

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



4th Sunday of Easter, April 25, 2021 10 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

OFFICE

(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com

Minister - Rev. Deborah Ambridge Fisher

Tuesday & Thursday 8:45 to 11:45 a.m. and by appointment

revdeborahfhuc@gmail.com (506) 999-4189 [cell]

Special Guest – Mary Grant

Musical Director - Nadine Martin

Sunday School Teacher – Margie Roxborough

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych

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

foresth.office@bellaliant.com

The following number is for the Government of NB and has been set up as a help line for anything COVID-19 related.

Please share the following phone number with your vulnerable friends. If you have any need for any reason call 1-844-462-8387

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.

Gathering

Prelude: Inventions by Johann Sebastian Bach

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Introit: MV 12

**Come touch our minds and teach us how to reason,
set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream;
help us to open doors of understanding, to welcome
truth and wisdom, come touch and bless our minds.**

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Prayer:

Call to Worship:

Easter joy is for you and for all.

Easter hope stirs in creation.

Let your spirit swell.

Let the borders of your compassion expand.

We join our voices and our lives to share this joy and hope as we worship together.

Robin Wardlaw, Toronto, Ont. Gathering, LE 2021, page 43. Used with permission.

Gathering Prayer: (All)

O Holy One—we come, puzzling at your mystery, yet in adoration and wonder.

Creator God, we wonder at your mighty works.

O Holy One—we come in quiet breathing.

Spirit, we breathe in your gifts with gratitude.

O Holy One—we come in silent movements.

Beloved Christ, we follow you into the quiet space. Amen.

Jani Francis, St. Andrew's U.C., Indian Head, Sask. Gathering, LE 2021, page 44. Used with permission.

Opening Hymn: Christ is Alive! By Brian Wren and Ron Klusmeier

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

Story Time: The Shepherd's Crook by Mary Grant

Prayer that Jesus Taught

**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
echoes through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed
by the 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.
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.
New Zealand Prayer Book**

Song of Praise: Dance with the Spirit MV 156

Participants will leave for Sunday School

Easter Prayer of Renewal

In the wake of Easter glory, the disciples wanted to return to their busy lives, but they had moments of fear and uncertainty; they felt lost and alone.
Then Jesus said: "Peace be with you."
The words of Jesus brought joy to their souls and hope to their spirits. The disciples were ready to hear again the words of comfort proclaimed to them.
Then Jesus said: "Peace be with you."
Thomas did not feel the joy or accept the spirit of hope. He lived with fears and doubts that he could not vocalize. Thomas felt he was all alone, cut off from the rest of the group.
Then Jesus said: "Peace be with you."
Moments come and go when we feel alone and abandoned. There are times when we feel lost and uncertain about the future. We, too, live with fear.
(a time of silent reflection)
Then Jesus says to us: "Peace be with you."
And we say, "Thanks be to God. Hallelujah. Amen."
Bill Steadman, Goulais River U.C., Goulais River, Ont. Gathering, LE 2021, page 47.
Used with permission.

