

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



14th Sunday after Pentecost, August 29, 2021 10 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

OFFICE
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Minister - Rev. Deborah Ambridge Fisher
Tuesday & Thursday 8:45 to 11:45 a.m. and by appointment
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Ushers – Jean Fisher
Tellers – William Hughes

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

Gathering

Prelude:

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Introit:

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.**

Welcome and Announcements

Centring Prayer:

Call to Worship:

As the long, beautiful days of summer wind down, we come to worship.

In the beauty of this day, we gather to sing praise and unite our hearts in prayer.

Draw close to the words of eternal life.

In faith, we proclaim, “Christ is the Holy One of God.”

In faith, let us worship God.

*Laura Turnbull, Penticton, B.C. Gathering, Pentecost 1 2021, page 39.
Used with permission.*

Gathering Prayer: (All)

Creator,

you have joined us in reveling in the spring and summer, warmth of seasons, warmth of community, and warmth of new life.

As the days shorten and summer comes to an end, we come to this place with worry of differences, uncertainty, loneliness, and fear of change.

Yet, with all we bring, we give thanks for new beginnings and fresh starts, familiarity and comfort, and your love that helps us know we are not alone.

Welcome us and all that we come with to this time of worship. Welcome us so that we may find peace in you.

Amen.

Youth at Shining Waters Regional Council, 2019, Barrie, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost 1 2021, page 45. Used with permission.

Prayer that Jesus Taught

Creator in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
You who does not lead us into temptation
but delivers us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever.
Amen.

Promise of Assurance:

Receive the good news:
God is with us,
through our journey of life and beyond.
We are not alone.
We are held in the mercy and grace of our Creator,
**through one another
and in the gift of God's own Spirit.**
Even when we feel abandoned and forsaken,
God is with us.
God's promise and love
is deeper than our knowing,
**deeper than our feelings,
deeper than our fears.**
Quiet time of reflection.
Nothing can separate us from God's love.
For this reason, we say alleluia! Amen!
Susan Girard, Riverview U.C., Atikokan, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost 1 2021, page 50.
Used with permission.

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Mark 7:1-8, 14, 15, 21-23
Psalm 45 VU 769
James 1:17-27

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

Reflection:

Special Music: video: I Feel the Winds of God Today

Responding

Presentation of our Gifts

Prayers of Our Community:

Extravagant God, who scatters the seeds of your love without
counting the cost, we share with you the matters on our hearts.
(Congregation is invited to name petition for prayer)
Extravagant God,
scatter the seeds of your love.
Sheryl McLeod, Admaston P.C., Admaston, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost 1 2021, page 51. Used
with permission.

Prayer Response: Lord Listen to Your Children Praying VU 400

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!**

Closing Hymn: Christ Has No Body Now but Yours MV 171

Sharing the Light

Commissioning and Benediction:

Choral Amen: VU 298

**When you walk from here,
when you walk from here,
walk with justice, walk with mercy,
and with God's humble care**

Postlude: