

Forest Hill United Church

'open doors, open hearts, open minds'



2nd Sunday in Lent
February 25, 2018 10 am

“The function of freedom is to free someone else.”
– Toni Morrison

WELCOME to worship! It is good that you are here.
Our worship leader is **Rev. Deborah Ambridge Fisher**,
Our music is led by music director **Alex Good**
and the **FHUC Choir**.

Our greeters this morning are **Brian Cassidy** and **Libby Cassidy**,
Our Sunday School Teachers are **Shelley Clayton**, and **Joan Mitchell**.

Our hospitality host is **Diane Robinson**
and our tellers are **Diane Robinson** 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 in body or in spirit.

Prelude

Lighting of the Christ Candle

One: The rock of discomfort.

All: May God's Spirit walk with us.

**Introit: (*Sung Together twice*)

MV90

**Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.
Don't be afraid. My love is stronger
and I have promised,
promised to be always near.**

Welcome & Church News

Call to Worship:

Into a dark world
A snowdrop comes,
**a blessing of hope and peace
carrying within it a green heart;
symbol of God's renewing love.**
Come to inhabit our darkness, Lord Christ,
for dark and light are alike to you.
**May nature's white candles of hope
remind us of your birth
and lighten our journey
through Lent and beyond.**
Amen.

Adapted from the prayer in *Lent and Easter Readings from Iona*; Bell and Bain, Thornliebank,
Glasgow 2001 pg. 15.

Gathering Prayer

(said by all in unison)

Christ of the wilderness and of the crowded street. Whispering in the desert and shouting in the market. Help us to hear you above temptation's promises. Strengthen us to follow you on the highways of your world.

Adapted from the prayer by Helen Boothroyd and Richard Moriarty in *Lent and Easter Readings from Iona*; Bell and Bain, Thornliebank, Glasgow 2001 pg. 27

****Opening Hymn:** MV 161 I Have Called You by Your Name

Exploring

Children's Time: Burying the Alleluia

****Song of Praise:** MV 71 When the Wind of Winter Blows

*After the first verse the children and teachers will
leave for Sunday School*

Words from Our Bible:

Joe Rideout

Acts 7: 54-60

Psalms 118 VU 837 Part 3

John 8:1b-11

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Special Music: God is My Shepherd by Antonin Dvorak
Sung by Dennis Livingstone

Reflection

****Hymn of Reflection:** VU 112 O God, How We Have Wandered

Responding

Presentation of Our Gifts

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

MV 18

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy tried and true;
with thanksgiving,
I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

****Prayer After Giving**

Prayers of Our Community

Where appropriate respond to

God of ...

with

Hear our prayer.

Prayer that Jesus Taught:

Tune of VU 959

Creator in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

VU 921 Ecumenical Version

****Closing Hymn:** MV 182 Grateful

****Sharing the Light**

****Commissioning and Benediction**

The Women's Inter-Church Council is having the World Day of Prayer Services for 2018 in the Fredericton Areas. The World Day of Prayers is being prepared by the Women of the Republic of Suriname. The Theme is "All God's Creation is Very Good!"

Please come and join us on Friday, March 2, 2018 with Christians in more than 170 countries around the world and in 2,000 communities across Canada who will gather to learn about, pray, and celebrate in Solidarity with the people of The Republic of Suriname through the World Day of Prayer. Open to the Public.

Northside/ Maryville: All Saints Anglican Church, 172 Canada Street, on Friday, March 2, 2018 at 7:00PM. Storm Date: Sunday, March 4, 2018 at 2:30PM. It is not Wheelchair Accessible.

Forest Hill/Lincoln: St. Francis of Assisi, Lincoln Road, on Friday, March 2, 2018 at 7:00PM. Storm Date: Sunday, March 4, 2018 at 2:00PM.

Hanwell/New Maryland: Holy Family Parish Church, 1500 Hanwell Road, on Friday, March 2, 2018 at 7:00PM. No Storm Date.

Southside: Morning Gate Church, 74 Morning Gate Drive on Sunday, March 4, 2018 at 2:00PM. No Storm Date.

Contact name and phone number: Debbie Heustis 472-2916.

A JIGGS DINNER will be held on Saturday, March 17, at 5:30 pm in the Nashwaaksis United Church Hall, 46 Main Street, featuring corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, pease pudding and dessert. Adults - \$14, children 10 & under - \$5. Numbers are limited, please reserve by Thursday, March 15 from Rindy & Tom Austin, 450-7151.

Minute for Missions **Everybody Is Like Everybody Else's Family**

Our gifts for Mission & Service support community ministries across Canada.

Anticipation builds as the children and youth wait for the muffins they made to bake. Different ages and backgrounds, everyone joins together on this summer day at the London Community Chaplaincy.

"I love the community with the kids. Everybody is like everybody else's family," says summer counsellor Ashley deBakker.

The chaplaincy provides advocacy and support for families who face the challenges of living in poverty in two housing complexes in London, Ontario. The summer programs for children and youth are part of the year-round mix aimed at helping children learn while having fun. Drop-in programs allow children to learn crafts, like making beaded animals, and play cooperative games.

"We teach kids so they don't get left behind in the summertime, so they don't forget what they learned in school," says Jorge Bostamaste, Summer Evening Program Coordinator. He is describing the Summer Reading Buddies program, where children are partnered one-on-one to help improve their reading skills.

Sydney Franzmann, Summer Camp Director, describes Alphabet Soup, a summer program for children in grades 2, 3, and 4 to better their reading: "Like school, but in a fun way."

United Church of Canada Mission & Service support is key for London Community Chaplaincy, says Chaplain Pam Cullen, Executive Director. "It becomes one of our main funders for the year."

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.