

Forest Hill United Church

'open doors, open hearts, open minds'



5th Sunday After Epiphany
February 5, 2017 at 10 am

“The true servants of the Most Merciful are those who behave gently and with humility on earth, and whenever the foolish quarrel with them, they reply with [words of] peace.”

Al- Furqan 25:63 from *The Qur'an*

WELCOME to worship! It is good that you are here.

Our worship leaders are **Rev. Ali Smith**

and our music director is **Alex Good**,

who leads us with the assistance of the **FHUC Choir**.

Our greeters this morning are **Brian Cassidy** and **Libby Cassidy**

our Sunday School teachers are **Margie Roxborough**

and **Rachel Neville**

our hospitality host is **Diane Robinson**

and our tellers are **May Houston** and **Joan Mitchell**

Forest Hill United Church is a safe place for all people to gather regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background, family status, sexual orientation, and gender identity. All are welcome here!

Gathering

At the **, please rise in body or in spirit.

Prelude

Welcoming the Light

Welcome & Church News

****Introit: (Sung Together)**

#14 MV

**Where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there, I am there.**

Repeat 3 times.

Call to Worship:

One: We have been called the salt of the earth.

All: **Let us remain distinctive and salty.**

One: We have been called the light of the world.

All: **Let us shine brightly
in the midst of pain or confusion.**

One: We have been called a city set on a hill.

All: **Let us, like Jerusalem, lift our gates, lift our hearts,
lift our voices in the worship of God.**

Gathering Prayer: (Spoken by All)

God, you placed me in the world to be its salt.

I have been afraid of committing myself,

afraid of being stained by the world.

I did not want to hear what “they” might have to say.

And my salt dissolved as if in water.

Forgive me.

God, you placed me in the world to be its light.

I was afraid of the shadows, afraid of poverty.

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I did not want to know other people's struggles.
And my light slowly faded away. Forgive me.

God, you placed me in the world to live in community.
Thus you taught me to love, to share in life,
to struggle for bread and justice,
your truth incarnate in my life.
So be it. Amen.

Call & Prayer from United Church of Canada's Celebrate God's Presence, 2000

****Opening Hymn:** #169 MV When Hands Reach Out

Exploring

First Reading: Matthew 5:13-20 *Salt and Light*

Story Time

****Song of Praise:** #679 VU Let There Be Light

After the 2nd verse, students and teachers will leave for Sunday School.

Words from Our Bible:

Bob Fisher

Psalm 112 Page 834 VU (with Refrain)
Isaiah 58:1-9a *Lift Your Voice like a Trumpet*

One: This is the Word of God to guide us on our journey.
All: **Thanks be to God!**

Message: "Salty Tears"

****Hymn of Reflection:** #171 MV Christ Has No Body Now

Responding

Presentation of Our Gifts

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****Offering Verse:** *(Sung Together)*

#191 MV

**What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

****Prayer After Giving**

Prayers of Our Community

"Embracing Diversity [A Prayer]" by Mark Sandlin

Prayer that Jesus Taught: *(Spoken Together)*

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 echo 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 for ever. Amen.

From *The New Zealand Prayer Book*

****Closing Hymn:** #578 VU As a Fire is Meant for Burning

Words from Our World: "A Little Bit of Salt"
by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Special Music: Old Irish Blessing (Trad.) **Maeve Hashey**

****Sharing the Light**

****Blessing**

****Choral Response:** *(Sung Together)* **#161 MV, verse 1**

I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.

Postlude

***Please join us for coffee and conversation
after worship!***

OFFICE HOURS
(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com

Administrative Assistant - **Kris Yarych**
Tuesdays & Thursdays from 12:45 - 3:45 pm
foresth.office@bellaliant.com

Minister - **Rev. Ali Anningson**
Mondays to Thursdays from 9 am - Noon
revalianningson@gmail.com (506) 292-2369 [cell]

Printed sermons and large print bulletins
are available from our greeters
for anyone who might find either useful.

Church News

COMING UP @ FHUC

FHUC Book Club The Hero's Walk Feb 7 at noon

Anniversary Service February 12th, 49th Anniversary at 10 am

Movie Night Water Friday Feb 17th, at 7:00 pm

FHUC Annual Meeting February 19th following worship, potluck
finger foods

Bible Study: Last Supper Tues, Feb 21 7 pm Church Library

Quilt Group Wednesdays 1-3 pm Upper Room

Choir Practice Sunday at 11:30-12:30 in the Choir Room

Storm Policy Reminder: In the event of a serious storm on a Sunday morning, a decision will be made by 8 a.m. as to whether a cancellation is necessary. If a service is cancelled, a message will be placed on the church answering machine, sent out via email, and passed on to CBC radio.

Various sized aluminum **pie plates** are yours for the taking. Grab them at coffee hour.

Choir! Starting February 5 we will be trying out having choir practice after service at 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. We are actively seeking more members and we hope that this new practice time might make your participation possible. Please consider joining you choir.

