

OFFERTORY

“Ring Out Joyfully”
Voices in Bronze

Kathie Mackie

*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

Generous God, take these gifts and multiply them for the flourishing of your creation. Use what we have given to feed the hungry, to support those fleeing danger, to change unjust structures, and to tend our common home. Bless the hands that give and the hearts that labor for peace with justice. May these offerings be signs of our repentance and instruments of repair, that all may have life in abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, who came to give that life through serving your world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (pages 492 - 493)
Matthew 21:1-11 (page 802)

AFTER THE READINGS

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

*HYMN NO. 661

“Why Should I Feel Discouraged”

SERMON

“Beyond Triumph”

*HYMN NO. 198

“Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”

*CLOSING PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND BENEDICTION

Generous and loving God, in giving us your Child, our Savior, Jesus the Christ, you have given all that we need and more. We have returned to you a portion of your many blessings to us, and now we dedicate our lives to you as well, asking for your blessing. Lead us from this place to follow your Child into Holy Week, remembering with each step the cost of your redeeming love. Amen.

The people depart in silence, following the cross to its placement at the apex of the church property.

Special thanks to Elder Chris Bell for her help in worship today.

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, Grace Glaros, Kathryn Himmelsteib, Deborah Howard, Chuck and Jane Ishler, Mark Le Master, Ellie Linden, Linda Martin, Jessica Owusu, Roz Peters, Joyce Senger, Sharon Shumaker, Kate Tzepronis, Doreen Underwood, Carolyn Vrtunski, Sharon Wiggins, and Ann Williams.

Please remember these homebound members in your prayers: Kemp Jaycox, Carol Hopkins-Lutz, 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
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: diverse, inclusive, welcoming

FOREST HILL CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

The Donkey

*WHEN fishes flew and forests walked
And figs grew upon thorn,
Some moment when the moon was blood
Then surely I was born;*

*With monstrous head and sickening cry
And ears like errant wings,
The devil's walking parody
On all four-footed things.*

*The tattered outlaw of the earth,
Of ancient crooked will;
Starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb,
I keep my secret still.*

*Fools! For I also had my hour;
One far fierce hour and sweet:
There was a shout about my ears,
And palms before my feet.*

—G. K. Chesterton

You may also join worship online using this link:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=97_xR0RHjbE

**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.

CENTERING MUSIC

Drum Circle
Don Davis, director

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT Yancy Wideman Richmond
“Hosanna Rock”
Little Crescendos
Julie Minder, director

CALL TO WORSHIP Elder Chris Bell
Blessed is the One who comes in God’s name.
Blessed are the peacemakers.
Blessed are the poor in spirit.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.
Blessed be our God, now and forever.
Blessed be our God, who comes to save.

*HYMN NO. 197 “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liberating God, we confess that we have welcomed your Christ in word but resisted your incarnate Word in deed. We have cheered humble kings while upholding systems that enrich the few and harm the many, systems that keep some of us comfortable and safe. Forgive us for our willingness to collude in injustice and suffering. Forgive our corporate sins and forgive our private sins. Forgive all our sins, we humbly pray.

SILENCE

KYRIE (HYMN NO. 575) “Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”
Lord, have mercy upon us;
Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS (HYMN NO. 626)

*As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart’s desire, and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield. You alone are my heart’s desire, and I long to worship you.*

*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 Stephen Adams
“The Holy City”
Chancel Choir
Em Ezell, soprano
Carol Wedell, alto
Clayton Minder, tenor
Seth Ungemach, bass

Ushers will collect prayer requests.

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DISMISSAL FOR THE MISSION STUDY COMMITTEE

Faithful and ever-reforming God, you call your Church in every age to listen again for your voice and to follow where your Spirit leads.

We give you thanks for the Mission Study Committee of Forest Hill Church—for their diligence in urging all of us to participate in this process, their courage in asking hard questions, and their honesty in telling us the truth about who we are.

In their work, we have seen your Spirit at play: nudging us toward deeper faithfulness, greater justice, and wider welcome. They have helped us remember that the Church is not ours to preserve, but yours to renew.

As their work now comes to completion, we release them from this particular calling with our deep gratitude. Grant them rest from their labors, and a renewed sense of joy in belonging to your Church.

Seal what has been learned with your grace and keep us from treating their work as finished. Instead, make it a living invitation—to deeper discipleship, to bolder witness, and to a future shaped not by fear, but by your Spirit.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who is always making all things new. Amen.

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND SUPPORT FOR THE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

God of wisdom and discernment, you are still speaking, still calling, still forming your Church for the sake of the world you love.

We give you thanks for those who serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee of Forest Hill Church. They have said yes to a sacred and sometimes daunting work: to listen for your Spirit in conversation, in prayer, in one another, and in the candidates they will meet.

Root them deeply in your grace. Free them from anxiety about outcomes, and ground them in trust that your Spirit is already at work—ahead of them, within them, and beyond them.

Give them patience when the process feels slow, clarity when the path seems unclear, and courage when difficult decisions must be made. Shape them as a community of discernment: attentive to voices often overlooked, open to surprise, and committed to the flourishing of your whole Church.

Even now, Sovereign God, you are preparing to greet us with a pastor whose gifts will meet this congregation’s needs, and whose leadership will help your people grow in faith, justice, and love.

Prepare us as well: to welcome new leadership with openness, to share in the work of ministry, and to remain a people always being reformed according to your Word. May we abide in your loving welcome for all, especially the vulnerable, the stranger, the outcast, and the overlooked, serving your beloved creation with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

We entrust this process to you, Holy One, not as a search we control, but as a calling we receive—through Jesus Christ, the head of the Church and the hope of the world.
Amen.

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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

CALL TO GIVING

OFFERING

*You may give online with PayPal, credit or debit card: www.fhcpresb.org
Or you may also mail a check to the church office*