

Friday, March 29
Good Friday Community Service @ St. Paul's Episcopal
12:00 noon – 3:00 p.m.

We join other Christians in our community at St. Paul's for a service of remembrance. Brief homilies are offered on the "7 last words of Christ." The choir of St. Paul's will sing an oratory, prayers will be offered and hymns will be sung. You may come and go as your schedule permits.

Sunday, March 31
Easter Sunday

9:00 AM: We gather in the garden and process to our Chapel for a more intimate celebration of the Resurrection.

11:00 AM: We celebrate Christ's resurrection in our Sanctuary with special music. At the conclusion of the service all are invited to join the choir in the singing of the Hallelujah Chorus.

Childcare is available for children ages birth to 4 during 11am worship. Older children (5+yrs) worship with their families today. Please pick up a special Easter activity bag as you enter the sanctuary. Following 11am worship, children ages birth to 10 and their families are invited to join our annual Easter Egg Hunt!

Join Us In April!

April 7 at 9:15 AM:

"Sabbath Rest" Adult Spiritual Growth
(Every Sunday Morning through May)

April 14 at 12:15 PM:

Holy Cow! Consulting Report to the Congregation (lunch served)

April 20 at 10:00 AM

Homeless Stand Down - See Jack Breisch

April 20 at 6:00 PM

"Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" - Fellowship Night

April 28 at 11:00 AM: Piano Dedication

April 28 at 11:00 AM: LaBre Ministry @ North Church

April 28 at 12:15 PM: Ushers Luncheon

April 28 at 5:00 PM: Family Fun Night

Do you want to contribute flowers for Sunday worship?

If so, use this link to signup:

<https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/641db770112776329>

Prayer Request: To request prayers for a personal concern, please email Pastor Lentz (pastorlentz@fhcpresb.org) no later than Thursday afternoon of each week for inclusion in next week's congregational prayer.

Prayers are requested this week for: Joe Dauer, Mark Davidson, Deborah Howard, Kemp Jaycox, Cate Monaghan, Beverly Thomas, Grace Uhle, Ann Williams, Warren Young and Karen & Dan Yourd.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Ron Klein, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, Roz and Graham Peters.

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 or deacons@fhcpresb.org).

Thank you, all office volunteers: Joan Bacon, Lynda Bernays, Cathy Ghiandoni, Nancy Grube and Pat Jenkins.

Thank you, all Stream Team Volunteers! Anyone interested in helping stream Sunday services should contact Kurt Haas at kurt@dangereddy.com.

The deadline for the bulletin and weekly email is Tuesday of each week at 5 pm. The next TOWER deadline is **April 18, 2024 (for the May TOWER) at 8:00 am**. Please submit your written requests to office@fhcpresb.org.

