

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, March 23:

- Join the drum circle today with Don Davis in the sanctuary at 12:30pm.

Monday, March 24:

- Book Study on *James* by Percival Everett in the FHC library from 6:00 – 8:00pm.

Friday, March 28:

- Pacesetters: Cleveland Museum of Art (and Pizza!) from 2:00 – 7:00pm.

Saturday, April 5:

- Honoring the Life and Work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. from 10:00am – 1:00pm at North Church.

Thursday, April 17:

- 5:45pm Maundy Thursday Potluck Dinner in Fellowship Hall.
- 7:00pm Tenebrae Service in Fellowship Hall.

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.



One Great Hour of Sharing Offering (March 5 - April 20)

Please consider supporting the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering this Lenten season. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promotes development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assists in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. All three programs work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Please be a part of this effort that supports programs in over 100 countries!

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

Prayers are requested this week for: Elsie Boyd, Janet Dauer, Bob Dawson, Deborah Howard, Grace Glaros, Sonji Kenyatta, Ellen McChesney, Wanda Nelson (sister of Sharon Wiggins), Carolyn Smith and Susan Way.

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.

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, and Nancy Grube.

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
Office: 216-321-2660

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, PRESBYTERIAN

March 23, 2025 – 11:00AM

LENT



You may also join worship online using this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w88pkLSpHho>

****Please stand in body and/or spirit.***

CENTERING WORDS
“We have in the past been forced into reluctant change
by weather, calamity, and plague.
Now the pressure comes from our biologic success as a species.
We have overcome all enemies but ourselves.”
– John Steinbeck (1902-1968), *Travels with Charley* (1962)

PRELUDEFanny Crosby
“Safe in the Arms of Jesus”
Fanny Crosby (1820–1915) was a prolific American hymn writer and poet, known for composing thousands of hymns despite being blind from infancy.

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROITJohn Ireland
“My Song is Love Unknown”
Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIPPeg Weissbrod
God, you are our God, and we seek you.
Our souls thirst for you and our flesh faints for you, as if we were in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
Our land *is* dry and weary, and so we have looked for you in the sanctuary, where we might behold your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life, our lips will praise you. Our hearts will rejoice, and no one will take our joy from us!


***HYMN NO. 408**“There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”


CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Holy One, we have come seeking. As we acknowledge before you and one another that we fall short of your loving will, and as we pray for the forgiveness of our sins, we hope for the shelter we find under your wings, the communion we find in your presence, and the community we find among your people. Protect us, nourish us, and strengthen us, we humbly pray, for the tasks of life in your world.

SILENCE

KYRIE“Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”


Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us.


Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***HYMN NO. 586**“Alleluia”

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN’S WELCOMEDr. Amy Wheatley

Children are invited to leave the sanctuary with their adult leaders to go to Sunday School.

ANTHEMJean Berger
“The Eyes of All”

Ushers will collect prayer requests.

SCRIPTURE
Isaiah 55:1-2, 6-9 (page 598)
1 Corinthians 10:1-4, 9-13 (page 931)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM HYMN NO. 458
(the congregation remains seated)
The choir will sing the opening four measures, and then everyone will join them for the rest of the psalm.

SERMONThe Rev. Dr. Gene McAfee
“The Blessing of Challenge”

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.

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.

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.*

OFFERTORYarr. Tom Fettke
“He’s Always Been Faithful”
Madelaine Matej

PRAYER OF DEDICATION
God our Creator, you have showered us with goodness, and we ask your blessing on what we have given in return. May the good of our offerings exceed what we think or pray. For your love’s sake we dedicate our gifts and our lives. Amen.

***HYMN NO. 459**“O Word of God Incarnate”

***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.

POSTLUDEFlorence Price
“Adoration”
“Adoration” is offered during today's service in honor of Women's History Month. Florence Price was the first noted African American female composer to gain national recognition.

Special thanks to Peg Weissbrod for her help in leading worship today.