

# Forest Hill United Church

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



**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
January 27, 2018 10 a.m.**

One of the most important revelations we can get from the Word of God is to understand who we are in Christ. Identifying with Christ will change the way we live and cause us to rise above adversity. But not understanding our identity in Him will keep us living far below our rights and privileges in Christ.

- Kenneth W. Hagan

**WELCOME** to worship!

Our worship leader is **Rev. Deborah Ambridge Fisher.**

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

Our greeters this morning are **Diane Robinson** and **Dorma Grant.**

Our Sunday School Teachers are **Mary Grant,** **Libby Cassidy**  
and **Mary-Anne Blakney**

and our tellers are **May Houston** and **Joan Mitchell.**

*At Forest Hill United Church, we acknowledge that our church is built on ancestral, traditional and unceded Wolastogey 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 402 v1**

**We are one as we come, as we come, joyful to be here,  
in the praise on our lips there's a sense that God is near.  
We are one as we sing, as we seek, we are found;  
and we come needful of God's grace as we meet,  
together in this place.**

**Welcome & Church News**

**Call to Worship:**

One: We are one.

All: **We are many.**

One: We are one in the Spirit.

All: **We are different.**

One: We are one in the kin-dom of God.

All: **We are unique.**

One: We are one in the body of Christ.

All: **Even with our differences?**

One: Even with our differences.

All: **God invites us to the table.**

**God invites us home.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia. ALLELUIA! Amen.**

Richard Bott, Pacific Spirit P.C., Vancouver, B.C. Gathering, A/C/E 2018-2019, page 46. Used with permission.

**Gather us together, Great Spirit,  
fill your hearts gathered here with goodness,  
your worship with creativity,  
your world with new possibilities,  
and your church with promised gifts.  
Gather and fill us, Great Spirit,  
in these days of winter  
with the robust lives you have in store for us.  
These things we pray in the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Daryl Webber, Lowville Nelson United Ministries, Burlington, Ont. Gathering,  
A/C/E 2018-2019, page 49. Used with permission.*

### A New Creed

We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.  
We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.  
We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.

## Listening

### Children's Time

### Prayer that Jesus Taught: (responsive)

One: Our Father  
**All: Our Mother**  
One: Who art in heaven  
**All: Who are in all the earth**  
One: Hallowed be thy name  
**All: Holy is your truth**  
One: Thy kingdom come  
**All: May your wisdom come**  
One: Thy will be done,  
**All: Your circle be one uniting**  
One: on earth as it is in heaven  
**All: uniting heaven and earth**  
One: Give us this day our daily bread  
**All: Give us today a nurturing spirit**  
One: And forgive us our trespasses  
**All: Heal through us**  
One: as we forgive those who trespass against us  
**All: as we ourselves are healed**  
One: You who does not lead us into temptation  
**All: You who leads us into Fullness of life**  
One: But delivers us from evil  
**All: But liberates all that is good**  
One: For thine is the Kingdom,  
**All: For the Wisdom,**  
One: the power and the glory  
**All: Presence and the Goodness are Yours**  
**Now and forever Amen.**

*Adapted from the prayer from Dominican Sisters Retreat, March 1993, Great Bend, Kansas*

**Words from Our Bible:**

**Jean Fisher**

Nehemiah 8:1-10  
Psalm 19 VU Pages 740-1  
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

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

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Special Music: Who Am I by Claude Michel Schoneberg

**Reflection My Identity in Christ**

\*\*Hymn of Reflection: How Great Thou Art VU 238

**Responding**

**Presentation of Our Gifts**

\*\*Offering Verse: VU 402 v2

**We are one as we share, as we share brokenness and fear,  
in the touch of a hand there's a sense that God is here.  
We are one as we care, as we heal, we are healed;  
and we share warmth in God's embrace as we pray  
together in this place.**

\*\*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!**

\*\*Closing Hymn: Christ Has No Body Now but Yours MV 171

\*\*Sharing the Light

**\*\*Commissioning and Benediction**

\*\*Choral Amen: (sung together) VU 402 v4

**We are one as we hear, as we hear, heart and hand unite;  
in the word we receive there's a sense that God is light.  
We are one as we leave, as we love, we are loved;  
and we seek justice in God's ways as we move  
together from this place.**

**Postlude**

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

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**OFFICE HOURS**

**(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com**

Administrative Assistant - **Kris Yarych**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays from 12:45 - 3:45 p.m.  
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 (506) 999-4189 [cell]

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**Church News**

**COMING UP @ FHUC**

<b>Quilt Group</b>	Mondays 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Upper Room
<b>Forest Hill UCW</b>	Jan. 28, 2 p.m. at the home of Doreen Kissick
<b>Games Day</b>	Feb. 8, 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Forest Hill UCW** will meet at the home of Doreen Kissick, 792 Burden St, on Monday Jan. 28 at 2 p.m. All ladies of the congregation are invited to join us.

