

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



Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2022 7:30 p.m.

WELCOME to worship!

## Gathering

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

Pre-Service Carol Sing

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 Christ Candle

In the beginning, Light shines in the darkness - loving, beautiful, and good - giving birth to all creation & to the gift of life

**The light is the gift of Jesus**

The light is the gift of love.

**The light is the gift of beauty, wonder and joy.**

The light is the gift of life in the midst of death, and hope in the midst of despair.

**May the gift of the Christ Light reveal the wisdom and wonder of God's boundless love to all, tonight and always.**

\*\*Opening Hymn: Joy to the World. VU 59 vs 1,4

Gathering Prayer: (All)

**God of mystery and wonder, on this holy night we hear of angels singing, shepherds following a star, and Mary and Joseph receiving a gift that changed the world. As we sing, pray and ponder, fill our hearts with joy and our minds with insight. Bring peace to those who are troubled, and foster a spirit of justice and compassion in all our hearts. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

## Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Luke 2: 1-14

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

**All: Thanks be to God**

Intergenerational Conversation: "Unexpected Gifts"

\*\*Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing. VU 48 vs 1,3

## Responding

Presentation and Dedication of our Gifts

**We pray, loving God, that you will graciously accept our offerings. May we know joy in the giving. May all who benefit from them know the joy of receiving. Amen.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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.**

\*\*Closing Hymn: Silent Night

VU 67

Commissioning and Blessing:

Postlude: Let There Be Peace on Earth

OFFICE

(506) 455-0988 | [foresthillunited.com](http://foresthillunited.com)

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Worship Leader – Rev. Dr. Ian Manson  
Pastoral Care – Rev. Ian Manson 506-333-8318 and  
Diane Robinson 459-8779

Usher – Joan Mitchell  
Teller – Diane Robinson  
Hospitality – Margie Roxborough  
Music – Alex Good, Diane Robinson and Anthony Lecaillon

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych  
Tuesday & Thursday 8:45 to 11:45 a.m.  
[foresth.office@bellaliant.com](mailto:foresth.office@bellaliant.com)

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