

Forest Hill United Church

'open doors, open hearts, open minds'



4th Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 2018 10 am

“You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You are able to say to yourself, 'I lived through this horror. I can take the next thing that comes along.'”

- Eleanor Roosevelt

WELCOME to worship! It is good that you are here.

Our worship leader is **Rev. Deborah Ambridge Fisher**,

Our music director is **Alex Good**,

and the **FHUC Choir**.

Our greeter this morning is **May Houston**,

Our Sunday School Teachers are **John Neville**,

Libby Cassidy and **Bob Fisher**,

our hospitality host is **Norma Reid**,

and our tellers are **Jennifer Abbott** and **Mary-Anne Blakney**.

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.

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Gathering

At the **, please rise in body or in spirit.

Prelude

Lighting of the Christ Candle

**Introit: *(Sung Together)*

MV115

Behold, behold, I make all things new,
beginning with you and starting from today.
Behold, behold, I make all things new,
my promise is true, for I am Christ the way.

Welcome & Church News

Call to Worship:

In the chaos of the earthquake,
where nature rages
against itself
and earth is shattered,
God is present.

In the wrangling of leaders
where authority
is negotiated
while lives hang
in the balance,
God is present.

In the uncertainty of illness
and the pain of grief
where hope is
tenuous
and heart pain is real,
God is present.

From the proclamations of the faithful,
 God's Word goes out
 to the ends of the earth
 and with it,
 reassurance:
God is present.

And we are present,
 upholding the downhearted,
 loving the unloved,
 feeding the hungry
 and welcoming the stranger.
 Be with us God in our time of
 worship as we live out lives
 full of wonder, love, generosity and laughter.

God is present, we are here in wonder of that presence.

Adapted from the prayer on <https://www.aplaceofgrace-juliegvillo.net/point-of-contact/call-to-worship-epiphany-4bUsed> with permission.

Gathering Prayer (said by all in unison)

Come light our world, O God. Cast love into the corners where
 hatred hides, shine peace upon the shadows of strife, turn off
 distress and turn on joy, light our world with the sunshine of
 hope. We pray in the name of the Light of the World. Amen.

Jean Leckie, Heart Lake U.C., Brampton, Ont. The Gathering, dvent/Christmas/Epiphany2017-18, page 42. Used with permission

****Opening Hymn:** VU 412 This is the Day

Exploring

Children's Time:

****Song of Praise:** MV 79 Spirit Open My Heart

After the first verse the children and teachers will

Words from Our Bible:

Robert Christie

1 Cor 8:1-13
 Mark 1:21-28
 Psalm 111 VU 833

One: This is the Word of God to guide us on our journey
 All: **Thanks be to God!**

Special Music

Reflection

****Hymn of Reflection:** VU 509 I the Lord of Sea and Sky

Responding

Presentation of Our Gifts

****Offering Verse:** *(Sung Together)*

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

****Prayer After Giving**

Prayers of Our Community

Where appropriate respond to Alex's

Oh Lord

with

Hear our prayer.

Prayer that Jesus Taught:

Our Father-Mother, who is in the heavens,
 may your name be made holy,
 may your dominion come,
 may your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us today the bread we need;
 and forgive us our debts,
 as we have forgiven our debtors;
 and do not put us to the test, but rescue us from evil.
 For yours is the dominion, and the power,
 and the glory forever. Amen.

United Church of Christ, 1995.

****Closing Hymn:** VU 82 A Light is Gleaming

****Sharing the Light**

****Commissioning and Benediction**

****Choral Amen:** *(Sung Together)* MV 225

Amen, Amen, Amen.
Amen, Amen, Amen.
repeat

Postlude

*Please join us for coffee and conversation
 after worship!*

OFFICE HOURS

(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com

Administrative Assistant - **Kris Yarych**
 Tuesdays & Thursdays from 12:45 - 3:45 pm
 foresth.office@bellaliant.com

Minister - **Rev. Deborah Ambridge Fisher**
 Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 1-4, and any other time by appointment

Church News

COMING UP @ FHUC

- Spiritual Guidance** Tue Jan 30th 7:00pm postponed from Jan 23rd
- Movie Night** Feb 2 at 7:00 pm The Zookeeper's Wife (mature)
- FH Book Club** Feb 6 at noon in the parlour
- Quilt Group** Mondays 10:00 am -12:00 pm Upper Room
- Feb 4 and Feb 11** add your voice to the "Special Music" for the 50th Anniversary on Feb 18th.
- Choir Practice** Sundays 9:30 and 11:30-12:30 in the Choir Room

Feb 4 and Feb 11, after church at 11:20: come to choir practice and add your voice to the "Special Music" preparation for our 50th Anniversary service February 18.