**Games Day** will be February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2-8 p.m.

**We will have a guest speaker** Graham Nickerson, on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. He is coming for Black History Month.

**Agenda items** for the annual meeting (Feb. 17) should be submitted for consideration no later than Feb. 1st.

**Theology on Tap** will be held on the third Monday of February (the 18<sup>th</sup>) from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. We will be welcoming our friends from the Unitarian Church. Please join us at Dolan's Pub.

**Observer Renewals** and new subscriptions. If you wish to renew or start a new subscription, please let Margaret Macdougall know (455-3767) by February 10, 2019. Cost is \$25. Payment may be placed on the offering plate in an envelope plainly marked OBSERVER and with your name and address. If payment is by cheque this should be payable to Forest Hill United Church.

**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.

## Community Events

**The Women's Inter-Church Council** of Fredericton is having the World Day of Prayer Planning Meeting on Monday, January 28, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at Christ Church Parish Church, 245 Westmorland Street. The Church is Wheelchair Accessible. The 2019 World Day of Prayer service was written by the Women of Slovenia (part of former Yugoslavia). Any women of any denomination of faith are encouraged to come to help plan for the World Day of Prayer which will be held on March 1, 2019. On that day please join us with 170 Countries worldwide as we pray for justice and peace. Thank you for your support of the World Day of Prayer.

## Minute For Mission

### Love What You Do, Do What You Love

Jennifer left home at age 16 and quit Grade 12 with only two months to go. But she enjoyed life, held a number of jobs, and had two long-term relationships.

Turning 30 for Jennifer was a milestone, so she made a 10-year plan. First, she wanted to get her Grade 12, and she did at age 32. Then she wanted to become a continuing care assistant (CCA). Not in the plan—a single mom when Paxton was born in 2012. Jennifer says, “It was the happiest day of my life so far!”

Jennifer knew she would end up on social assistance if she didn't find a better way to support her son. She still wanted to take the CCA training, but searching for available help was a hard and discouraging process. Then she found Brunswick Street Mission in Halifax, Nova Scotia, a Mission & Service—supported community ministry. Agar, the volunteer coordinator of the Benevolent Program there, helped Jennifer create a budget and identify ways around the many barriers.

A local nursing home offered a scholarship, Brunswick Street Mission covered childcare expenses and a bus pass, and its clothing and food banks helped extend Jennifer's tight budget. Throughout the months of training Agar called regularly. “He encouraged me so much,” Jennifer says. “I wouldn't have made it without Agar!”

It's been a long and often difficult and discouraging journey for Jennifer, but now she has graduated from the CCA program and has a full-time job! She says she loves her job, she knows she makes a difference for her patients, and she knows she is a good role model for her son.

# MY IDENTITY IN JESUS

## BELOVED

"I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness." - Jeremiah 31:3

## A CHILD OF GOD

"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" - 1 John 3:1

## DELIGHTED IN

"The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing." - Zephaniah 3:17

## FORGIVEN

"He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed." - 1 Peter 2:24

## WASHED CLEAN

"Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." - Isaiah 1:18

## FREE

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." - Galatians 5:1

## A TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

"Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?" - 1 Corinthians 6:19

## ADOPTED INTO GOD'S FAMILY

"The Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, 'Abba, Father.'" - Romans 8:15

## CO-HEIR WITH CHRIST

"Now if we are children, then we are heirs — heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ." - Romans 8:17

## A SAINT

"You were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." - 1 Corinthians 6:11

## SET APART

"You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession." - 1 Peter 2:9

## AN AMBASSADOR OF CHRIST

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us." - 2 Corinthians 5:20

## A CO-LABORER

"For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building." - 1 Corinthians 3:9

## A SWEET AROMA

"For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing." - 2 Corinthians 2:15

## NEVER ALONE

"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." - Deuteronomy 31:8

## A MASTERPIECE

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." - Ephesians 2:10

## WONDERFULLY MADE

"I am fearfully and wonderfully made." - Psalm 139:14

## BOLD

"Since we have such a hope, we are very bold." - 2 Corinthians 3:12

## HAVING GUARANTEED VICTORY

"You have given me your shield of victory. Your right hand sustains me; you stoop down to make me great." - Psalm 18:35