

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



2nd Advent Sunday December 6, 2020 10 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

OFFICE

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

Minister - Rev. Deborah Ambridge Fisher

Tuesday & Thursday 8:45 to 11:45 a.m. and by appointment  
[revdeborahfhuc@gmail.com](mailto:revdeborahfhuc@gmail.com) (506) 999-4189 [cell]

Worship Leader – Reverend Captain Sarah Magie

Musical Director - Nadine Martin

Sunday School Teachers – Margie Roxborough and Mary Grant

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych

Tuesday & Thursday 8:45 to 11:45 a.m.

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

**The following number is for the Government of NB and has been set up as a help line for anything COVID-19 related. Please share the following phone number with your vulnerable friends.**

**If you have any need for any reason call 1-844-462-8387**

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

Prelude: What Child is This? By Vince Guaraldi

Welcome

Announcements

Centering Prayer:

Lighting of the Christmas Wreath

**The son of God is coming. The birds guard their nests. Their determined chirps in the cold remind us of the warmth we create when we gather. The peace of belonging, knowing our voices may sometimes be muffled by masks or scarfs but God always hears our song. The candle of Peace is lit.**

Written by Reverend Deborah Ambridge-Fisher, Christmas 2020

Introit: VU 9 verse 3

**Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.**

Call to Worship:

The son of God is coming!

**Let us be like the birds and prepare the nest.**

The child will soon be born.

**We must prepare the way for the Lord.**

Mary and Joseph call on us to welcome them as family.

**Welcome, Holy Family! Share the welcome of our nest.**

God calls on us to open hearts to the peace of a nest prepared for new life.

**We open our hearts to hope and bid the child come.**

Written by Reverend Deborah Ambridge-Fisher, Christmas 2020

Gathering Prayer: (All)

**We are gathered here together O God,  
in person, on line and in our hearts  
to worship you as we await the birth of your promised  
son. We settle in and prepare the way for the Lord,  
born as we were, tiny, helpless and deeply loved by You.  
We listen to the birds, as we prepare a warm place for the  
Holy Family, and open ourselves to the peace of a nest  
awaiting new life.**

**Amen.**

Written by Reverend Deborah Ambridge-Fisher, Christmas 2020

Opening Hymn: Down to Earth, as a Dove VU 42

A New Creed VU 918

**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.**

Story Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught

One: Our Father  
**All: Our Mother**  
One: Who art in heaven  
**All: Who are in all the earth**  
One: Hallowed be they name  
**All: Holy is your truth**  
One: Thy kingdom come  
**All: May your wisdom come**  
One: Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven  
**All: Your circle be one uniting**  
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 as we as we forgive those who  
trespass against us**  
One: You who does not lead us into temptation  
**All: Lead us into Fullness of life**  
One: But delivers us from evil  
**All: And liberates all that is good**  
One: For thine is the Kingdom,  
**All: For the Wisdom,**  
One: the power and the glory are Yours  
**All: Presence and the Goodness are Yours**  
**All: Now and forever Amen**

(from Dominican Sisters Retreat, March 1993, Great Bend, Kansas)

Hymn of Praise: Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness VU 28 verse 1

*Participants will leave for Sunday School*

Prayer of Confession:

Promise of Assurance:

## Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Isaiah 40:1-11  
Psalm 85 VU 802  
Mark 1:1-8

One: In this is the word of God for the people of God.  
All: **Thanks be to God**

Reflection:

Special Music: Ave Maria by Franz Schubert

## Responding

Minutes for Mission

Presentation of our Gifts

Written by Mary Grant, Christmas 2020

Prayers of Our Community:

One: In Your mercy  
All: Lord, hear our prayer

Lord, listen to your children praying, VU 400  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Closing Hymn: 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime VU 71

Sharing the Light

**The birds are tucked down in their nests,  
Their feathers fluffed out to protect them from cold,  
as they too watch for Jesus' birth  
Hope and Peace have filled our hearts  
Let us take these warm feelings as we leave.  
Let us share both hope and peace with everyone we meet  
and in everything we do.**

Written by Mary Grant, Christmas 2020

Commissioning and Benediction:

Choral Amen:

MV 205

**Amen, amen, O Holy One!  
Hosanna and Amen!  
Amen, amen, O Holy One,  
Hosanna and Amen.**

Postlude: O Come, All Ye Faithful

VU 60