



FAIRMOUNT

PRESBYTERIAN *Church*

Sunday, November 28, 2021
8:30am & 11:00am



Awake to Wonder

by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Fairmount Presbyterian Church
2757 Fairmount Boulevard
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
216.321.5800
www.fpccl.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP
8:30am & 11:00am
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PRELUDE

Verset in d minie

*Konrad Binienda, organist
by Boellmann*

WELCOME

Rev. Jessie MacMillan, Interim Senior Pastor

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Can one be homesick for something you've never known?

**All: We are homesick for a just world,
for peace like rivers,
for the end of suffering.**

One: Yes, we are homesick -

**All: for joy that is contagious,
for nations that feel like neighbors,
and for hospitals that run empty.**

One: We are homesick for the world God promises.

All: We are homesick, but we are on our way.

One: God is here. God is still creating.

All: Let us worship Holy God.

***HYMN 643**

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

SOLO (11:00am)

Aria from Cantata BWV 199

*Lauren Vanden Boeck
by JS Bach*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**We find ourselves with two options every day -
to stay homesick for the world you had in mind,
or to allow cynicism to win.**

Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel?

Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it's impossible?

Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins.

**Forgive us for numbing our homesick hurt,
instead of using it to fuel a better world.**

Kindle in us a hope that won't let go.

Gratefully we pray, amen.

KYRIE: Hymn 576

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Family of faith, even when we throw in the towel, even when we give up on hope, God does not give up on us. We are loved. We are claimed. We are invited closer to God's home. So hear and trust this good news:

**All: There is room for us in God's house, and nothing can separate us
from that love. We are claimed. We are forgiven. We are welcomed
home. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11:00am)

Rev. Lindsay Harren-Lewis, Associate Pastor

ANTHEM (11:00am)

"Give me Jesus"

*Fairmount Choir
arr. by Larry L. Fleming*

WELCOME!

Fairmount Presbyterian Church warmly welcomes everyone to worship today! Check in to this Sunday's worship service - whether you are in the pews of our sanctuary, chapel, or watching online at home - we want to hear from you! Using your smart phone or tablet, simply scan the QR code.



CARING FOR ALL

In accordance with CDC guidelines, and in order to caretake for the most vulnerable in our community, we ask that you wear your mask at all times while inside the church building, with the exception of partaking in Communion. Thank you for helping us ensure the health and safety of all members of our community.

HEARING ASSISTANCE

We have Loop capabilities and assisted listening devices available for the sanctuary. Hearing Assistance devices are available from an usher.

ADVENT SERMON THEME

Close to Home

When something hits close to home, it affects us deeply. During the Advent and Christmas season, we journey through scriptures and rituals that are tender, heavy with emotion, and vulnerable. We carry the memories and truths of this season close to our hearts. *Close to Home* acknowledges the "already but not yet" tension of our faith: Emmanuel is with us, and yet, God's promised day—our everlasting home—is not fully realized. It names our deep longing for God to come close to us.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

Luke 21:25-36

I Thessalonians 3:9-13

SERMON

"Homesick"

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

***HYMN 88** (v1,2,5,7) *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* *VENI EMMANUEL*

CALL TO OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

We are homesick. We long for the day that you spoke of when swords will be beaten into plowshares, the lion will lie down with the lamb, and justice will roll like waters. Until that holy day comes, take these gifts and use them to build that world here. We are hopeful. Amen.

Offering baskets are located at sanctuary entrances, or you can give online at our website, www.fpccl.org/giving.

DOXOLOGY, Hymn 609

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Lindsay Harren-Lewis

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (8:30am)

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.

*HYMN 105

People Look East

BESANÇON

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

As you leave this service, your service begins:
Comfort the homesick.
Open your doors to others.
Seek sanctuary.
Be brave enough to go home by another way.
And remember that here in God's house, all are welcomed - so come back soon.
In the name of our Foundation - God, Spirit, and Son - go in peace

POSTLUDE

Basse et Dessus de Trompette

*Konrad Binienda, organ
by Clerambault*

CANDLE ON THE TABLE

The candle on the communion table is lit in solidarity with individuals and communities experiencing the effects of gun violence.

HYMN 643

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

HYMN 88

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

HYMN 105

This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.

