

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



2nd Sunday of Advent Peace  
December 4, 2022 10 a.m.



WELCOME to worship!

## Gathering

\*\* Please rise in spirit or in body as you are able

Prelude: Peace Carol by Bob Beers

Welcome, Announcements & Acknowledgement:

### Land Acknowledgement

At Forest Hill United Church, we acknowledge that our church is built on ancestral, traditional and unceded Wolastoqiyik (wolas-to-qiyik) land.

### Declaration of a Safe Place

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.

### Lighting of the 1st and 2nd Advent Candles

#### The Candles of Hope and Peace

Today is the Advent of peace. As we light this candle, we remember all who live in the midst of conflict, in their own homes, in their communities, in their countries, anywhere in the world.

**We live in a fractured world of racial tensions and economic disparity.**

We light this candle as our commitment to embracing diversity.

**We are the peacemakers in this world.**

We light this candle to herald the coming of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Adapted from Wanda Winfield, Gathering A/C/E 2022/23 page 69.

\*\*Introit:

VU 7 vs2

**Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,  
giving a promise of safety and worth.  
When God is a child there's joy in our song.  
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,  
and none shall be afraid.**

Call to Worship:

This is the second Sunday in Advent. We light the first candle to remind us that hope is always present for us to seek. Today we light the second candle, the Peace candle. In lighting it, we affirm that in this world of turmoil and injustice, we will set our paths on a course of Peace.

**We seek peace internally, so that we can share this sense of peace with those we encounter every day.**

We light these candles of hope and peace to buoy our spirits in the weeks to come.

**We light these candles of hope and peace, internalizing these ways of Christ and turning them into actions of justice for all.**

Gathering Prayer: (All)

**Creator God,  
You have brought about the entire universe  
and charged us with the task of being its caretaker.  
You have seen us lose sight of this magnificent creation  
and treat it as if it was ours to cherish or destroy.  
We gather here this Advent seeking to remember  
what your hope and your peace look like in our world.  
We gather here to remind ourselves how our actions  
can bring your hope and peace to all.  
We gather here to celebrate and worship  
as one united, hopeful and peaceful community. Amen**

\*\*Opening Hymn: There is Room for All

MV 62

Intergenerational Time: Passing the Peace

Prayer that Jesus Taught: paraphrased by Sarah Dylan Breuer.

**Loving Creator we honour you,  
and we honour all that you have made.  
Renew the whole world in the image of your love.  
Give us what we need for today,  
and a hunger to see the whole world fed.  
Strengthen us for what lies ahead;  
heal us from the hurts of the past;  
give us courage to follow your call in this moment.  
For your love is the only power,  
the only home, the only honour we need,  
in this world and in the world to come.  
Amen.**

\*\*Hymn of Praise: Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming VU 8  
*Those going to Sunday School will leave after the first verse*

Prayer of Self Reflection:

**All: We have come to understand a world at turmoil  
rather than a world at peace. Whether we realize it or not,  
this turmoil filters down to us, and we feel annoyed by the  
world around us. Help us step back, O Lord, and take a  
good long look at how far we are from creating peace  
around us. Help us to intentionally be open to your peace,  
and let it grow within us. In silence now, we bring our  
individual concerns to you.**

*(A time of silent prayer)*

One: Lord, we have opened our hearts to you and wait,  
sometimes impatiently, for your response to our concerns. Let  
us be open to You. Amen

Words of Assurance:

## Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Isaiah 11: 1-10

Matthew 3: 1-12

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

**All: Thanks be to God**

\*\*Hymn of Reflection:

When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides MV 169

Introduction of Marcel LeBrun and the 12 Neighbours Project

Reflection Marcel LeBrun

Special Music: Hope is a Candle – Linnea Good

## Responding

Presentation and Dedication of our Gifts

Sung Response: MV 27 Verse 3 abridged

**When with our hearts, our hands our minds,  
we share our gifts with all the world,  
our spirits soar beyond the veil,  
to touch the very face of God.**

Prayers of Our Community:

Sung Response: MV 85

**Take, O take me as I am;  
summon out what I shall be,  
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

\*\*Closing Hymn: Unbounded Spirit, Breath of God MV 155 Vs 1,3,5

Commissioning and Sharing the Light:

\*\*Choral Amen: Hope Be With You MV 215

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

Postlude: Let There Be Peace on Earth Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

OFFICE

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Worship Leader – Mary Grant, LLWL  
Pastoral Care – Rev. Ian Manson 506-333-8318 and  
Diane Robinson 459-8779

Usher – Robert Christie  
Teller – Jean Fisher and Mary Grant  
Hospitality – Jennifer Abbott  
Music – Alex Good, Brian Cassidy and Libby Cassidy

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