

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



Earth - Season of Creation, September 12, 2021 10 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

OFFICE  
(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com

Minister - Rev. Deborah Ambridge Fisher  
Tuesday & Thursday 8:45 to 11:45 a.m. and by appointment  
revdeborahfhuc@gmail.com (506) 999-4189 [cell]

Usher – May Houston  
Teller – Bob Fisher and Lorna McKnight  
Music Team – Brian Cassidy, Libby Cassidy and Diane Robinson  
Sunday School – Margie Roxborough

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

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: Like a Healing Stream MV 144  
Lighting of the Christ Candle  
Introit: VU 301 v 1

**Before the earth had yet begun  
its journey round the burning sun,  
before a seed of life had stirred,  
there sounded God's creating Word.**

Welcome and Announcements

Centring Prayer:

Call to Worship:

On this Sunday in Creation Time,  
we come before our Creator God with praise!  
**Let us rejoice in the fields!**  
**Let us rejoice in the forests!**  
Let us thank the Divine One for our many gifts!  
**We lift up our hearts in worship.**

Adapted from the prayer by Susan Tyndall, Delburne U.C., Highway 21 Cluster, Delburne, Alta. Gathering, Pentecost 2 2021, page 26. Used with permission.

Gathering Prayer: (All)

**We thank you, Creator God, for the diversity, the complexity, and the interconnectedness of the world in which we live. We thank you for the mystery of it, the beauty and the bounty. In our quest to explore and understand it, keep us mindful of our place in your world, as one of its creatures, one with possibility and responsibility. As we worship, draw us closer to your mystery and your majesty. Amen.**

Jean Leckie, while at Heart Lake U.C., Brampton, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost 2 2021, page 27. Used with permission.

Opening Hymn: Called by Earth and Sky MV 135

Story Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught: see insert

Song of Praise: Immortal, Invisible VU 264

*Participants leave for Sunday School after first verse.*

### Prayer of Confession:

Eternal God,

you have given us the beautiful sunrises of our lives.

**Sometimes we do not notice them.**

You have given us the harmonious songs of every kind of bird of the air.

**Sometimes we do not pay attention.**

You have given us the soft touch of another's hands.

**Sometimes we do not feel it.**

You have given us the aromas of lovely flowers and good food.

**Sometimes we do not smell them.**

You have given us the mysteries of the universe to discover and unfold.

**Sometimes we do not consider these.**

Instead, we pollute the air and water.

**Yet you still love us.**

We continue to create mounds of garbage.

**Yet you continue to forgive us.**

**Show us the way to use our creativity and imagination to repair the damage we have done and to restore your holy gift of a healthy planet. Amen.**

*Heather Grobb, Holland U.C., Holland, Man Gathering, Pentecost 2 2021, page 28. Used with permission.*

### Promise of Assurance:

Our world belongs to God, who does not rest until all creation is in communion with God. God's grace is at work in your life. Receive the peace of Christ.

*Christine Jerrett, Edge: New Ministry Development, Toronto, Ont. Gathering, Pentecost 2 2021, page 29. Used with permission.*

## Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Proverbs 1 2-33

Psalms 19 VU 740

James 3:1-12

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

All: **Thanks be to God**

Reflection:

Special Music: video: Hymn to the Earth

## Responding

Presentation of our Gifts

Prayers of Our Community:

*(Congregation is invited to name petition for prayer)*

Extravagant God, who scatters the seeds of your love without counting the cost, we share with you the matters on our hearts.

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: Each Blade of Grass MV 37

Sharing the Light

Commissioning and Benediction:

Choral Amen: VU 541

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise God, all creatures high and low;**

**give thanks to God in love made known:**

**Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

Postlude: How Great Thou Art VU 238