



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



11th Sunday after Pentecost
August 24, 2025 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

Gathering

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

Prelude: God of the Bible MV 28

Welcome and Announcements:

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

Amid the conflict, doubt, and worry,
the light of Christ shines out.

The light of Christ comes,
healing, challenging, restoring.

Gathered as a faith community,
we are encouraged and inspired by the light of Jesus Christ.

David Sparks in gatheringworship.ca Pentecost 1 2025. Adapted.

Introit: Spirit, Open My Heart MV 79 refrain
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:

As we gather for worship, we seek God's direction for our lives.

May God lead and guide us.

As we lift our voices in song and praise, we seek the Way of Jesus in our lives.

May Jesus Christ encourage and inspire us.

As we refresh our bodies and souls, we seek the Spirit's presence in our lives.

May the Spirit empower us and transform us.

Bill Steadman in gatheringworship.ca Pentecost 1 2025. Adapted.

Opening Prayer:

Creator of all that is good, thank you for encouraging us all to be here in this place today.

May these walls provide shelter for those who need it, both physically and spiritually.

May your loving presence in this place be carried with us in our words and actions, in everything we do. Amen!

Rosemary Godin in gatheringworship.ca Pentecost 1 2025. Adapted

****Opening Hymn:** Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom MV 10

Words from Our World: "One Drop at a Time"
by Rev Cameron Trimble

****Hymn of Praise:** I Danced in the Morning VU 352

Prayer of Self Reflection:

Holy One, we come before you this morning, grateful for this time when we can leave the rush and confusion of our daily lives outside and find peace in this sacred hour. We become aware that all our stress and striving will be for nothing unless we acknowledge that we need you, that without you we are a community without purpose, we are a people without hope. Holy One, hear the confessions that we offer in the silence of our hearts.

(Time for Silent Prayer)

Amen

Words of Assurance:

God hears our prayers, God offers healing for our troubled souls. Thanks be to God. Amen

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

May Houston

Jeremiah 1: 4-10

Psalm 71: VU p 789 Part One

Luke 13: 10-17

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

All: Thanks be to God

Message: **Sunshine Guilt and Hummingbirds**

Special Music: I Can See Clearly Now – Johnny Nash

Responding

Presentation of our Gifts:**Dedication of our Gifts:**

Generous and loving God, we bring our gifts to you this morning, praying that both givers and gifts will be transformed by you.

Fern Gibbard, Gathering A/C/E/ 2021/2022 p. 48

Sung Response: Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands VU 537

**Your work, O God, needs many hands
to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve
unless our gifts we share.**

**Because we love you and your work,
our offering now we make:
be pleased to use it as your own,
we ask for Jesus' sake.**

Prayers of the People:

Prayer that Jesus Taught:

Dear One,
closer to us than our own hearts,
farther from us than the most distant star,
you are beyond naming.

May your powerful presence become obvious not only in
the undeniable glory of the sky,
but also in the seemingly base and common processes of the
earth.

Give us what we need, day by day, to keep body and soul
together,
because, clever as you have made us, we still owe our
existence to you.

We recognize that to be reconciled with you,
we must live peaceably and justly with other human beings,
putting hate and bitterness behind us.

We are torn between our faith in your goodness and our
awareness of the evil in the world,
so deliver us from the temptation to despair.

Yours alone is the universe and all its majesty and beauty.
So it is.
Amen.

an interpretation by James Burklo 2013 on ProgressiveChristianity.org

We Go Out As God's People

****Closing Hymn: My Soul Cries Out (Canticle of the Turning)**

MV 120

**** Commissioning and Blessing:**

**** Choral Amen:** When You Walk From Here VU 298
 When you walk from here,
 when you walk from here,
 walk with justice, walk with mercy,
 and with God's humble care.

Postlude: I See a New Heaven VU 713

Forest Hill United Church

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Worship Leader – Libby Cassidy

Pastoral Care: The Rev. Ellen Beirsto (H) 506-206-1943,
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Today we thank Ron Blakney and Robert Christie
for taking care of the upkeep of the
manse and church properties.

Music Team– Alex Good, Brian Cassidy and Heather Fyffe

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych

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

Tessa Carroll will be here in place of Kris on August 26



<Our Cooperative Ministry Partner>

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