3031 Monticello Blvd., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118
Office: 216-321-2660

Custodian Phone on Duty: 216-217-5257

Email: churchadmin@fhcpresb.org

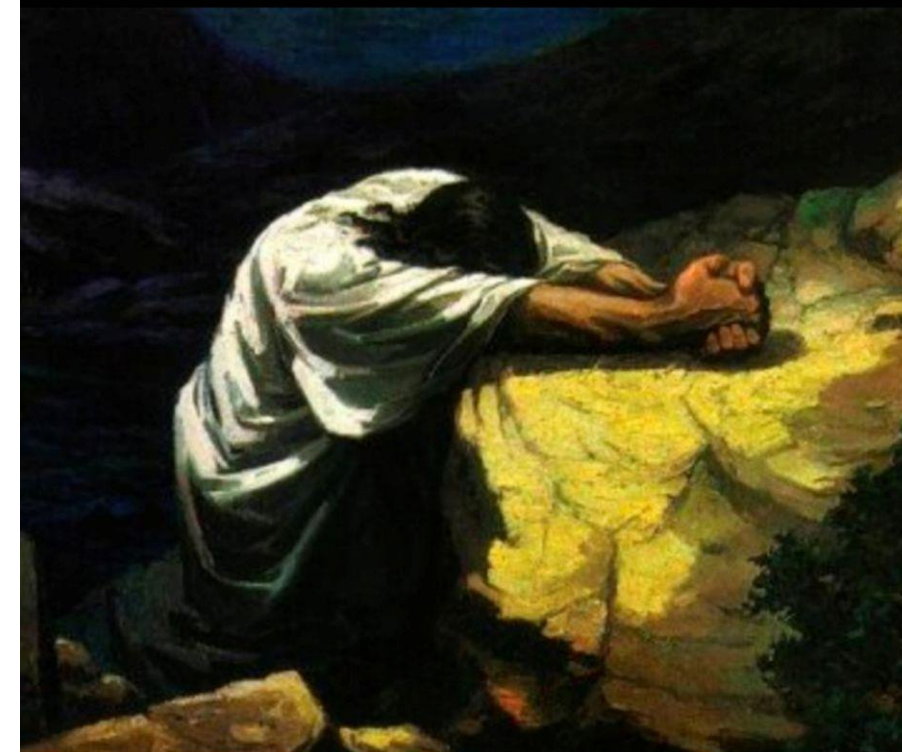
Website: www.fhcpresb.org

Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor
Dr. Amy Wheatley, Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministry
Dr. Qin Ying Tan, Director of Music



FOREST HILL CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN
MAUNDY THURSDAY

MARCH 28, 2024 – 7:00PM



You may also join worship online using this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X3iPN68L1-c>

**Please stand if able*
PRELUDE

WELCOME

The service of worship tonight is taken from an early Christian service called Tenebrae. "Tenebrae" is Latin for "darkness" or "shadows." Tonight, we will experience a symbolic portion of Christ's pain and suffering the day of his crucifixion. One of the most conspicuous features of the service is the gradual extinguishing of candles until only a single candle, considered a symbol of our Lord, remains. As it gets darker and darker we reflect on the great emotional and physical pain that was very real for Jesus that evening. Toward the end of the service, the Christ candle is hidden, typifying the apparent victory of the forces of evil over good. The hidden candle is then restored to its place on Easter morning. By dim light we all depart this service in silence.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. **Just as Christ has loved us, let us love one another.** Beloved people of God: This is the day when Christ, our Passover Lamb, surrendered himself to those who would kill him, setting us free from sin and death forever. **This is the day when Christ, our Teacher and Lord, knelt down to wash the disciples' feet, showing us how to love and serve one another.** This is the day when Christ, the bread of heaven, shared a holy meal with his followers, offering a feast of abundant life and grace for all.

***GATHERING HYMN NO. 202** "An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare"

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ, you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace.

SILENCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM Craig Courtney

"Thy Will Be Done"
Chancel Choir

READING 1 Sally Wile
Matthew 26:20-30 (page 808)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, ruler of the universe, we thank you for your mighty acts of deliverance. You enable us to cross over from despair to hope, from brokenness to wholeness, from death to life. We thank you for the deep love of Jesus, which moved him to give himself for the redemption of all creation. We thank you for the grace we experience in receiving these symbols of the life Christ gave for others, and for us. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: On the night of his arrest Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to God, broke it and said, "This is my body which is for you; do this remembering me."
After supper Jesus took the cup and said, "This is the cup of the new covenant; whenever you drink it, do so remembering me."

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Creator God, we thank you for the nourishment you give us -- for bread, and fruit of the vine. God of freedom, we thank you that you do not leave us in bondage, but act in power to liberate us from all oppression. We thank you that Christ, acting in courage and faith, has won for us the victory over sin and death. May the bread and wine be signs of your renewed covenant with us, and may we be ever faithful, until the coming of your final Shalom. Amen.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION Pepper Choplin

"We Are Not Alone"
Chancel Choir
Jack Lentz, soloist

PRAYER

We thank you, Lord, for giving us this holy meal; and for giving us your presence and your life. Amen.

READING 2 Nathaniel Martin
Matthew 26:31-35 (page 808)

READING 3 Valeria Stutz
Matthew 26:36-46 (pages 808-809)

READING 4 Ron Zimmerman
Matthew 26:47-56 (page 809)

READING 5 Leslie Clement
Matthew 26:57-64 (page 809)

READING 6 Jennifer Blakeney
Matthew 26:65-75 (page 809)

READING 7 Nicole Lawrence
Matthew 27:1-2;
11-14; 27-31 (pages 809-810)

HYMN NO. 215 "What Wondrous Love Is This?"
First verse—Congregation
Second Verse—Choir
Third Verse—Soloist
Fourth Verse—All

The Christ candle is hidden. The drum symbolizes the agony of Jesus' death.

READING 8 Derry Stauffer
Psalm 22:1-11 (page 434)

HYMN NO. 228 "Were You There"
Sing as prompted by the cantor

BENEDICTION

Leader: Go into the world in peace, knowing that God has made the ultimate sacrifice through Jesus, who is the Christ. Love one another, as Christ loves you, now and forever. Amen.

Please depart from the service in silence.

We welcome Rev. Carol Wedell as liturgist.