Online Sanctuary

Are you unable to get to church? Do you miss your Fairmount community? Come worship with us in the Online Sanctuary! Peter and Brenda Horth will be hosting a zoom worship meeting during the livestream on Sunday mornings at 11:00am. There will be time for greeting before and after worship as well. If you need technical help or have questions, contact Brenda Horth at brendamhorth@gmail.com.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85628648447?pwd=ZFBmMytFTFhzQlZJMzFmRlo1Q1g0QT09>

Meeting ID: 856 2864 8447

Passcode: 423623

Call Into Zoom Meeting

1-312-626-6799 (use the Meeting ID and Passcode above)

Thank you to all our amazing Sunday Volunteers!

Sound booth volunteers- Mike Chevraux and Grant Gannon

Liturgists: 8:30 Debby Elliot, 11:00 am Kate McFadden

Usher Team: Todd Imbler, Megan Bennett, Liz Boncella, Mike Chevraux, Bob Olson, Bryan Seekely

8:30am Communion Team: Mary Giffin, Nate Kruse, Jean Sylak, Stephanie Washlock, Alice Weiner, Hedy Westra

Office/Building Team: Vicki Mentrek, Jan Spalding

Worship Announcements

The Sanctuary "Wiggle Room"

As we gather for worship, we welcome the "joyful noise" that young children and families bring together. As you can see around the sanctuary, there are Worship Bags for the children to use, books to read, and pages to color during the service. We would also like to introduce our "Wiggle Room" located in the Narthex. This is a space for families that may need a little extra room.....to change diapers, nurse, or even for a small change of pace for our little ones. Feel free to use that room whenever you need. There are toys, books, puzzles, and quiet activities for each child to enjoy while listening to worship. We want you to feel at home, to make our place your space.

Prayer Requests

If you would like your prayer listed in our weekly Fairmount Prayer List which is sent to our prayer community, fill out the form at <https://fpccle.org/prayer-request-form/>. You can also call or email Pastor Lindsay, (lindsayhl@fpccle.org, 216-321-5800 ext. 105) with prayer concerns or to talk to a Pastor.

Going Forth: Offering Our Gifts and Our Lives to God

With gratitude for the grace we have received, we go forth from worship to offer our energy, our hands, and part of our income in service to God. One way we respond to Christ's call is by giving our financial gifts to further God's mission in the world. You may mail a check to the church or make an online offering to support the many ministries of Fairmount Presbyterian Church by clicking the Giving tab on the homepage of our website (www.fpccle.org).

Service by Phone

We want to let you know of a new way you can connect to our weekly worship services – by phone! All you have to do is call 216-255-9353 around noon on Sundays and you will be able to hear a recording of our Sunday worship service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 5th Congregational Meeting

The Session of Fairmount Presbyterian Church has called a Special Congregational Meeting for Sunday, December 5th, following the 11:00 am service, for the purpose of voting on a candidate for Fairmount's next Senior Pastor/Head of Staff. There will be only one service that morning, and the candidate will preach. This will be a hybrid meeting with inclusion of our members who cannot be in person with us that day. If you cannot attend in person, fill out this form, <https://bit.ly/FPCDec5>, to receive the meeting link.

Fairmount Holiday Office Hours

Fairmount Presbyterian Church will be closed Thursday, November 25th through Monday, November 29th. FPC offices will reopen by 9:00am Tuesday, November 30th.

2022 Stewardship

Dear Fairmounters & Friends, our 2022 Stewardship Campaign is progressing well, thank you! We have 99 pledges amounting to \$472,000, or 67% of our goal. Amazing progress! Thank you to those of you who have remembered to submit a pledge so far. If you haven't had a chance to, please visit Fairmount's website where you can make a pledge (<https://fpccle.org/giving-and-stewardship/>) or bring in your pledge card to church in the next couple of weeks, or simply call the church office at 216-321-5800 and we can record your pledge over the phone. Thank you for all of the ways you give!



Advent Boxes!

Today you can pick up your Advent box full of supplies and goodies to help you celebrate Advent this year. Inside you will find ideas of spiritual practices you can incorporate into your holiday planning as well as items that will connect your home to our church home. The boxes will remain in Andersen Hall as supplies last. Feel free to stop by during the week to pick one up, and consider bringing one to a friend or loved on!

