

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



1st Sunday after the Epiphany  
January 9, 2022 10 a.m.



WELCOME to worship!

## Gathering

Prelude: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise VU 101

Welcome, Acknowledgement & Announcements:

Lighting of the Christ Candle and Centering Prayer

Introit: VU 96

**Will you come and see the light from the stable door?  
It is shining newly bright, though it shone before.  
It will be your guiding star,  
it will show you who you are;  
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

Call to Worship:

Today we recall that Jesus came to the waters of baptism.

**In baptism, our Creator claims us  
and frees us from the power of hatred and death.**

In baptism we are joined to Christ  
and we are joined together in unity, recalling

**“There is no longer Jew or Greek, slave or free,  
there is no longer male or female  
for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.”**

In baptism, the Spirit of God anoints us for ministry  
and makes us signs of divine love.

It is the mark of acceptance into the church  
and the beginning of our growth  
into full Christian faith and discipleship.

**Therefore, on this day the whole church,  
the Body of Christ, remembers and celebrates.**

Let us worship God!

Gathering Prayer: (All)

**Source of Life, we stand on the shoreline of faith waiting to  
wade into the waters of your love. How we long to be  
affirmed, to be told we are loved and valued. Strengthen  
our hearts to hear your voice speaking those words to us.  
Open our hearts to cling to your all-embracing love. Amen.**

Opening Hymn: When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized VU 100

Intergenerational Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught: see insert

Hymn of Praise: It's a Song of Praise to the Maker MV 30

A Time of Soul Searching:

**Gracious God, we confess that too often we live  
as though we are fearful, not faithful. When we  
encounter the waters of chaos and confusion,  
we don't easily pass through them,  
but we obsess about the height of the water  
instead of the sight of the other side.  
You promised to walk through the rivers with us.  
Help us believe. Help our unbelief.**

*-silent reflection-*

Promise of Assurance:

## Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Isaiah 43: 1-7

Psalm 29 VU 756

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

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

All: **Thanks be to God**

Reflection:

Special Music: Video: YouTube video: Lord of the Dance  
by the Pilkey Sisters

## Responding

Presentation of our Gifts

Sung Response: Spirit, Open My Heart 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.**

Prayers from our Hearts:

Sung Response: And When You Call for Me MV 96  
**And when you call for me,  
I have already answered.  
And when you call for me,  
I am already there.**

Closing Hymn: I Have Called You by Your Name MV161

Benediction

Choral Ending: MV 220  
**Hope shines as the solitary star,  
faith is the inner light.  
You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,  
and illumine the pathway home.**

Postlude: (please remain seated)  
Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness VU 375

## Land Acknowledgement

At Forest Hill United Church, we acknowledge that our church is  
built on ancestral, traditional and unceded Wolastoqey 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.

## OFFICE

(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com

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Worship Leader – Heather Donnelly, LLWL  
Pastoral Care – Diane Robinson, 459-8779

Usher – Annemarie Manson  
Tellers – William Hughes and Robert Christie  
Music Team – Brian Cassidy and Libby Cassidy

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

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