

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



3rd Sunday in Lent
March 12, 2023 10 a.m.



WELCOME to worship!

Gathering

** Please rise in spirit or in body as you are able

Prelude: Like a River of Tears MV 98

Welcome, Announcements & Acknowledgement:

Land Acknowledgement

At Forest Hill United Church, we acknowledge that our church is built on ancestral, traditional and unceded Wolastoqiyik (wolas-to-qiyik) 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.

Extinguishing the Third Candle of Lent

Introit: Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights VU 108 v3

**We bear the silence, cross and pain
of human burdens, human strife,
while sisters, brothers help sustain
our courage till the Feast of Life.**

Call to Worship:

God's truth opens our eyes on the world.

God's Spirit invites us to acknowledge our biases and re-examine what we think and believe.

God's wisdom nourishes our souls, and encourages us in the face of fear.

God's grace frees us from past mistakes, and moves us to find new purpose in life.

Let us worship God.

Gathering Prayer: (All)

Creator, Christ and Spirit

**you know us through and through, and you love us.
You have an everlasting purpose for all your people,
and you open our minds to receive your guidance and
wisdom.**

Receive our prayers and praise this day.

**Be present in our midst, and offer us the insights
we need to thrive and serve you in the world. Amen.**

Opening Hymn: When Pain of the World VU 598

Intergenerational Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught: adaptation from the original Aramaic
Translations by Neil-Douglas Klotz in Prayers of the Cosmos

Creator God, Father-Mother of the Cosmos.

Focus your light within us, and make it useful.

Create your reign of unity now.

Through our fiery hearts and willing hands,

help us love beyond our ideals and sprout acts of compassion
for all creatures. Animate the earth within so that we can feel
the wisdom underneath supporting all.

Untangle the knots within so that we can mend our hearts'
simple ties to each other.

Don't let surface things delude us, but free us from what holds
us back from our true purpose.

Out of you, the astonishing fire, returning light, and the sound
the cosmos. Amen.

Hymn of Praise: There Is Room For All (Sing twice) MV 62
Those going to Sunday School will leave after the first verse

Prayer of Self Reflection:

Enduring Presence, you come into our midst at unexpected
times, and guide us on our way.

**There are times when we struggle to accept that those of
different traditions and backgrounds are as righteous as we
are.**

We can complain as the world continues to change, and lament that the old days are gone.

It can be easy to blame others when our expectations are upended, and we need to adapt to new realities.

Guide us, strengthen us, and walk with us during these Lenten days and nights...

-silent reflection-

Words of Assurance:

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

John 4: 5-30

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

All: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn of Reflection: Jesus Christ is Waiting VU 117

Reflection: "Blessed Are The Outcasts"

Special Music: Everybody Hurts

Responding

Presentation and Dedication of our Gifts

Sung Response: Deep In Our Hearts MV 154 vs 1

**Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
deep in our hearts there is a common song;
deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.**

Prayers of our Community:

Sung Response: Stay With Us Through the Night VU 182 vs 1

**Stay with us through the night.
Stay with us through the pain.
Stay with us,
blessed stranger till the morning breaks again.**

Closing Hymn: My Faith Looks Up to Thee VU 663

Commissioning and Blessing:

Choral Amen: When We are Tested MV 65 vs 4

**When we have struggled and searched through the night,
sorting and sifting the wrong from the right,
Saviour, surround us with circles of care,
angels of healing, of hope, and of prayer.**

Postlude: Where Have all the Flowers Gone by Bob Dylan

OFFICE

(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com

Worship Leader – Rev. Ian Manson

Pastoral Care – Rev. Ian Manson 506-333-8318 and

Diane Robinson 506-459-8779

Usher – Jean Fisher

Tellers – Bob Fisher and Lorna McKnight

Hospitality – May Houston

Music – Alex Good, Brian Cassidy and Libby Cassidy

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych

Tuesday & Thursday 8:45 to 11:45 a.m.

foresth.office@bellaliant.com
