

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



6th Sunday of Easter, May 9, 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]

Musical Director - Nadine Martin

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**

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:

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Introit:

MV 12

**Come touch us in the moments we are fragile,  
and in our weakness your great strength reveal;  
that we may rise to follow and to serve,  
steady now our nerve, come touch and bless our wills.**

Welcome and Announcements

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: River MV 3  
all four English verses and first French verse

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

**Eternal Spirit  
Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all.  
Loving God, in whom is heaven.  
The hallowing of your name  
echoes through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed**

**by the peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.  
With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
Now and forever.  
Amen.**

New Zealand Prayer Book

Song of Praise: I am a Child of God MV 157

*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:

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98 VU 818

John 15:9-17

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

Prayers of Our Community:

Prayer Response: My Peace, My Peace  
by Arlo Guthrie, arr. Brian Cassidy

Closing Hymn: Go, Make a Difference MV 209

Sharing the Light

Commissioning and Benediction:

Choral Amen: MV 172

**God says, "Reach out! The world's in need  
and wants a word, a song, a deed.  
I send you forth to speak, to sing,  
to act for Christ in everything."**

Postlude: