

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



Pentecost Sunday / Communion, May 23, 2021 10 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

OFFICE

(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com

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

Pianist – Diane Robinson
Ushers – May Houston and Jennifer Abbott
Tellers – Mary Grant and Jean Fisher
Sunday School Teacher – Margie Roxborough

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych
Tuesday & Thursday 8:45 to 11:45 a.m.
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

Participants will leave for Sunday School

Gathering

Prelude: Spirit Open My Heart MV 79

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Introit: VU 457 V1

**As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love's victory known.**

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:

The Holy Spirit came as fire and wind.
Come, Holy Spirit, come!
People of all genders, all ages, all cultures witnessed the day of Pentecost.
Come, Holy Spirit, come!
The people were bewildered, astonished, amazed!
They wondered:
What are we to do?
Then Peter stood and raised his voice.
We need to know: What did he say?
He said, "We're not drunk. We are filled with God's spirit so that we can tell you about Jesus of Nazareth."
Come, Holy Spirit, come!
The Spirit danced in fire and in a multitude of languages. The Spirit was poured out on those from young to old.
Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Dare to be dreamers and to believe.

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Dare to believe in what can and could be, for

God is gracious. God is the Creator.

God's love knows no bounds. Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Come, abide and empower us today!

Sandra Litt, St. James U.C., Waterdown, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost 1 2021, page 29-30.
Used with permission.

Gathering Prayer: (All)

Great Spirit, comforting wing, soaring heart:

Open us to the wonder of your presence

in wind, in rain, in soil, and in sky.

In each ray of sunshine, in each shining star,

in each waving branch

may we recognize you reaching out to us

with your invitation to rejoice in your glory.

Christ of the changing seasons,

Christ of the revolving earth, Christ of the cosmos:

**Change us, turn us, expand our awareness and bless us,
as you bless all creation with the joy of your heart.**

May our worship be a blessing. Amen.

Wendy MacLean, Christ U.C., Lyn, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost 1 2021, page 30.
Used with permission.

Opening Hymn: Spirit of Gentleness VU 375

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God

Response:

Spirit of the living God Fall afresh on me

Promise of Assurance:

Those who are in Christ are a new creation:

everything old has passed away;

see, everything has become new!

All this is from God

with whom we have been reconciled through Christ.

Thanks be to God!

<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/06/pentecost-prayer-of-confession.html>

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Romans 8:22-27

Psalm 104 VU 827 Part Two

Acts 2:1-21

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

All: **Thanks be to God**

Reflection:

Special Music:

Responding

Presentation of our Gifts

Communion Hymn: As We Gather at Your Table VU 457 V2

Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;

send us forth to love and serve you,

bringing peace where there is strife.

**Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you
forgave;**

**may we still behold your image in the world you died to
save.**

Invitation

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

And so, grateful for your presence in every generation,

we join our voices to the voice of all creation

as we sing your praises, saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

God of vulnerable love,

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

And as we share the bread and the cup,
we proclaim the mystery of our faith, saying:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forever,

Amen

And now we join our voices together in the prayer
that Jesus teaches us to pray, saying:

**Our Father/Mother 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.
You who does not lead us into temptation
but delivers us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Prayer after Communion:

**God of Pentecost Fire,
we thank you for always being with us.
We thank you for your presence
in every atom of creation.
We thank you for your presence
in the bread and in the cup.**

**We thank you for your presence with us,
closer to us than our very breath.
Keep the taste of the bread and the wine
on our lips and in our hearts,
so that we can know that you are with us,
and that we are your people
no matter where life takes us.
We pray this in and through Christ Jesus,
our host at the feast.**

Amen.

Communion Hymn: As We Gather at Your Table VU 457 V3

**Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.**

Prayers of Our Community:

Prayer Response: Lord Listen to Your Children Praying 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: All Things Bright and Beautiful VU 291

Sharing the Light

Commissioning and Benediction:

Choral Amen: VU 298

**When you walk from here,
when you walk from here,
walk with justice, walk with mercy,
and with God's humble care**

Postlude: Spirit of Gentleness VU 375