

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



Advent 4 Love - December 22, 2019 10 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

OFFICE HOURS

(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com

Minister Emeritus – Rev. Bob Jones Ph.476-8020
Rev. Jones is available for Emergency Pastoral Care

Minister - Rev. Deborah Ambridge Fisher

Musical Director – Alex Good

Greeters – Jay Best and Emma Robinson

Tellers - Jennifer Abbott and Mary-Anne Blakney

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych

Tuesday 1:45 – 4:45 p.m. & Thursday 12:45-3:45 p.m.

foresth.office@bellaliant.com

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

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.

For detailed announcements please see the announcement page on the bulletin boards or easel in the sanctuary.

Gathering

Worship Leader – Reverend Sarah Magie
*At the **, please rise or remain seated as you desire.*

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Poem for Christmas

Robert Hawkes

**Introit:

Hope is a Candle verse 4

by Linnea Good

Love is a candle on our journey
Love is the holding and the flight.
All round this aching earth of winter,
this tender flame of love we'll light.

Welcome

Call to Worship:

- One: Come, listen, do not despair or give up hope. God promised a sign to the House of David when it thought itself lost forever.
- All: God said that a young woman would be with child, and bear a son. She would call him Emmanuel, which means "God with us."
- One: Come, listen, rejoice and be glad. God promised a child to Mary, a child who would be the Saviour of his people.
- All: He would be conceived by the Holy Spirit and by power of God. She would call him Jesus - which means "The Lord saves."
- One: Come, listen, worship and adore our God. For God has kept his promise to the house of David, and to Mary, and to the all the world.
- All: God has given us a sign - and by his name, the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, God-With-Us we will praise and thank him.

Gathering Prayer: (All)

Immanuel, God with us;
In muscle and sinew, breath and bone.
In vulnerability and risk, escape and refuge.
In parable and healing, encounter and sign.
In suffering and death, word became flesh.
In resurrection, ascension, and spirit come down.
In justice and grace, patience and peace.
Immanuel, God with us,
Creator, Son and Spirit.
Glory be to God. Amen.

**Opening Hymn: One in Royal David's City VU 62

Story Time:

**Song of Praise: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus VU 2

During hymn, children and teachers will leave for Sunday School.

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

First Lesson: Isaiah 7: 10-16 Rob Fisher
One: Herein is Wisdom
All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Lesson: Luke 1: 26-38 Janis Fisher
One: The Gospel of Christ
All: Praise be to you, O Christ

Special Music:

Reflection: Saying 'Yes' to God's Love

**Hymn of Reflection: I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

1. I heard the bells on Christmas day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

2. I thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along th'unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

3. And in despair I bowed my head:
"There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong and mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good will to men."

4. Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead, nor doth he sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
With peace on earth, good will to men."

5. Till, ringing, singing, on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,
Of peace on earth, good will to men!

Text: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1807–1882
Music: John Baptiste Calkin, 1827–1905

Responding

Presentation of Our Gifts

**Offering Verse: Sung to the tune of Good King Wenceslas

These our gifts we offer now, thankful for God's blessings.
May they each be used with care, spreading a hopeful message.
Jesus' birth transformed the world, giving us a new way.
May our gifts work as he did, changing lives today-a-ay.

****Prayer After Giving:**

Prayers of Our Community:

Prayer that Jesus Taught us

Lord, listen to your children praying, VU 400
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!

****Closing Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful VU 60**

****Sharing the Light**

****Commissioning and Benediction:**

****Choral Amen: VU 964**

Go now in peace, go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you
everywhere, everywhere you may go.

Postlude

Please join us for coffee and conversation after worship

Forest Hill Important Dates

1. December 24th Christmas Eve Service 7 p.m.
2. Loving our Neighbours:
“You shall love your neighbour as yourself” (Mark 12:31)
Mission and Service 2019 Congregational Goal \$10,150.
Givings as of December 15 \$11,497.