

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



23rd Sunday after Pentecost, October 31, 2021 10 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

OFFICE  
(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com

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

Worship Leader – Mary Grant

Usher – Jennifer Abbott

Tellers – William Hughes and Robert Christie

Music Team – Libby Cassidy

Sunday School – Margie Roxborough

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

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

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Land Acknowledgment

At Forest Hill United Church, we acknowledge that our church is built on ancestral, traditional and unceded Wolastoqey land.

Declaration of a Safe Space

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: Canticle of the Turning MV 120

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Introit: MV 156

**Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',  
walk with the Spirit throughout the long day.  
Work and hope for the new life a-bornin',  
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

Welcome and Announcements

Centring Prayer:

Call to Worship:

Wisdom searches. Wisdom seeks.

**And we journey with her.**

Wisdom wonders. Wisdom wanders.

**And we follow her call.**

Through the fog

**of our confusing lives,**

through the bright lights

**that distract us from Christ's way,**

Wisdom offers us security. Wisdom offers us clarity.

Wisdom offers us the knowledge of God's ways.

**And so we follow her call and heed her ways.**

Let us seek Wisdom as we worship today.

Richard Bott, Vancouver, B.C. Gathering, Pentecost 2 2021, page 31. Used with permission.

Gathering Prayer: (All)

**Loving God, you who are the centre of all being, we begin our worship today with a thankful heart. We call to mind the many ways our lives are made better just by knowing that your unconditional love and acceptance is a part of who we are. May this time together be guided by your Holy Spirit and may we be uplifted and strengthened in your love and light, so we may channel that love and light into the world. This we pray in the name of the one who is the light of the world, Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

Stephanie Richmond, Greenbank-Seagrave P.C., Greenbank, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost 2 2021, page 32. Used with permission.

Opening Hymn: I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry VU 644

Story Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught: see insert

Hymn of Praise: Jesus Bids Us Shine VU 585

*Participants leave for Sunday School after first verse.*

### Prayer of Confession:

Gracious God,  
we offer you our soft selves,  
honestly and timidly,  
knowing you are a good and gentle God.  
It can be scary  
to name the hurt that has been done to us  
and the hurt we've done to others.  
But we know there is new life for us  
beyond our cuts and bruises.  
We know there is restoration for us  
in our relationships with you  
and the rest of our human family.  
Take our insecurities and fears,  
which drive us to hurt ourselves and others,  
take them and transform them into  
the seeds of our compassion.  
Cultivate in us your new life. Amen.

Selina Mullin, St. John's U.C., Marathon, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost 2 2021, page 33.  
Used with permission.

In silence now we pray...

### Promise of Assurance:

This is the Good News in Jesus Christ:  
God loves us more than we love ourselves.  
God set us free to love others.  
Thanks be to God.

From Celebrate God's Presence used with permission.

## Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Mark 12:28-34  
Psalm 146 VU 868  
Ruth 1:1-18

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

Reflection:

Special Music: Medley of "A Mighty Fortress" and "For All the Saints"

## Responding

Presentation of our Gifts

Prayers of Our Community:

*(Congregation is invited to name petition for prayer)*

God of Mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

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: Just As I Am VU 508

Sharing the Light

Commissioning and Benediction:

Choral Amen:

**Peace be with you, peace forever,  
peace be with you, my friends.  
Till we meet again, may God be with you.  
Peace, peace, peace.**

MV 215

Postlude: The Church's One Foundation VU 331