

Forest Hill United Church

'open doors, open hearts, open minds'



1st Sunday after Epiphany
January 8, 2017 at 10 am

“We fit the pieces of our life together in a pattern,
but there is no image on the puzzlebox to guide us.”

— Michael Hogan, Winter Solstice

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

Our worship leader is Mary Grant,

and our music director is Alex Good,

who leads us with the assistance of the FHUC Choir.

Our greeter this morning is Jennifer Abbott,

our Sunday School teachers are Margie Roxborough

and John Neville,

our hospitality host is Norma Reid,

and our tellers are Diane Robinson and Jean Fisher.

*Forest Hill United Church is a safe place for all people to gather
regardless of race, creed, age, ability, cultural background, sexual
orientation, family status or gender identity. You are welcome here!*

-1-

Gathering

At the **, please rise in body or in spirit.

Prelude

Lighting of the Christ Candle

**Sung Response: *(Sung Together)*

Where two or three are gathered in my name

I am there, I am there

Where two or three are gathered in my name

I am there, I am there

MV14

Welcome & Church News

Call to Worship:

One: The Magi came from many places to see the baby Jesus.

Two: We, too, have come from many places to worship together and see the Holy Spirit in one another.

One: The Magi brought gifts to offer the Child.

Two: We, too, bring gifts—ourselves, our hopes, our dreams, the visions we see.

One: The Magi travelled to Bethlehem and saw a great light.

Two: We, too, travel to Bethlehem and then return to our homes, moved by what we have seen.

Gathering A/C/E 2001-2002

Gathering Prayer: *(Spoken by All)*

Guiding God, bless us on the road we have chosen to seek your star. Light our paths that we may not walk in darkness, but walk with you, the light of the world. Enable us to bring gifts worthy of the Christ child. Teach us to be wise and to risk sharing our unique visions for the world. Amen.

Gathering A/C/E 2001-2002

**Opening Hymn: #82 VU A Light is Gleaming

Exploring

First Reading: Matthew 2: 1-12 *The Visit of the Magi*

Story Time

****Song of Praise:** We Three Kings of Orient Are
Rev. John Henry Hopkins 1857

Children will leave for Sunday School after the first chorus

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star

(Chorus)
O Star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy Perfect Light

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign

Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising, all men raising
Worship Him, God most high

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes of life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb

Glorious now behold Him arise
King and God and Sacrifice
Alleluia, Alleluia
Earth to heav'n replies

Words from Our Bible:

Patricia Powell

Psalms 72 – Page 790 VU Parts 1 and 2 (with Refrain)
Isaiah 60: 1-6 *Arise, Shine, for your light has come*
Ephesians 3: 1-12 *Boldness and confidence through Faith*

One: This is the Word of God to guide us on our journey
All: **Thanks be to God!**

Special Music:

Reflection “That A ha Moment”

****Hymn of Reflection:** #87 VU I Am the Light of the World

Responding

Minute For Mission

Diane Robinson

Presentation of Our Gifts

****Offering Verse:** *(Sung Together)*

MV 191

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**

Prayers of Our Community

Prayer that Jesus Taught:

Our Father-Mother, who is in the heavens,
may your name be made holy,
may your dominion come,
may your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today the bread we need;
and forgive us our debts,
as we have forgiven our debtors;
and do not put us to the test, but rescue us from evil.
For yours is the dominion, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen.

United Church of Christ, 1995.

****Closing Hymn:** #145 MV Draw the Circle Wide

****Sharing the Light**

****Blessing:**

Father God, the star that led the Magi to the stable
announced to the world that its Saviour was born. Today we live
in a world that is still covered by darkness, and still needing to
make that journey to the stable door. May our lives reflect your
light day by day, as we seek to serve where you have placed us.
That we might be the means through which others can
encounter Jesus Christ. Amen

Adapted from Faith and Worship.com

****Choral Response:** *(Sung Together)* #43 VU

**Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.**

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
revalismith@gmail.com (506) 292-2369 [cell]

Printed sermons and large print bulletins
are available from our greeters
for anyone who might find either useful.

Church News

COMING UP @ FHUC

Quilt Group	Wednesdays 1-3 pm Upper Room
Choir Practice	Wednesday at 7-8 pm in the Choir Room
FHUC Book Club	<u>The Hero's Walk</u> Feb 7 at noon

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

Help in taking down the Christmas decorations after the service would be greatly appreciated.

-6-

Committee Chairs: Budget submissions for 2017 are needed no later than January 11th as the budget needs to be drafted for the January Board Meeting. Please send them to Mary Grant, Treasurer and William Hughes Finance Chair.

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

Quilting Group will take a break and start up again on January 11th 1-3 pm in the Upper Room.

Did you know? Did you know that the Stable we have was constructed at an Advent Festival?

Ushers/Greeters needed for 2016: 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. Signup 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 Events

Mike Bravener will be performing “The Gospel Side of Elvis” at Marysville United Church January 8th at 3:30 PM. Freewill Offering will be taken and light refreshments will be served.