Youth Group Luncheon after service with Reverend Deborah. All Youth are welcome.

Spiritual Guidance Committee will meet Tuesday January 30th., 7:00 p.m. (postponed from Jan 23rd.)

Please consider making a special donation to FHUC for our 50th Anniversary. There are designated Anniversary envelopes in your package of offering envelopes. If you are on PAR, you'll find it with the extra envelopes you were given in the New Year. Or you can just make a special contribution in a plain envelope and designate it for our

Anniversary. Thank you from the 50th Anniversary Planning Committee.

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With thanks to Robert Christie who donated a side table and a curtain rod, Reverend Deborah only needs conversational chairs or wingback chairs for her office. Please let Reverend Deborah know if you have any available at a reasonable cost.

Movie Night: Movie Night at FHUC resumes on Groundhog Day, Friday, Feb. 2nd at 7:00 pm with the war-themed film “The Zookeeper’s Wife” (Mature theme)

Forest Hill Book Club will meet on Tuesday Feb 6th at noon in the church parlour. The February book is “The Diviners” by Margaret Laurence.

It is sometimes necessary to cancel services due to serious storms. A decision to cancel is made very early in the day. We put cancellation notices on our main telephone number (455-0988) and send an email to congregation members no later than 8:30 am. We also post cancellations to our Facebook page (on the left side of our main web page).

OBSERVER RENEWALS and NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS If you wish to renew your subscription or start a new subscription please let Margaret Macdougall (455-3767) know. Cost is \$25. Payment due by February 11, 2018. Payment may be cash or cheque payable to Forest Hill United Church. It may be placed on the Offering Plate in an envelope marked OBSERVER and with your envelope number, or given to Margaret.

Scripture Readers – are needed each week to assist during Worship Services. Please help Patricia Powell (455-8602), who coordinates readers, by indicating on the Reader Chart, which Sundays you would be available to read (√), if needed, and also when you would not be available (x). New readers are most welcome, and names could be added to the Chart.

Ushers/Greeters needed: Please check your schedule to see if you are available for one or more Sundays to help out with set up and greeting our congregation on Sunday mornings. Signup sheet is on the back

table. If you have any questions please feel free to ask me. Many thanks. Lorna McKnight

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Community Events

DIVORCECARE & GRIEFSHARE For more information contact the church office by phone (458-8348) or email (greg@bsbc.nb.ca). Details about DivorceCare can be found at: www.divorcecare.org. There is no charge for this program. Details about GriefShare can be found at: www.griefshare.org. There is no charge for this program.

DivorceCare will be held at Grace Memorial Baptist Church, 536 Northumberland St on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 PM beginning on January 16. For more information or to register, please contact the church office at 458-8527

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Minute for Missions Celebrating United Church Women

Our gifts for Mission & Service support United Church Women. Since the union of the Woman’s Missionary Society (WMS) and the Woman’s Association (WA) in 1962, for 55 years UCW members have lived out their mission to

- love God
- foster Christian commitment
- be faithful
- embrace spirituality
- promote respect and love for all God’s creation

We celebrate the extraordinary devotion of these ordinary heroes who have

- raised money for Mission & Service (over \$134 million)

- advocated for human rights in Canada and internationally
- cared for the sick
- promoted cooperation and leadership
- fed the church and community
- joined protests
- studied the Bible
- written letters to politicians and government leaders
- provided fellowship and service
- supported the ministry of global partners, especially the Morogoro Women's Training Centre in Tanzania, where birth attendants are trained to go out into communities and offer a healthy start for newborns as well as care for the mothers
- laughed, loved, and made room for women of all ages

Please offer your gratitude for UCW and join them in making Mission & Service a regular part of your life of faith. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.

[Matched with a companion video. View or download at www.youtube.com/unitedchurchofcanada.]