

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



Advent 1
November 28, 2021 10 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

Gathering

Prelude: My Soul Cries Out MV 120

Welcome, Acknowledgement & Announcements:

Lighting of the Christ Light and Advent 1 Candle

One: There once was someone who did such amazing things that people just had to ask him "Who are you?" And he said, "I am the Light!"

All: **With this good news we light the candle of Hope on this First Sunday of Advent. This candle represents many things; vulnerability, feelings and needs. Gracious One, be our light now and strengthen us for the journey.**

Introit: VU 7, vs. 1

**Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.
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:

Enter into the Advent story which is filled with wonder and mystery.

A story that began so long ago.

A story that reaches through the ages.

A story that belongs to all of us.

Let us worship.

Gathering Prayer: (All)

Loving God of a hope-filled people, we gather here today to remember the story of your gift to us. A gift, born into the tiny body of your son, a gift that grew until it encompassed the entire world. A gift of beauty, of kindness and of deep abiding love. A gift given freely to all. As winter settles in around us, we begin to retell the story of that gift in word, play, song and prayer. Be with us here as we remember the wonder. Amen.

Opening Hymn: O Come, O Come Emmanuel VU 1

Intergenerational Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught: see insert

Hymn of Praise: Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope MV 33

Young at heart leave for Church School after first verse.

Prayer of Confession: Offered by Mary Grant

All: God, we get so caught up in what we are doing, especially as we get ready for Christmas. We veer off the course of preparing to celebrate the miraculous birth of your son, Jesus. Yet no matter how often we have lost focus, you have constantly shown us kindness and love. When we return to you and say; "Remember me, Oh God", you are always there for us, and so in silence now we pray.....

In silence now we pray...

Promise of Assurance:

God, you assure us through your constant kindness and love, that you always remember us. Amen

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Psalm 25 with refrain VU 752

Daniel 7:13-14

Luke 21:25-36

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

All: **Thanks be to God**

Reflection:

Special Music: "Wachet Auf" Choral Prelude J.S. Bach

Responding

Presentation of our Gifts

Sung Response: What Can I Do? MV 191

Prayers of Our Community: Offered by Mary Grant
Remember us oh God, and refresh hope within us.

Sung Response: Take, O Take Me As I Am 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.**

Commissioned to Share the Light

Closing Hymn: Go Tell It on the Mountain VU 43

Benediction & Choral Ending:

**Hope be with you, hope forever,
hope be with you, my friends.
Till we meet again, may God be with you.
Hope, hope, hope.**

Postlude: (please remain seated)
Hope Shines as a Solitary Star MV 220

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.

OFFICE
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Worship Leader – Rev. Mary Tingley
Pastoral Care – Diane Robinson, 459-8779
Prayers during Advent – Mary Grant

Usher – Annmarie Manson
Tellers – William Hughes and Robert Christie
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