Forest Hill Church

presbyterian



POINSETTIAS

- Chris and Dave Bell.
- Jennifer Blakeney, with gratitude for our church community.
- The Breisch Family, in loving memory of Benjamin Breisch, Shirley and John Breisch, and Ellarita and Jack Wolfe.
- Leslie and Lia Clement, in honor of their parents, Kenneth and Ruth Clement and in loving memory of their brother Michael C. Clement.
- John and Sheryl Dugard, in memory of their parents, John and Hazel Dugard, and Robert and Mildred Sinkler.
- Marina Grant, in memory of her parents, Mary and William Boyd, hope for peace throughout the world in the coming year, in celebration of her family!
- Darlene Holt, in honor of her family and in celebration of the holiday season.
- The Hsu Family, in honor of Chris and Dave Bell.
- Anne Hunter, in memory of loved ones.
- Jane and Cliff Kowall, in honor of parents Walter and Elaine Grasson, and Paul and Dorothy Kowall.
- Sharon A. Leary, in dedication and memory of her cousin, Jimmer.
- Linda Martin, in memory of all we've lost this year.
- The Finn Family, in memory of loved ones.
- The Rev. Gene McAfee, in thanksgiving for FHC.
- Jeanette Nemcek, in gratitude for her family.
- Stephen Sedam, in honor of those devoted to diversity, equity and inclusion of all God's people.
- Anne and Jeff Smith, in thanksgiving for all the black and brown newcomers, overcoming tremendous hardships and extreme prejudice by the current administration, seeking security for their families, while improving the fabric of the principles this country was originally built upon through their love, dedication, and hard work.
- Nonie Stack, in honor of the dedicated staff of Forest Hill Church.
- The Hanna Stauffer Family, in thanks for our church community.
- The Gemerchak Wile Family, in memory of their parents Frank, Virginia, Ed, and Robin.

Thank you to those who purchased poinsettias that add beauty to our sanctuary.

Please pick up your poinsettias following the worship service.

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, Karen Loughridge, Jessica Owusu, Roz Peters, Ron Register, Serena Shung, Joyce Senger, Carolyn Smith, Joel Tan, John Tan, Kate Tzefronis, Doreen Underwood, Eileen Vizcaino, and Ann Williams.

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

Forest Hill Church Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2025 ~ 5:00 pm
You may also join worship online using this link:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7ZOdWJ5zSk

*Please stand in body and/or spirit.

CENTERING MUSIC

"Ave Maria" Franz Schubert

Larissa Ungemach, soprano

"O Holy Night"

Adolphe Adam

Larissa Ungemach, soprano Laura Minder, Julie Minder, Clayton Minder, Seth Ungemach, vocal quartet

CHORAL INTROIT

Mary Ann Breisch

"When Will You Come"
Little Crescendos
Julie Minder, director

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Chenoa Stock

Tonight we gather to tell a story we never outgrow.

A story of love coming close.

Tonight we welcome a child born in a humble place.

A child who brings light to the world.

Tonight we come with joy and wonder, with questions and hope, with families and friends.

We come to welcome Emmanuel—God with us.

Let us worship God, whose love is born among us this night.

Thanks be to God!

Em, Jake, Persephone, and Fritz Ezell are lighting the Advent candles this evening.

COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Gracious God, on this holy night, you chose the humility of a stable and the wonder of a child to reveal your love to the world. As we gather with children and families, with joy and expectation, open our hearts to the good news of Emmanuel—God with us. Help us to welcome your light, to trust your promise, and to share your peace with a world longing for hope. Forgive all our failures to be bearers of your light, makers of your peace, and signs of your presence. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the newborn Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Violet Majot

'TWAS THE EVENING OF CHRISTMAS

Glenys Nillist

MUSIC

Gustav Holst

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Laura Minder, soprano

Julie Minder, alto

Clayton Minder, tenor

Seth Ungemach, bass

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke: 2:1-20 (page 832)

*HYMN NO. 134

"Joy to the World" (vv. 1, 2, 4)

HOMILY

"The Story That Never Grows Old"

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 Audrey Assad

"Winter Snow" Em Ezell, soprano

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.

*HYMN NO. 122

"Silent Night, Holy Night!"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Felix Mendelssohn

"Heavens and Earth Display"

Special thanks to everyone who participated in worship!

Please return candles to the baskets at the exits.

Church offices will be closed for Christmas.

Children's Christmas Pageant

Based on the book 'Twas the Evening of Christmas by Glenys Nillist

Pageant Coordinator

Violet Majot

Mary

Lucy Washington

Joseph

Leandro Claure

Donkeys

Henry Ampong Luna Sustar-Fultz

Barn Animals

Haddie Baldwin Ira Nau Clara Stock

Shepherds

Catie Edelman Margot Nau Caroline Zednik

Sheep

Juliette Bissett
Aiden Edelman
Sofi Shung
Sebastian Sustar-Fultz

Angels

Elsie Ampong
Persephone Ezell
Eleanor Matej MacQueen
Margaret Matej MacQueen
Elijah Washington

Wise People

Carlos Chaney Emmett Stock Solomon Washington

Voice of God

Twanda Patterson

Prop Leader and Animal Helpers

Cora Bissett
Eden Bissett
Katherine Wheatley

Narrators

Eden Bissett Clementine Majot Charlotte Zednik

Thank you to the adult helpers who made this pageant possible: Laurie Logan, Kylie Evans, Katherine Bissett, Cora Bissett, QinYing Tan, Julie Minder, Katherine Wheatley, Bee Brennan-Parks, Willie Jackson, Tracy Long, Kurt Haas, and Amy Wheatley. On New Year's Eve, do you ever find yourself kind of tired from all the busy-ness of the holidays, but still wanting to do something to ring in the New Year?

Then bring your favorite party game, and your favorite dish to share for a Multi-Generational Potluck Game Night here at Forest Hill!

We will gather around 7:00 pm and starting at 9:00 pm we will ring in the New Year each hour as it comes to different time zones. This way, if you don't want to stay until midnight, you can still take part in a little bit of Happy New Year Hoopla before you go home to get to bed at a decent hour.

RSVPs are not necessary, but it would be helpful to get at least a rough headcount. Please email Marcie Denton if you plan to attend. Whether there are 5 of us or 50 of us, we will definitely have a fun time. Hope you can join us!

