

**Black History month** is celebrated annually to celebrate Black culture, eradicate discrimination and encourage racial equality. For the past 13 years, Forest Hill Church has proudly presented a full month of Black History Celebration Events. All events are FREE and open to the public, although some events offer sweets and treats for sale.

Join us in celebrating our 2024 Theme:  
**Black Women: Crowned with Glory**

Please sign up for the Soul Food Potluck  
here: <https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/68261e>  
(Please be patient - it does take a moment or two  
for the form to appear).

If you wish to volunteer for Black History Month,  
please click here:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Sy7ISmiSOTjqBXQm-3on5HXK3WxqUZI2kEL0tqKMWPw/viewform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Sy7ISmiSOTjqBXQm-3on5HXK3WxqUZI2kEL0tqKMWPw/viewform?edit_requested=true)

Please fill out this Google form if you  
need a ride to Black History Month events:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScP8MZu7Z\\_B2vPJhTWWCyFeDRIHiciy0H7UtFugmg13\\_rx0Ow/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScP8MZu7Z_B2vPJhTWWCyFeDRIHiciy0H7UtFugmg13_rx0Ow/viewform).

For more information, please contact Danielle Cosgrove at  
[daniellejcosgrove@gmail.com](mailto:daniellejcosgrove@gmail.com) or call or text her at 216-513-3162.

If you wish to make a donation, you may send checks to the church.  
Please notate Black History on the memo line.



Are you a new visitor? Scan this QR code.  
We would love to hear from you.



If you wish to give online, please use this QR Code  
and select your giving option.



**Wednesday, February 14**  
**Ash Wednesday**  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Supper at 6:00 in Fellowship Hall followed by a service of worship to mark the beginning of Lent at 7:00. At this service we will mark our foreheads with a sign of cross made from the ashes of last Palm Sunday's palms. We will share the Lord's supper and prepare for the journey to Jerusalem. Signup Here: <https://fhc.breezechms.com/form/25a55e1530>

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Beatrice Ampong:** Beatrice lives in Cleveland Heights with her family. She's a nurse by profession. Born in Ghana and trained as a midwife. After working for a while, she relocated to the United Kingdom before moving to Winston Salem, North Carolina. In her home country, she was a member of the Methodist Church.



**Isaac Ampong:** Isaac Ampong, PhD is a Research Scientist at the Lerner Research Institute, Cleveland Clinic. He completed a PhD in Biochemistry & Physiology from the Graduate School of the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Surrey, United Kingdom. Prior to moving to Cleveland to work at the Cleveland Clinic, he was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Wake Forest University Medical Center, North Carolina. Originally from Ghana and married to Beatrice, and together are blessed with 2 young kids-Henry and Elsie. In his free time, he loves spending time with his family. He also loves traveling.



**Tony Boyd:** Tony is a Cleveland native, graduating from Glenville High where he was an all-state second baseman. He is now retired after a career that included minor league baseball and working for a variety of Cleveland businesses. Tony is the proud father of three adult daughters who all live in the Cleveland area. Tony's focal point for daily living can be summed up by "TCGB" (Taking Care of God's Business).



**Joseph Frolik:** Joe Frolik has lived in Cleveland Heights since he moved to Cleveland in June 1981 to take a reporting job at The Plain Dealer. He met his wife, Karen R. Long, at the paper and together they have raised three adult children -- all of whom returned to Cleveland during the pandemic. After a long career in journalism - at The PD and then Ideastream Public Media -- Joe in 2019 joined MetroHealth where he leads communications and local government relations efforts for Cuyahoga County's public hospital system.



**Karen Long:** Karen R. Long grew up in Seattle but has spent most of her adult life in Cleveland Heights, working as a reporter and editor for the Plain Dealer, and then as manager of the Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards for the Cleveland Foundation until her retirement this month. She and new member Joe Frolik have three adult children.



**FOREST HILL CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN**

**FEBRUARY 11, 2024 – 11:00AM**



**Clementine Hunter, Going to Church on Sunday, 1965, Oil on Canvas, Courtesy Artnet**

You may also join worship online using this link:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcWDL1U\\_cbc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcWDL1U_cbc)

## CENTERING WORDS

*I opened the doors of my school...with an enrollment of five little girls...  
whose parents paid me fifty cents weekly tuition...Through I hadn't a penny left,  
I considered cash money as the smallest part of my resources.  
I had faith in a living God, faith in myself, and a desire to serve.  
Mary McLeod Bethune in "Faith That Moved a Dump Heap"*

## PRELUDE

"Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen"

Arr.

## WELCOME

## CHORAL INTROIT

"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

Little Crescendos  
Julie Minder, Director

## CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 50)

God, the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. **Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.** Our God comes and does not keep silence. **The heavens declare God's righteousness.** We will not keep silent. **We will praise the living God in song and word and prayer.** Let us worship God.

## \*HYMN NO. 317

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

*This setting expands and enhances the thematic inclusiveness of an early 20<sup>th</sup> century text by adapting the melody of a traditional spiritual to carry these words. This 1940 pairing marked the first use of African American musical material in a mainline North American hymnal.*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God you created all people in your image. We thank you for the astonishing variety of people and cultures in this world. But loving Creator God we have sinned. In our history we have enslaved your beloved children. We created laws that kept us from eating together. Still, there are health disparities and criminal justice inequalities shaped by race and income. So many have suffered and still are left behind. Despite progress, we are slow to change. We are not who we should be or where we should be or what we should be. We are complicit. Forgive us. During this Black History month may we deepen our understanding, celebrate the gifts, and repent; turning towards our Savior Jesus who will repair, restore and redeem us as we continue to walk the upward way. Amen.**

## A TIME OF REFLECTION

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

## HYMN NO. 582

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,  
and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## ANTHEM

"Someone's Prayin'"  
Chancel Choir  
Em Ezell, soloist

Arr. Mark Hayes

## THE LIVING WORD (NRSV)

Esther 1:10-22

## After the readings

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

## HYMN NO. 456

"Listen God is Calling"

*This anonymous Swahili hymn from Kenya follows a pattern of traditional African music (refrain, call-and-response) also common in African American spirituals.*

## SERMON

Rev. Carmen Cox Hartwell

"When the Queen Says No!"

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, 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, forever. 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.

## OFFERING

By texting: 216-400-5300

You may give online with PayPal, Credit or Debit Card:

[www.fhcpresb.org](http://www.fhcpresb.org)

Or you may also mail a check to the church office.

Make Your Commitment (Pledge) For 2024 at [www.fhcpresb.org](http://www.fhcpresb.org)

## OFFERTORY

"O Lord, What a Mornin'"  
Em Ezell

Harry Burleigh

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## \*HYMN NO. 273

"He Is King of Kings"

*This African American spiritual is a classic example of how praise to God rises out of human experience. The repeated response "no one works like him" shows confidence that the sovereign, liberating Christ abounds with the very attitude the singers need in order to survive.*

## \*BENEDICTION

## SONG:

"Amen"

## POSTLUDE

"Wade in the Water"

Arr.

*We thank Diane Doyle for serving as Lay Leader this morning.*

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Rev. Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor

Dr. Amy Wheatley, Dir. of Family, Youth & Children's Ministry

Dr. Qin Ying Tan, Director of Music

