

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, February 8:

- Story hour and African drumming circle following worship.

Wednesday, February 11:

- Ministry Chairs Gathering at 5:30 pm.
- Eastside Citizens meeting at 5:00 pm.

Sunday, February 15:

- She Is Called: Women of the Bible book study at 9:15 am.
- Oral histories of members of our congregation following worship.
- Seed Swap at 1:00 pm.

Wednesday, February 18:

- Ash Wednesday service at 7 pm.

Sunday, February 22:

- She Is Called: Women of the Bible book study at 9:15 am.
- Labre Ministry serving at North Church at 10:15 am.
- Jazz concert at 6 pm organized by our FHC member, Antoinette Franklin (saxophone), with local talent, followed by a potluck dessert reception.

*Information about events is listed on the church website calendar (<http://www.fhcpresb.org/calendar>), in our monthly newsletter, *The Tower*, and on our digital and paper bulletin boards located outside the sanctuary. Scan the QR code to link to the calendar on our website.*



Donations for the Abundance Food Pantry:
Forest Hill Church operates a weekly food pantry to serve those in the community who could use some help with groceries. Monetary donations are always appreciated. You may donate here: <https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/foodpantrydonations>.



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

Prayers are requested this week for: Doris Bartlett, Janet Dauer, Bob Dawson, Deborah Howard, Chuck and Jane Ishler, Mark Le Master, Ellie Linden, Linda Martin, Wanda Nelson, Jessica Owusu, Roz Peters, Joyce Senger, Javier Shung, Carolyn Smith, Joel Tan, John Tan, Tony Tan, Kate Tzepronis, Doreen Underwood, Eileen Vizcaino and Ann Williams.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Kemp Jaycox, 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!

3031 Monticello Blvd., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118
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Custodian on Duty: 216-217-5257

Email: churchadmin@fhcpresb.org

Website: 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

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

The Second Sunday in Black History Month

February 8, 2026 – 11:00 AM



You may also join worship online using this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbKvsDF5Vqs>

****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
“Don’t ask what the world needs.
Ask what makes you come alive and go do it.
Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.”
– Howard Thurman

CENTERING MUSIC

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT Spiritual arr. Paul Jennings
“Yonder Come Day”
Little Crescendos

CALL TO WORSHIP Sheryl Dugard
Jesus has called us the salt of the earth.
A little salt goes a long way.
Jesus asks what happens when salt loses its saltiness.
Have we lost ours?
What does it mean to be salt, leaven, and light in this world?
Let us worship God in the hope of finding out.

***HYMN NO. 317** “In Christ There Is No East or West”
The tune was originally from Scotland and later adapted by African American slaves to hymns.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Holy One, your order for the world vastly surpasses our capacities of knowledge and compassion. Too often we retreat into the smallness of our individual lives and project our smallness onto your vastness and consider ourselves righteous. Forgive the things we do and the things we fail to do that keep us from being the people you call us to be.

SILENCE

KYRIE (HYMN NO. 600) “Amen”
A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men, a - men.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS (HYMN NO. 740)**
*Lead me, guide me, along the way,
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.*

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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 Traditional arr. André J. Thomas
“Follow the Drinking Gourd”
Chancel Choir
The Drinking Gourd song was supposedly used by an Underground Railroad operative to encode escape instructions and a map.

Ushers will collect prayer requests.

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 “I Believe” Mark Miller

***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**
Faithful and generous God, receive our gifts with your blessing. May our offerings help bring to your world the peace and justice you desire. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS
1 Corinthians 2:1-8 (page 927)
Matthew 5:13-20 (page 786)

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

***HYMN NO. 493** “Now There Is No Male or Female”
(v. 1 choir, vv. 2-3 all)

SERMON
Jesus and the Disinherited: Four Sermons on Faith and the Underside of History Inspired by Howard Thurman
“Righteousness and the Wisdom of God”

***HYMN NO. 515** “I Come with Joy” (vv. 1, 4, 5)

***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 African American Spiritual
“Guide My Feet”
“Guide My Feet” grew out of the Black church’s prayer tradition, expressing a deeply personal plea for God’s guidance, protection, and steadfast faith while walking through hardship.

Special thanks to Sheryl Dugard for her help in worship today.

