

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



12th Sunday after Pentecost  
August 28, 2022 10 a.m.



WELCOME to worship!

## Gathering

Prelude:

Welcome, Acknowledgement & Announcements:

Lighting of Christ Candle

Introit: 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.**

Call to Worship:

One: Welcome to the banquet of hope, the open bar of prayer,  
the "anonymous" circle of acceptance.

**All: We come because we are invited.**

One: Welcome to a fiesta of joy or a mercy meal of  
tenderness, where every seat is a place of honor.

**All: We come because we are invited.**

One: Welcome to a party for God's love-reveal, where all  
seating is a circle,  
and karaoke is never necessary because we sing our own  
stories.

**All: We come because we have an invitation, not on paper,  
simply our names.**

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

Gathering Prayer: (All)

**God, we come to this gathering of community where there  
are no barriers, and all our abilities are celebrated as gifts.**

**We come to receive your hospitality of caring for each one  
of us and to learn how to offer such a celebration to  
stranger, friend, chosen family, those whose faces are  
unfamiliar to us, and the face that meets us in the mirror.  
Amen.**

Intergenerational Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught: Paraphrased by Sarah Dylan Breuer

**Loving Creator**

**we honour you, and we honour all that you have made.**

**Renew in the whole world in the image of your love.**

**Give us what we need for today,**

**and a hunger to see the whole world fed.**

**Strengthen us for what lies ahead;**

**heal us from the hurts of the past;**

**give us courage to follow your call in this moment.**

**For your love is the only power,**

**the only home,**

**the only honour we need,**

**in this world and in the world to come.**

**Amen.**

Hymn of Praise: All Who Are Thirsty

MV 4

Prayer For Transformation and New Life

One: God, sometimes we say, "I'm too busy," to invitations to  
kindness, friendship, or activism, or pretend to be "too busy,"  
and avoid being indebted, pitied, or rubbing elbows  
with those who make me uncomfortable.

**All: Sometimes we accept an invitation to be involved,  
celebrate with someone, or just have coffee, but back out  
or "no-show." Forgive us when we skip your parties.**

One: God, sometimes we are "imperfect guests," wanting to  
be the center of attention, and other times we insist on always  
being host, giver, one in control, receiver of praise and  
gratefulness.

**All: Forgive us when we fail in gratitude or generosity.  
And a hunger to see the whole world fed.**

(a time of silent prayer)

Words of Assurance:

## Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Jeremiah 2: 3-13  
Psalm 81:1, 10-16 VU 796-7 Part 2  
Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16  
Luke 14: 1, 7-14

One: In this is the word of God for the people of God.  
All: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn of Exploration: Lead On O Cloud of Presence VU 421

Reflection:

Special Music:

## Responding

Presentation of our Gifts

Sung Response: Work for a World MV 127

But with God the world is turned upside down  
the poor are embraced and the lost they are found  
Let's work for a world where all people are free  
where it's good to feel good about God  
loving you and me.

Blessing the Gifts: (together)

**Generous and welcoming God, we have brought these gifts  
in response to your invitation. In this giving, we find  
ourselves not lessened, but newly joyful, truly honored,  
and deeply fed by your blessing. Amen.**

Prayers of Our Community:

Sung Response: When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides MV 169

When hands reach out beyond divides  
and hope is truly found,  
each chain of hate will fall away  
and bells of peace shall sound,  
and bells of peace, of peace shall sound,  
and bells of peace shall sound,  
each chain of hate will fall away  
and bells of peace shall sound.

Commissioning and Sharing the Light:

Closing Hymn: Will You Come and Follow Me VU 567

Choral Amen: Peace Be with You MV 215

Peace be with you, peace forever,  
peace be with you, my friends.  
Till we meet again, may God be with you.  
Peace, peace, peace.

Postlude:

**Receive the Invitation: Service Prayers for the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost** were written by Maren C. Tirabassi, a United Church of Christ pastor. Copyright 2022 Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education.

### Land Acknowledgment

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.

OFFICE

(506) 455-0988 | [foresthillunited.com](http://foresthillunited.com)

---

Worship Leaders – Heather Donnelly, LLWL

Pastoral Care – Diane Robinson, 459-8779

Usher – Margie and John Neville

Teller – Jennifer Abbott

Hospitality – May Houston

Music Director – Alex Good

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych

Tuesday & Thursday 8:45 to 11:45

---