm
- Candlelight Service at 10 pm followed by Cookies and Milk

### Wednesday, December 25:

- Church offices will be closed for Christmas.

*Information on all events are listed on the church website ([www.fhcpresb.org](http://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!*



### Updating Breeze Database

In an effort to improve our record-keeping, we want to make sure that the information we have in our Breeze database is accurate and up-to-date. Please contact Laura ([churchadmin@fhcpresb.org](mailto:churchadmin@fhcpresb.org)), she will make sure that any new or changed information gets updated accordingly. **Please complete this task by December 20, 2024.**

### Poinsettia Orders

The cost per poinsettia is \$20.00. The order forms with payment need to be submitted to the church office **by December 18**. The poinsettias will be available for you to take home on Christmas Eve after the 10:00 pm candlelight service. Visit the church website for more information, or contact Antoinette.

*Thank you to Ahren Stock and Scott Lafferty for playing trumpets in our service today!*

*Special thanks to Nancy Grube and Margie Ravas for participating in worship!*

**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](mailto:office@fhcpresb.org)).

**Prayers are requested this week for:** Mark Davidson, Marina Grant, Dorothy Herd, Sonji Kenyatta, Ellen McChesney, Margaret Misch, Cate Monaghan, Twanda Patterson and the family of Beverly Thomas.

**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](mailto:susandnlp@gmail.com) or [deacons@fhcpresb.org](mailto: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](mailto:kurt@dangereddy.com).

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

Website: [www.fhcpresb.org](http://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: "You Are A Blessing" by Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)*

## FOREST HILL CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN

December 8, 2024 – 11:00AM



*Lisle*

You may also join worship online using this link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oc9nHJ97vsk>

*\*Please stand if able*

**CENTERING WORDS**

*We have all known the long loneliness, and we have found that the answer is community. ~Dorothy Day*

**PRELUDE**

Thomas Adams  
"Adeste Fideles"

**WELCOME**

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

Stewardship

**CHORAL INTROIT**

Stephen Schwartz  
"Prepare Ye"  
Jack Lentz, soloist  
Chancel Choir

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Nancy Grube  
Margie Ravas

O Come, O Come Emmanuel  
*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mark Chupp

In a world that is lonely,  
**we will save a seat for you.**  
In a world that is anxious,  
**we will light candles against the gloom.**  
In a world that is weary,  
**we will sing songs of joy and truth.**  
I am not alone.  
**We are not alone.**  
For here in this place, God is weaving us together.  
**Light the candles! Sing with joy!**  
**We are a three-cord strand, not easily broken.**

**\*HYMN NO. 83**

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

I have tried to make my own way. I have tried to lace my own shoes, to build my own house, to kindle my own faith. I have said a thousand times, "turn back," as if I am fine on my own. But the days are long and I am forgetful. I need your help. Can you remind me?  
**We will remind you of this everlasting truth: You are not alone. Where you go, God goes. You are held in grace. Trust in this good news.**

Thanks be to God! I remember. I believe.  
**Now we need your help. We, too, have tried to make our own way. We have tried to lace our own shoes, to build our own houses, to kindle our own faiths. We have said a thousand times, "turn back," as if we are fine on our own. But the days are long and we are forgetful. We need your help. Can you remind us?**

**SILENCE**

**\*RESPONSE** (Hymn No. 91) "Come, Come Emmanuel"  
*Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel. (2X)*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

I will remind you of this everlasting truth: You are not alone. Where you go, God goes. You are held in grace. Trust in this good news.  
**Thanks be to God! We remember. We believe. Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*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.*

**ANTHEM**

Mark Hayes  
"Promise of Peace"  
Chancel Choir

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Ruth 1 (page 210)

*After the reading*

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

**\*HYMN NO. 144**

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

**SERMON**

The Rev. Carol Wedell  
"We Can't Go Alone"

**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](http://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**

Camille Saint-Saëns  
"Patiently Have I Waited for the Lord"  
Madelaine Matej, soprano  
*Patiently have I waited for the Lord, and lo! He heard my cry.*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*HYMN NO. 87**

"Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

**\*BENEDICTION AND CHARGE**

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

Immigration Task Force

**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**

Franz Joseph Haydn  
"Andante"