

# Forest Hill United Church

*'open doors, open hearts, open minds'*



**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas  
December 30, 2018 10 a.m.**

“Within a lodge of broken bark the tender babe was found,  
A ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round;  
But as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high:  
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, In excelsis Gloria.”  
Jean de Brebeuf, ca. 1641; French folksong

**WELCOME** to worship!

Our worship leader is **Libby Cassidy**.

There is no Sunday School this morning: children are most welcome to stay with us during the service. Quiet activities for busy hands are available in the hymn book cabinet.

Our music is led by **Diane Robinson**  
and the **FHUC Choir**.

Our greeter this morning is **Jennifer Abbott**.

Our hospitality host is **Jennifer Abbott**  
and our tellers are **Mary Grant** and **Jean Fisher**.

*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 or remain seated according to your needs.*

**Prelude**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**\*\*Introit:** *(sung together)*

**VU 48 verse 1**

**Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the new-born King,  
peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark, the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the new-born King!”**

**Welcome & Church News**

**Call to Worship:**

One: Christ is born! The light of God’s presence has entered into creation! Give God glory!

**All: All glory be to God on high and on Earth, peace!**

One: Christ is born! The Word of God cries out in human flesh! Give God glory!

**All: All glory be to God on high and on Earth, peace!**

One: Christ is born! The dwelling of God is among us! Give God glory!

**All: All glory be to God on high and on Earth, peace!**

One: Come, let us worship God.

## Gathering Prayer

**Challenge us, God, with your presence in the world.  
Challenge us, God, in the life of a child.  
Challenge us, God, into new being,  
that we might be Christmas always. Amen**

*Gathering, Christmas 2013, page 32.*

**\*\*Opening Hymn:** O Little Town of Bethlehem VU 64

## Listening

**Words from Our Bible:** John Neville

1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26  
Psalm 148 VU page 871 with refrain  
Luke 2: 41-52

One: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**Reflection Common Ground**

**\*\*Hymn of Reflection:** All Poor Ones and Humble VU 68

## Responding

**Presentation of Our Gifts**

**\*\*Offering Verse:** VU 55 verse 4

**What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise one, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him – give my heart.**

**\*\*Prayer over the Gifts**

## Prayers of the People

**(Sung response)**

VU 400

**Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us power, send us grace!**

**Prayer that Jesus Taught:**

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,  
Holy and blessed is your true name.  
We pray for your reign of peace to come,  
We pray that your good will be done,  
Let heaven and earth become one.  
Give us this day the bread we need,  
Give it to those who have none.  
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,  
From each one to each one.  
Lead us to holy innocence  
Beyond the evil of our days.  
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.  
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:  
Forever your name is All in One.  
Amen.  
Parker J. Palmer

**\*\*Closing Hymn:** Go, Tell It on the Mountain VU 43

**\*\*Sharing the Light**

**\*\*Commissioning and Benediction**

**\*\*Choral Amen:** *(sung together)* VU 967

**Amen, amen, amen.**

**Postlude**

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

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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 p.m.  
[foresth.office@bellaliant.com](mailto:foresth.office@bellaliant.com)

Minister - **Rev. Deborah Ambridge Fisher**

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 1-4, and any other time by appointment  
email [revdeborahfhuc@gmail.com](mailto:revdeborahfhuc@gmail.com) (506) 999-4189 [cell]

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## Church News

### COMING UP @ FHUC

**Quilt Group**

Mondays 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Upper Room

**Kris will be** in the office on Monday December 31<sup>st</sup>, and Thursday January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Your favourite hymns** are being requested. Please fill out a ballot and put your selection in the box at the back of the church.

**Photos or video** may be taken for use on our web site and social media sites. Please advise a board member if you do not want your photo used on-line.

**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 a.m. We also post cancellations on our Facebook page (viewable on the left side of our main web page).

**Scripture Readers** are needed each week to assist during Worship Services. Please help Patricia Powell (455-8602), who coordinates readers, by indicating on the Reader Chart on the table by the kitchen, which Sundays you would be available to read (✓), if needed, and also when you would not be available (x). New readers are most welcome, and names can be added to the Chart.

**The Forest Hill Book Club** will meet on Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> in the Church parlour at 12 noon. The book for January is [Any Known Blood](#) by Lawrence Hill.

## Minute For Mission Thank You!

We cannot say it enough: Thank you! Thank you for your gifts for Mission & Service—together we are transforming lives!

We all know the statistics of how many community ministries, theological schools, congregations, and global partners are supported by Mission & Service, but what about the stories behind the numbers?

The young man in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, who told us he would be dead without Emmanuel House, or the middle-aged man in Hamilton, Ontario, who has a home for the first time in his adult life, or the women of Kenya, who are empowered to feed their families through a bull exchange program—these are just a few of the many stories of how Mission & Service mends the world!

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.



Thank  
You