

Forest Hill United Church

'open doors, open hearts, open minds'



Anniversary Sunday
February 18, 2018 10 am

The bulletin for this special 50th Anniversary service is dedicated in honour of our charter members:
Jennifer Abbott, Ken and Doreen Floyd,
and Graham and Pat Powell

WELCOME to worship! It is good that you are here.

Our worship leaders are **Rev. Deborah Ambridge Fisher**,
and **Rev. Richard Bowley**.

Our music is led by **Alex Good** and the **FHUC Choir**.

Our greeters this morning are **Brian Cassidy**, **Libby Cassidy**
and the Sunday School Children.

Our Sunday School Teachers are **Jula Hughes** and **John Fisher**.

Our Nursery caregiver is **Faith Yarych**
and our tellers are **May Houston** and **Joan Mitchell**.

***After the children are finished greeting our guests,
they can go upstairs for Sunday School
and return just before Communion. ***

*At Forest Hill United Church, we acknowledge that our church is built on
ancestral, traditional and unceded Wolastoqey land.*

*Forest Hill United Church is a safe place for people to gather, regardless
of race, creed, age, cultural background, family status, sexual
orientation, and gender identity.*

Gathering

At the **, please rise in body or in spirit.

Prelude

Lighting of the Christ Candle

One: The rock of temptation.

All: May God's Spirit walk with us

****Introit:** (*Sung Together*)

MV115

**Behold, behold, I make all things new,
beginning with you and starting from today.
Behold, behold, I make all things new,
my promise is true, for I am Christ the way.**

Greetings from former Ministers

Marilyn Lohnes

Call to Worship:

50 years ago the Holy Spirit brought us here to this place in unity
and fellowship.

**Today we celebrate 50 years of love, laughter, loss, and
grief. Here, in this sanctuary which was built by hands of
some of the people who worship with us today. Hands that
hold hymnbooks as voices are lifted in song. Hands that hold
the doors open in warm welcome. Hands that give
comfort. Holding those hands, we have rejoiced in new
marriages, baptised our newest members and mourned for
those who died.**

So today we come together,

old and new, past and present.

To sing and to serve.

To live and to love.

To pray and to play.

To worship God!

To worship God.

Alleluia, amen.

Gathering Prayer

(said by all in unison)

God in whom we live and move and have our being:
For 50 years we have gathered in prayer;
from generation to generation we sing;
on this anniversary we give thanks
for your care
guidance
and love.
In this heritage of trust
we pray for Forest Hill United Church
and for faithful living on this land,
Our Source of Life, Living Word, and Bonding Love:
Amen.

Adapted from the prayer by Catherine MacLean, 2008. © The United Church of Canada. Permission is given for congregations to copy for use in worship.

****Opening Hymn:** VU 395 Come In, Come In and Sit Down

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Jennifer Abbott

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130 VU 853

John 11:1-7, 17-25, 34-44

Rev. Richard Bowley

One: This is the Word of God to guide us on our journey
All: **Thanks be to God!**

Special Music: Celebrate God's Love by Nancy Price and Don Besig

Reflection by Rev. Richard Bowley

Responding

Presentation of Our Gifts

****Offering Verse:** (*Sung Together*)

MV 191

What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

****Prayer After Giving**

Communion Hymn (Verse 1) VU 467 One Bread, One Body

Communion see insert

Communion Hymn (Verse 2 and 3) VU 467 One Bread, One Body

Prayers of Our Community (*Spoken Together*)

One: God, hear our prayer,
All: **And in Your love, answer.**

****Closing Hymn:** Psalm 91 VU 808

****Sharing the Light**

****Commissioning and Benediction**

Christ walks among us in this place,
The Holy Spirit moves in us, as it moved in the bones, as it moved in Lazarus. It has been moving since before we could have noticed. It is a part of us.
It is in our heart. It is in our bones.
Like Israel, we carry the promise of new life. Like Lazarus, we carry the promise of a new way.
So go with the love of God in your hearts, the way of Christ at your feet and the breath of the Holy Spirit, to a world filled with the possibilities of new life.

AMEN

-4-

Holy Week Meeting on March 19th at 6:00pm. We need people to be here to volunteer to help with the preparations for Holy Week.

Reverend Deborah needs conversational chairs or wingback chairs for her office at a reasonable cost. Please let Reverend Deborah know if you have anything available.

It is sometimes necessary to cancel services due to serious storms. A decision to cancel is made very early in the day. We put cancellation notices on our main telephone number (455-0988) and send an email to congregation members no later than 8:30 am. We also post cancellations on our Facebook page (on the left side of our main web page).



Want to chat?

Rev. Deborah is in her office Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays from 1 pm until 4pm, or any other time by appointment. She would love to have you drop in or call!

Just a friendly reminder that Forest Hill United Church is a **scent-free environment**. Strong scents, aftershave lotions and perfumes have an effect upon others with allergies and asthmatic problems. No scents make good sense.



Minute for Missions Children's Rights

Our gifts for Mission & Service support children's rights in Kenya. Near Lake Victoria, the Kenya Alliance for the Advancement of Children's Rights works in schools in the area, creating a child ambassador program that seeks to live out the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child.

Javan was 11 years old when he lost both of his parents, leaving him to look after his younger brother. He had to leave school to sell mangoes and oranges to raise money to keep his younger brother in school.

When Javan was 12, he heard about the child rights program. He was so inspired by what he heard that he worked to get himself enrolled in this program. Soon he was back in school.

Through the partnership of the Kenya Alliance for the Advancement of Children's Rights and Mission & Service of The United Church of Canada, we are thankful that Javan and his brother are able to continue their education. Javan will soon be going to university to study to become a medical laboratory technician, and his brother is now in high school. Our gifts for Mission & Service made this possible.

If Mission & Service giving is already a regular part of your life, thank you so much! If you have not given, please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.

Order for Communion

Invitation

Gathering:

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: Blessed are you Creator of light... As we wait on you and prepare the world for your radical love, we shout that all might hear as we glorify your name saying:

All: Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest,

Blessed is the One who comes in God's name.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessing of the Bread and the Cup

One: Mothering God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts. Bless us as we share this bread and cup, that we may be nourished by your unbounded love. And now, as children whom you long to embrace, together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

All: Christ has died.

One: Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen.

One: Christ will come again.

All: Christ will come again.

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup:

One: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

One: Join us now in our prayer after communion as printed in your bulletin.

Prayer after Communion (*Unison*):

Holy God, in this place, at this table, we have touched, we have tasted, and we have heard the signs of your love for us. Grant that we may go away from this house filled with our love for you and overflowing with your love for those who are around us and who share our lives. We offer this and all our prayers in the strong name of Jesus Christ. AMEN

One: Having eaten and drank we pray together now the prayer that Jesus taught

The Prayer that Jesus Taught

Our Father-Mother, who is in the heavens,

may your name be made holy,

may your dominion come,

may your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today the bread we need;

and forgive us our debts,

as we have forgiven our debtors;

and do not put us to the test, but rescue us from evil.

For yours is the dominion, and the power,

and the glory forever. Amen.