Holiday Angels

Holiday Angels is a ministry of the Heights Interfaith Council that collects holiday gifts for the children of the clients served by the Heights Emergency Food Center (HEFC) located at Disciples Christian Church. We are inviting you to consider participating in this ministry which benefits children age 16 and younger. Beginning on Sunday Nov. 21st, you will find a table in Andersen hall with information about the child you will be providing a gift for. Please **spend no more than \$30, and please no gift cards**. If purchasing clothes or shoes, please included a gift receipt. **The wrapped gift with the provided name tag securely affixed needs to be returned to FPC by Friday, Dec 10th.** If you have questions, please email Steph Washlock at bonnett11@hotmail.com, and put Holiday Angels in the subject line. Thank you for supporting this ongoing partnership between Fairmount, the Heights Interfaith Council and the Heights Emergency Food Center!

Adult Faith Formation - Advent Book Study with Carl Hoffman

How might a house look for Christmas based on what each Gospel says about it? In *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes*, beautiful illustrations reimagine each of the four Gospels as a "house." Led by Carl Hoffman, the book group will visit each house with curiosity and open dialogue. This short book, written by Presbyterian pastor and former President of McCormick Theological Seminary Cynthia M. Campbell, reflects on the distinctive perspective of the birth of Jesus or the incarnation offered by each Gospel. *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes* creatively evokes the season and inspires new and exciting reflection for Advent.

The book discussion begins on Sunday, November 28th at 10AM at Fairmount in the Ganson Room. The discussion will be offered for four weeks. [Purchase the book \(\\$8.45\) from the PCUSA store online here](#) or call the church office for support.

A Night of Piano & Cello - Friday, December 3rd at 7:00pm

Join us for a Special Concert featuring Konrad Binienda, piano and Maria Fesz, cello. This concert includes pieces from Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, and a special performance of *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*, arranged for piano and cello by Konrad Binienda.

Blue Christmas Worship with Special Music - December 12th at 5:00pm

For those who have experienced loss, the holidays can be a particularly painful time, stirring up grief in acute ways. As a result, churches around the world have adopted the practice of having a "Blue Christmas" service during the Advent season. This service is designed to provide space for prayer, reflection, and remembrance amidst the holiday hustle and bustle. In this pandemic season of life, we know that grief and loss are magnified and nearly universal, and a service like this is needed now more than ever.

We hope that this service will provide a space of reflection and healing. The choir and an orchestra will be a part of this service, playing and singing part of Mozart's Requiem to lead us in this time. This service will take place in our sanctuary, and will also be live-streamed. We encourage you to invite friends and family you feel would benefit from taking part in this service.

2021 Christmas Eve Poinsettia Dedications

Each Advent season, through your contributions in memory and in honor of loved ones, we decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias for our Christmas Eve worship services. Any additional money raised from your contributions will be used to help cover the expense of worship flowers throughout 2022. This year, we are asking you to complete this online form - <https://bit.ly/21FPCpoinsettias>. You may also email your dedication requests to Danielle Everette, deverette@fpccle.org. On Sundays November 28th, December 5th and December 12th, you will have the opportunity to fill out a paper poinsettia dedication form in Andersen Hall after both worship services.

Please give \$10.00 per dedication. Payment may be made:

- Online - log in to your Realm account, go to Giving, select "Give" and drop down to the "Church Flowers fund" before you make your payment.
- Check/Cash - please drop off your dedication form and check or cash to the church office.

Note: Due to ongoing issues with the US Mail, we suggest you DO NOT mail your poinsettia form or payment. If the mail arrives late, we cannot guarantee your dedication inclusion.

THE DEADLINE for poinsettia dedications is Sunday, December 12th.

Become a Liturgist

The term "liturgy" in Greek literally means to "work for the people." It is a work of the people, for the people, in communion with God. Anyone can be a liturgist! The more liturgical voices represented on Sunday morning, the more our worship reflects our community. We encourage you to offer your presence and voice as a worship leader in the 8:30 a.m. or 11 a.m. services. If you are interested, please contact Kate McFadden at kate@fpccle.org, or by calling the church office.

Earth Care Congregation

Fairmount members can participate in earth stewardship by reducing their household's energy use, changing habits as consumers, investing in renewable energy sources, and by helping us discern how to include earth stewardship as part of our commitment to be a Matthew 25 congregation. Please see the Earth Stewards page on Fairmount's website for more information, <https://fpccle.org/earth-stewards/>.

