

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



Ascension Sunday / 7th of Easter, May 16, 2021 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]

Ushers – Jean Fisher and Robert Christie  
Tellers – Bob Fisher and Lorna McKnight  
Sunday School Teacher – Margie Roxborough

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**

## Gathering

Prelude:

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Introit:

MV 79

**Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.  
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,  
Spirit, open my heart.**

Welcome and Announcements

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.

Centering Prayer:

Call to Worship:

Come this day with hope because God loves you.  
Come this day with peace because you are forgiven.  
Come this day with joy, for Jesus Christ is risen.  
Because you live, O Christ, we live abundantly.

**Let today's worship testify to our hope, peace, joy, and love because of all our great God has done.**

Elaine Bidgood Sweet, First Lutheran, Rugby & Leeds, North Dakota Gathering, LE 2021, page 43. Used with permission.

Gathering Prayer: (All)

**God of Love, God of Jesus, the true vine, we are a work in progress: water us and feed our hungry souls, so that we may be a productive branch. Bring us the light we need to bear fruit. We are a branch of the one vine, of Jesus.**

**Bend us, shape us, and prune us, for we would wither without you. Make us stronger in our faithfulness for your son has taught us to love and shaped us by this love, a love that is warm and true. We thank you for your presence that is intertwined in our faithfulness, the faithfulness of disciples of the true vine, Jesus. Amen.**

*Roxanne Williams, Gaetz Memorial U.C., Red Deer, Alta. Gathering, LE 2021, page 44. Used with permission.*

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

A New Creed VU 918

Story Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught New Zealand Prayer Book

Song of Praise: Jesus Loves Me VU 365

*Participants will leave for Sunday School*

Easter Prayer of Renewal

Easter morning takes us by surprise, awakening us to the doubt and despair that have been rooted in our lives. Let us now lift up our silent prayers to God.

*(a time of silent prayer)*

**Come to us, O God, like fresh water, softening the soil of a parched and weary land. We share with you that hurts and disappointments that can harden our hearts, frustrations and failures that can dry us out. We remember that in you our forgiveness is assured and we are freed from resentment, reluctance, and reserve. Forgiven, may we be forgiving. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

*Éric Hébert-Daly, Responsable des ministères en français, L'Église Unie du Canada. Gathering, LE 2021, page 47. Used with permission.*

## Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Acts1:1-11

Psalm 47 VU 771

Acts1: 1:12-17, 21-26

One: In this is the word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God**

Reflection:

Special Music: Video

## Responding

Presentation of our Gifts

Prayers of Our Community:

Prayer Response: And When You Call for Me MV 96

Closing Hymn: I'm Gonna Shout, Shout MV 183

Sharing the Light

Commissioning and Benediction:

Choral Amen: MV 212

**Sent out in Jesus' name, our hands are ready now to make the world the place in which the kingdom comes. The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain into a world of love, of justice and of peace. The task is ours to do, to set it really free. O, help us to obey, and carry out your will.**

Postlude: As the Deer Pants for the Water VU 766  
(Instrumental)