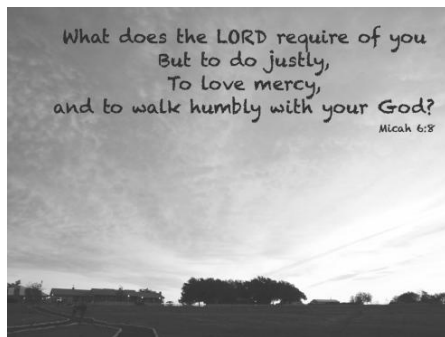


Forest Hill United Church

'open doors, open hearts, open minds'



4rd Sunday After Epiphany
January 29, 2017 at 10 am

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

Our worship leaders are **Rev. Ali Smith** and **Rev. Cora Krommenhoek**
and our music director is **Alex Good**,
who leads us with the assistance of the **FHUC Choir**.

Our greeters this morning are
our Sunday School teachers are **Alexander Neville**
and **Shelley Clayton**
our hospitality host is **Norma Reid**
and our tellers are **William Hughes** and **Robert Christie**

*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 *(sung together)* **VU 585 (vs. 1)**
Jesus bids us shine with a pure, clear light,

like a little candle burning in the night.

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**In this world is darkness, so let us shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.**

Welcome & Church News

****Introit:** *(Sung Together – 3 Times)* #14 MV
**Where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there, I am there.**

Call to Worship:

This is no ordinary place: this is the house of God.

**This is the place where the prophets cry out
for peace and justice and righteousness.**

**It is the place where God reaches down
into the corners of our lives,**

to offer us the mystery of holy love.

This is no ordinary gathering.

This is no ordinary place: this is the house of God.

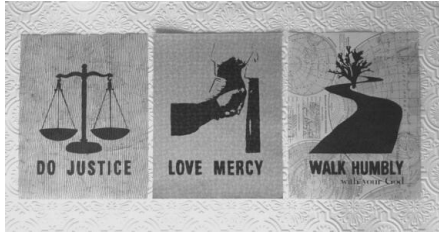
(Celebrate God's Presence)

Gathering Prayer: *(Spoken by All)*

**Your people seek you, O God. You trail wholeness and blessings in
your wake. You speak of raising up the poor and restoring them to
full life. And some hurry toward you while others mock or frown.
You give off the aroma of justice, a world restored. We hear the
promises of a world transformed, and sometimes we give thanks.
Guide us, we pray in seeking grace, giving thanks, looking to live in
grace and righteousness. Amen.**

(Robin Wardlaw, Gathering, SA 2012, adapted)

****Opening Hymn:** #12 MV “Come, Touch Our Hearts”



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Exploring

First Reading:

Matthew 5:1-12

Story Time

****Song of Praise: #356 VU Seek Ye First**

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

Words From Our World :

Good Adventure to You
by Nancy Hastings Sehested

Words from Our Bible:

Margie Roxborough

Psalm 15 #736 VU (with refrain)

Micah 6:6-8 A righteous life

One: This is the Word of God to guide us on our journey.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Special Music: “What Does the Lord Require of You?” VU 701

Message: Me, Righteous?!

Hymn of Reflection: #176 MV “Three Things I Promise”

(Please remain seated)

Responding

Presentation of Our Gifts

****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**

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Prayers of Our Community

We hardly think ourselves righteous, Holy God

Yet, you touch our hearts

You bid us shine and ask us to seek you

You want us to seek justice and love kindness

You call us to walk humbly with you.

You even call us to be your disciples.

It's all hard for us to get our head around, O God.

Sometimes we'd like to just bury our heads in the sand.

But there are people out there who need us, O God,

There are people out there who need you.

We mention some of those needs aloud or in the silence of our hearts:

(Community prayers)

May justice flow down like waters

And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

May kindness and compassion flourish in our world.

May we all learn what it means to walk humbly with you. Amen.

(Cora Krommenhoek 2017)

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*

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****Closing Hymn:** #507 VU "Today We All Are Called"

****Sharing the Light** (*sung together*) VU 585 (vs. 3 - adapted)
Jesus bids us shine, then, for all around;
many kinds of shadows in the world abound:
violence, greed, injustice; so we must shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.

****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.

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Church News

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.

COMING UP @ FHUC

Congregational Board Meeting Sunday, January 29 after Church

Bible Study: Woman at the Well Mon, Jan 30 7-8 pm Church Library

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

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

Quilt Group Wednesdays 1-3 pm Upper Room

Choir Practice Wednesdays 7-8 pm

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.

Food Bank: Don't forget that our church has a Food Bank Donation Box located at the main entry. You can deposit nonperishable food items there any time and they will be delivered to be used by those in need.

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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.

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

Ushers/Greeters needed for 2017: 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. Sign-up 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).

Community News

What does your craft room look like? Do you have enough stuff? Do you want MORE!? Well the ladies at St. Paul's United Church on York Street are having a **Nearly New Craft Supply Sale** on Saturday January 28th from 10 to 12 noon. Fill one of our grocery bags for \$5.00. Enjoy coffee & a muffin for \$2.00. All proceeds are going to help our

Pantry. Thanks for your support!!!

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.

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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 past the St. Margaret Anglican Church on Forest Hill Road that points 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 denominations are welcome and please bring a friend.

The next **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 458-8527.

Minute for Mission:

Truth and Reconciliation from Canada to El Salvador

Our gifts for Mission & Service support the work of reconciliation. Let us hear a story about reconciliation in El Salvador.

El Salvador is no stranger to violence. After a civil war that lasted over a decade, peace accords were signed in 1992. But the country is now dealing with an unprecedented rate of murder and gang violence.

Miguel Tomás Castro is a pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, a Mission & Service partner in the capital, San Salvador. He heard about Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission during one of his visits to Canada and was inspired to create a Conference on Peace and Reconciliation in his own country.

In March 2016, a United Church delegation, including Moderator Jordan Cantwell and Charlene Burns of the Aboriginal Ministries Circle, travelled to El Salvador to take part. At the conference, Charlene shared her story as an Indian residential school survivor, quoting Justice Murray Sinclair in saying, "The truth was hard. Reconciliation will be even harder."

However, as Charlene said when referring to her people and to the people of El Salvador, "We are the generation to choose the path of life for the future of our children and grandchildren and those who are yet to come, the right path, a path toward peace and reconciliation."

We sing thanksgiving for the work of reconciliation.