Fairmount Choir

Fairmount Presbyterian Adult Choir is currently in the process of looking for additional members (especially tenors and basses!) If you have an interest in joining the choir, please email musicdirector@fpccle.org.

Looking for New "Ding-A-Lings" for the Fairmount Bell Choir!

Come and experience the joy of a "musical team sport" at our church. Only requirement is the ability to read music! We can help teach all of the rest. We rehearse on Sunday mornings from 9:00am-10:00am in the Undercroft. Our hope is to get back to playing once a month starting in November. No worries if a few weekends call you away - we've learned to adjust and adapt (something this past year and half has taught us well.) If interested, please contact Amy Carlson, acarlson@key.com or 216-978-7445. We look forward to hearing from some of you!

Awake to Wonder

by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Inspired by Luke 21:25-36 | Digital painting with collage

It is peculiar that we begin Advent with adult Jesus offering us a prophecy and parable filled with fear and mystery. This particular scripture is within a longer section of Jesus describing the coming destruction of the temple, a public statement that no doubt added to the conspiracies and plots stirring against him. The fate he speaks of is filled with terrifying details: the temple demolished, false prophets, wars and uprisings, food shortages, natural disasters, persecution, and epidemics (Luke 21:5-24). As we read these words now, this litany of fear and foreboding feels far too familiar—a bit too close to home.

When I began this series of visuals, I printed an architectural blueprint on a large piece of card stock. Using acrylic paint, I added fluid strokes of blue, obscuring the white lines in the blueprint so that the plans for building a home would appear present but also blurred and concealed. I added hints of gold leaf, trying to emulate the texture of paint peeling from the exterior of a building. I then shifted to digital media, photographing the painting from a number of angles and then drawing figures and details into my compositions with my stylus and iPad.

As I began this particular image, I imagined a scene of chaos and apocalypse. However, as I drew a woman lifting her head and reaching for the fig tree, I began to see a vision of beauty and hope, a glimpse of one's whole being awake to wonder.

I think we all share a collective homesickness. It feels like nostalgia. It looks like the trauma hiding in our past. It can turn into foreboding fear that robs us of real joy. But in this image and in Jesus' words, I see a call to resilience despite the difficult realities that confront us. I see a longing so deep that it keeps us reaching—for a home restored, for comfort renewed, for the fruit that is sure to come.

—Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Fairmount Presbyterian Church Leadership

Session

Clerk of Session, Elder Gordon Landefeld
Matt Hrubey, Treasurer

Class of 2021

Carol Adrine
Raleigh Duttweiler
Gordon Landefeld
Stephanie
Washlock

Class of 2022

David Bosler
Keith Mills
Sarah Pope
Peg Zitzner

Class of 2023

Megan Bennett
Grant Gannon
Todd Imbler
Chin-Tai Kim

Deacons

Class of 2021

Peter Bush,
Mary Ann Conn-Brody
Kathy Imbler
Martha Lee
Joyce Pope
Judy Steehler
Julia Swanson

Class of 2022

Denise Benton
Susan Kent
John Kieger
Nate Kruse
Nana Landgraf
Sarah Stone

Endowment Trustees

Class of 2021

Deanna Campbell
Ian Murphy

Class of 2022

Geoff Barnes
Doris Evans
Mark Eisele

Class of 2023

Tom Roulston
John Zitzner

At Large Nominating Committee

Jim Dakin
Doris Evans (Trustee)
Todd Imbler (Elder)
Susan Kent (Deacon)
Nate Kruse (Deacon)

Kevin Petru
Christina Seekely
Jean Sylak
Barbara MacWilliams
Peg Zitzner (Elder)

Personnel Committee

Amy Carlson
Gina Kashuk
Nate Kruse
Os Mills

Elder Keith Mills
Elder Sarah Pope
Vanessa Whiting (chair)

Pastor Nominating Committee

Carol Adrine
Peter Bush
Mike Chevraux
Raleigh Smith Duttweiler
Bill Leahy

Sarah Stone
Vanessa Whiting
Rev. Arvid Whitmore,
Presbytery Liaison

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Christine Winters, Office Manager
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