Anniversary Service: Please join us next Sunday (February 12) for our 49th Anniversary Service at 10 am. We will celebrate with the theme "Walking on God's Path" and by sharing the communion meal.

OBSERVER RENEWAL and NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS: Please let Margaret Macdougall (455-3767) know if you wish to renew or start a new subscription. Cost \$25 (11 issues yearly). Payment may be placed on the Offering Plate in an envelope plainly marked OBSERVER and with your name and envelope clearly shown. New subscriptions also give complete mailing address and Telephone No. Cheques payable to Forest Hill United Church. Payment due by February 12, 2017.

Movie Night Water is the next film scheduled for Friday February 17th, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Set in 1938 Colonial India, against Mahatma Gandhi's rise to power, the story follows a group of widows forced to live in poverty at a temple in the holy city of Varanasi. (In Hindi with English subtitles) 114 min 2005. Popcorn and tea provided.

FHUC Annual Meeting: Forest Hill United will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 19, following worship. Please bring along finger foods to share for lunch as we will eat while we meet. All are encouraged to attend. The agenda for this year's Annual Meeting will include releasing one of our Trustees and voting on a revised governance document. Details about the latter will be provided in a presentation both on the Sunday before and at the Annual Meeting.

Registration for Youth Forum and Intermediates at Conference is now online! Deadline to register is March 31st. Woolastook Presbytery & Forest Hill United generously offer funding to participants. To register for YF: <http://marconf.ca/youth-forum-registration/> To register for IAC: <http://marconf.ca/intermediates-conference-registration/>

We are looking for individuals to be trained to use our projector equipment. If you are interested or want to know more, please contact our resident techie Brian Cassidy at bpc@unb.ca or 472-6768. Equipment operators are needed for Sunday services but also for special events and meetings. The setting up of equipment for any movie night is a good training opportunity. We use most all equipment for that except the keyboard. Those interested are asked to be at the church at 6:30 on movie night. Our next one is Friday, February 17.

Ushers/Greeters needed: Please check your schedule to see if you are available for one or more Sundays to help out with set up and greeting our congregation on Sunday mornings. Signup sheet is on the back table. If you have any questions please feel free to ask me. Many thanks. Lorna McKnight

Potential Scripture Readers are invited to see the Date Chart and to indicate their availability for any particular Sunday. Please note the manner of indication given at the top of the Chart. New Readers are **most welcome**. A copy of the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible (which is the version of the "Pulpit Bible") is available to loan for practice, with helpful instructions included. If you have questions, please talk with Patricia Powell (455-8602).

FOUND a Dodge key with a leather strap, and a Subaru key fob. These have been in the office for quite a while. If you know who these belong to please let us know.

Community Events

A FROZEN CASSEROLE SALE will be held at St. Paul's United Church, on the corner of George and York Streets in Fredericton, on Saturday, February 11th from 10 to 11 AM. Choose from baked beans, lasagna, meat balls, chicken, tuna, salmon, shepherd's pie, hash browns, turnip, squash, and more. Some gluten free. Three sizes to choose from. Come early for the best selection. Go Green! Bring your shopping bags. Donna Chauvin 458-5885.

The Fredericton Women's Inter-Church Council is having the World Day of Prayer Bible Study on Monday, February 13, 2017 at 10:00AM at Forest Hill United Church, 45 Kimble Court, Fredericton just off Forest Hill Road. There is a sign just pass the St. Margaret Anglican Church on Forest Hill Road that point where Forest Hill United Church is on Kimble Court. Rev. Ali Anningson will lead the Bible Study. The Women of the Philippines have prepared the World Day of prayer event. The theme of this year is "Am I Being Unfair To You?" People of all faith denomination are welcome and please bring a friend.

Grief Share, Beginning Thursday, January 12, 2017, at 7:00 pm, in the Family Room, Brunswick Street Baptist Church is pleased to offer **Grief Share**, a 13 week video series by Christian experts on grief and recovery, combined with support group discussions for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Please call **458-8348** if you would like more information.

DivorceCare support group at Grace Memorial Baptist Church will be held on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 PM starting January 17. For more information or to register, call the church office 458-8527

Minute for Mission: Black History Month

Our gifts for Mission & Service support racial justice and our intercultural journey.

As we begin Black History Month or African Heritage Month in Canada, let us celebrate the many contributions of Black people to Canadian society and to the United Church.

Let us take time to remember African-Canadian history, the struggles and the haunting legacy of the trans-Atlantic slave trade.

Black people have been part of the United Church from its beginning and continue to play a vital role in the church today. We celebrate this history by sharing the story of Union United Church in Montreal, Quebec.

This church was created in 1907 and was known as Union Congregational Church. From the start Union led the way in reaching out to the Black railway porters and their families who were segregated from the rest of Montreal, offering them a place of worship and a place to call their own.

We sing thanksgiving for the foundation of Black people who have led the way toward The United Church of Canada becoming an intercultural church, a church where all are welcome!