

**Forest Hill United Church**  
*'open doors, open hearts, open minds'*



**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**December 3, 2017 at 10 am**

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

Our worship leader is **Rev. Bob Jones**,

Our music director is **Alex Good**,

and the **FHUC Choir**.

Our greeters this morning are **Libby Cassidy** and **Beverly Harper**,

our Sunday School teacher is **Margie Roxborough**

our hospitality host is **Jennifer Abbott**,

and our tellers are **William Hughes** and **Robert Christie**.

*At Forest Hill United Church, we acknowledge that our church is built on  
ancestral, traditional and unceded Wolostoquey 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 Advent Wreath

Advent 1: *(Spoken Together)*

One: In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God.

All: **In the beginning is our hope,  
And hope is in God.**

One: This Advent season begins with hope for this world.

All: **This lit candle symbolizes our hope for this  
season of short days and long nights**

*Light one candle.*

All sing: **VU 7 Hope is a star verse 1**

\*\*Introit: *(Sung Together)* **Hope is a Candle by Linnea Good**

**Hope is a candle on our journey  
Hope is the travel and the end  
All through the frosty fields of winter  
This dancing flame of hope we'll tend**

Welcome & Church News

Call to Worship:

One: Do you know what time it is?

All: **It looks as if the dawn is breaking.**

One: Yes, the night is far spent; the day is at hand

All: **Then let us wake up and welcome the day!**

One: The day when swords are beaten into ploughshares.

All: **The day of justice, the day of peace.**

One: The day of hope, to which God calls us.

All: **Surely, the dawn is breaking!**

John Moses, Trinity U.C., Charlottetown, P.E.I.

**Gathering Prayer:** *(Spoken Together)*

God in whom we place all our hopes, as we gather this first Sunday of Advent, we are keenly aware of pressing needs around us, both our own and those of others. We come waiting, searching, hoping, praying for renewed beginnings among us. We long for the peace we talk of so often to surround us, and for hope to infuse all that we do and are. So we begin our week with worship, time set aside to sing your praises, to ask for forgiveness, to listen to your still, small voice within us. Come to us now, O God, in silence, in word, and in prayer, even as we come to you, ready to receive. Amen.

Catherine Tovell, Delaware-Kilworth P.C., Komoka, Ont

**\*\*Opening Hymn:** I, the God of Sea and Sky VU 509

## Exploring

**Words from Our Bible:** May Houston

Isaiah 64:1-9

Psalm 80 VU 794 part 1 with refrain

Mark 13:24-37

One: In these sacred words we find hope for our lives.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**Special Music:** Hail to God's Own Anointed One

**Message:** A Time For Hope

**\*\*Hymn of Reflection:** Dream a Dream MV 158

## Celebrating

**Presentation of Our Gifts**

**\*\*Offering Verse:** *(Sung Together)* VU 87

**I am the light of the world  
You people come and follow me  
If you follow and love  
You'll learn the mystery  
Of what you were meant to do and be.**

**\*\*Prayer After Giving**

**Prayers of the People**

**Prayer that Jesus Taught:**

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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
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  
Lord's Prayer from #914 VU

**\*\*Closing Hymn:** Blessed Assurance VU 337

**\*\*Sharing the Light**

**\*\*Blessing**

**\*\*Choral Response:** *(Sung Together)*

**Angels we have heard on High  
Gloria in excelsis deo x2**

## Postlude

*Please join us for coffee and conversation  
after worship!*

Printed sermons and large print bulletins  
are available from our greeters  
for anyone who might find either useful.

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### OFFICE HOURS

(506) 455-0988 | [foresthillunited.com](http://foresthillunited.com)

Administrative Assistant - **Kris Yarych**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays from 12:45 - 3:45 pm  
[foresth.office@bellaliant.com](mailto:foresth.office@bellaliant.com)

Minister - **Rev. Bob Jones, C.D., B.TH.**  
Office hours Monday morning, and can be reached at  
(506) 451-8165 [home] (506) 476-8020 [cell]

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## Church News

**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 to the radio and to our Facebook page (on the left side of our main web page).

**CHURCH CALENDARS** are now available. They make good Christmas gifts or stocking stuffers at \$8.00 each. For your copy see Jennifer after service or call 454 2829.

**Forest Hill UCW** invites all ladies of the congregation to join us for our Christmas Ladies' Night Out to be held Tuesday, December 12 at 6:30 pm at the Fredericton Inn. If you would like to carpool please contact Diane Robinson at 459-8779 or May Houston at 455-7715. Please indicate on the sheet by the kitchen if you are planning to attend so that we can give numbers to the restaurant.

## COMING UP @ FHUC

<b>Book Club</b>	Dec 5 <sup>th</sup> 12 noon Fifteen Dogs by André Alexis
<b>Dec 10:</b>	10:00 am: Outreach Sunday with special guest Ljiljana Kalaba
<b>Dec 10:</b>	6:30 pm Carol singing in the neighbourhood starting at the church
<b>Quilt Group</b>	Mondays 10:00 am -12:00 pm Upper Room
<b>Choir Practice</b>	Sunday at 9:30 and 11:30-12:30 in the Choir Room

**December 10 is Outreach Sunday** and our special guest will be Ljiljana Kalaba of the Fredericton Multicultural Association. You are invited to bring a donation for Outreach and to place it in one of the envelopes on our Outreach table. Let's fully decorate our Outreach Tree! Also on December 10, the folks of Forest Hill United Church are invited to sing carols in the neighbourhood. Please meet at the church at 6:30. Cocoa and cookies will welcome you back at the church at the conclusion.

**The Food Bank would appreciate help.** As the weather cools down, heating costs go up and more people will need to turn to the food bank for assistance. Did you know that there is a Food Bank Box at the Main doors of the church? Please remember to bring in non-perishable food items and school supplies and put them in the box. One of the Outreach Committee members empties the box every month and takes the items to the Food Bank. Monetary donations are also a good idea. That way your money goes further, since the food bank receives a special discount at the stores. Cheques should be made out to FHUC, with "Food Bank" on the envelope, or in the memo line on the cheque.

## **Community Events**

**The Annual Advent Carol Festival** held each year at St. Paul's United Church (corner George and York) will take place on Wednesday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m. Local church and community choirs will present a program of new, as well as familiar, Christmas music. There will also be an opportunity for the audience to join in the festive singing. A freewill offering will be received with proceeds going to the CBC's Feed a Family Campaign.

## **Minute for Mission /Microcredit Funds Hope**

Our gifts for Mission & Service support microcredit programs. Let us hear about one of these programs in Kenya.

Women with disabilities living in urban slums and rural areas of Kenya face multiple levels of discrimination and struggle to earn a living.

Mission & Service partner the Ecumenical Disability Advocates Network (EDAN) has partnered with the organization Women Challenged to Challenge to address the issues of poverty these women face.

EDAN is a ministry of the World Council of Churches committed to the full inclusion of people with disabilities in church and society. Its goal is to break down the walls of fear and prejudice that prevent these people from having rich and meaningful lives. EDAN lives out this goal in different ways around the world.

In Kenya, EDAN and Women Challenged to Challenge have established a revolving loan fund that gives women with disabilities access to modest business loans. The loans, averaging US\$50, allow women to run their own small-scale businesses. These range from a vegetable stall in a local market to selling used clothing to making food to sell. No matter the business, what the loans provide is opportunity—opportunities for women to improve their families' lives and to provide shelter, food, clothing, and an education for their children.

We sing thanksgiving that Mission & Service is supporting women with disabilities in Kenya to improve their families' lives.