



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



2nd Sunday after Epiphany  
January 14, 2023 11:30 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

## Gathering

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

Prelude: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear VU 44

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

\*\*Introit: A Light is Gleaming (refrain) VU 82  
**A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night, living in the light.  
 Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright, living in the light.**

Call to Worship:

One: Before anything was,  
**All: God dreamed me. God searches for me, God finds me.**  
 Before I speak, **God hears me.**

Before I move, **God is before me.**  
 Before I was born, **God knew me.**  
 Before I was seen, **God saw me.**  
 Before I was named, **God called me.**  
 Before I give praise, **God calls me here.**

Gathering Prayer: (All)

**Here, in your presence, may we hear you call our names and willingly follow you. So call us again, O God, for we come with a desire to know you better, here and in every place you wait for us. Amen**

\*\*Opening Hymn: Let There Be Light VU 679

Intergenerational Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught: Parker J. Palmer

**Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,  
 Holy and blessed is your true name.  
 We pray for your reign of peace to come.  
 We pray that your good will be done.  
 Let heaven and earth become one.  
 Give us this day the bread we need.  
 Give it to those who have none.  
 Let forgiveness flow like a river between us.  
 From each one to each one.  
 Lead us to holy innocence.  
 Beyond the evil of our days  
 Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.  
 For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:  
 Forever your name is All in One.**

\*\*Hymn of Praise: The First Nowell VU 91  
*Those going to Sunday School will leave after the first verse*

Prayer of Self Reflection:

**God of night-whispered wisdom, forgive us for the times we fail to seek your will or heed your call. Forgive us when we**

**fail to act on the truth we know, the knowledge we have, the possibility there is for change. Forgive us when we let our love for family or friends or church or nation blind us to their faults and ours.**

*Time for Silent Prayer*

Words of Assurance

### Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 VU 861,

John 1:43-51

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

All: **Thanks be to God**

\*\*Hymn of Reflection: I, the Lord of Sea and Sky VU 509

Reflection

Special Music:

### Responding

Presentation and Dedication of our Gifts:

Sung Response: Christ Has No Body Then But Yours MV 171 refrain

**Christ has no body now but yours,  
no hands but yours.**

**Here on this earth, yours is the work,  
to serve with the joy of compassion.**

Prayers of the Community:

Sung Response: May We But Wait MV 175

**May we but wait upon Love's word,  
Knowing our prayer is heard.**

Repeat

\*\*Closing Hymn: Will You Come and Follow Me VU 567

Commissioning and Benediction:

\*\*Choral Amen: May God's Sheltering Wings MV 214

**May God's sheltering wings,  
her gathering wings protect you.  
May God's nurturing arms,  
her cradling arms sustain you,  
and hold you in her love,  
and hold you in her love.**

Postlude: See Amid the Winter's Snow VU 76

This week's printed prayers were adapted from *Prayers for All Seasons, year B, Seasons of the Spirit Collection*, copyright © Wood Lake Publishing Inc., Kelowna, BC V4V 1S5

### OFFICE

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Worship Leader – Heather Donnelly, LLWL  
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Usher – May Houston  
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Hospitality – Diane Robinson  
Music Team – Alex Good, Brian Cassidy and Libby Cassidy

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