

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



6th Sunday after Epiphany
February 12, 2023 10 a.m.



WELCOME to worship!

Gathering

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

Prelude: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling VU 333

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 Christ Candle

Introit: Will You Come and See the Light VU 96

**Will you come and see the light from the stable door?
It is shining newly bright, though it shone before.
It will be your guiding star,
it will show you who you are;
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

Call to Worship:

How blessed are we when we meditate on God's teachings;
and when we desire God with our whole hearts.

-1- ----- cont.

How blessed are we when we turn to God with attentive minds and eager spirits,
for we are God's servants, working and praying together.
Let us seek God's path and listen for God's call to us today.
Let us worship God.

Gathering Prayer: (All)

**God of all life and each life,
You are the light of minds that seek to know you.
You are strength for those who seek to serve you.
You reveal truth to those who search for you.
This morning, we pause in your presence,
resting from our work and responsibilities,
and putting our worries and distractions aside.
Receive our prayers and praise this day,
for we open our hearts in love to you and one another.
Amen.**

Opening Hymn: Joyful, Joyful We Adore You VU 232

Intergenerational Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught: Adaptation by Jim Cotter
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 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 forever. Amen.

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Hymn of Praise: Jesus Bids Us Shine VU 585
Those going to Sunday School will leave after the first verse

Prayer of Self Reflection:
God who is all in all,
You call us to choose life and walk in your ways.
But sometimes we are tempted by short cuts and easy solutions.
It can be tempting to believe we have a pretty good handle on the truth, and that our ways are best.
It can be easy to judge and stereotype those we don't know, and to fear the unknown.
Grant us courage to follow the paths you set for your people, as we reflect in silence.

-silent reflection-

Words of Assurance:

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:
1 Corinthians 3: 1-9

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

**Hymn of Reflection: O Jesus, I Have Promised VU 120

Reflection: "From Strangers to Friends"

Special Music: Song for a Winter's Night by Gordon Lightfoot
Performed by Brian and Libby

Responding

Presentation and Dedication of our Gifts
Sung Response: Spirit, Open My Heart MV 79
Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.

Prayers of our Community:

Sung Response: And When You Call for Me MV 96
And when you call for me,
I have already answered.
And when you call for me,
I am already there.

Closing Hymn: I Feel the Winds of God Today VU 625

Commissioning and Blessing:

Choral Amen: Hope Shines as a Solitary Star MV 220
Hope shines as the solitary star,
faith is the inner light.
You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,
and illumine the pathway home.

Postlude: In the Bulb There Is a Flower VU 703

OFFICE

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

Usher – Jean Fisher
Tellers – Bob Fisher and Lorna McKnight
Hospitality – May Houston
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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