

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



6th Anniversary of Affirming Congregation
3rd Sunday of Easter
April 23, 2023 10 a.m.



WELCOME to worship!

Gathering

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

Prelude: Come, Touch Our Hearts MV 12

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.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Introit: Halle, Halle, Halle VU 958
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Call to Worship:

We have come from many places, following different roads.
We have come in search of wisdom and understanding.

We have come to hear the stories of Scripture, and to ponder their meaning for our lives.

We come to be reminded that Jesus' love knows no bounds, and that all people are equal in the sight of God..

We have come to worship the God who offers new life to the world. Let us worship God. Let us pray together:

Gathering Prayer: (All)

**Loving God, we gather here today
to celebrate your all-inclusive love for all,
and your delight in diversity.**

**We give thanks that, through Jesus,
your grace and acceptance was offered to everyone,
and that social, class, ethnic and spiritual barriers were
overcome.**

**Open our eyes to new opportunities to bear witness to your
Spirit and share your love in the lives we touch, Amen.**

Opening Hymn: Come in, Come in and Sit Down VU 395

Intergenerational Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught: Adaptation by Jim Cotter VU 916

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.

Father and Mother of us all,

loving God, in whom is heaven:

the hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope
and come on earth!

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,

Now and forever. Amen.

Hymn of Praise: Never Ending Joy MV 40

Those going to Sunday School will leave after the first verse

Prayer of Self Reflection:

Sometimes, O God, the news is depressing.

The world seems filled with anger, discrimination, and hatred.

Sometimes it can be easy to believe that things will never change.

Sometimes it can be difficult to see signs of hope and new life.

Renew us in your love, we pray.

Help us see the signs of new life that are in our world.

-silent reflection-

Words of Assurance:

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Luke 24: 13-35

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

All: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn of Reflection: My Love Colours Outside the Lines MV 138

Reflection: "Practicing Resurrection"

Special Music:

Responding

Presentation and Dedication of our Gifts

Sung Response: What Can I Do? 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.

Prayers of our Community:

Sung Response: My Peace, My Peace by Arlo Guthrie

My peace, my peace is all I've got that I can give to you.

My peace is all I've ever had, it's all I ever knew.

I give my peace to red and white, to green and black and blue.

My peace, my peace is all I've got that I can give to you.

Closing Hymn: Dance with the Spirit sung twice MV 156

Commissioning and Blessing:

Choral Amen: God Says MV 172 vs 4

God says, "Reach out! The world's in need

And wants a word, a song, a deed.

I send you forth to speak, to sing,

To act for Christ in everything."

Postlude: Called by Earth and Sky MV 135

OFFICE

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Worship Leader – Reverend Ian Manson

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

Diane Robinson 506-459-8779

Usher – Annemarie Manson

Tellers – Mary Grant and Jean Fisher

Hospitality – Diane Robinson

Music Team – Alex Good, Brian Cassidy,

Libby Cassidy and Anthony Lecaillon

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych

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

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