



Forest Hill United Church
'open doors, open hearts, open minds'
 2nd Sunday in Advent
 Peace & Outreach Sunday
 December 3, 2023 11:30 a.m.



WELCOME to worship!

Gathering

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

Prelude: There's a Voice in the Wilderness VU 18

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 the Advent Candles

**Introit: Peace is a Candle Linnea Good

**Peace is a candle on our journey.
 Peace is the giving and the gift.
 Over the frozen lakes of winter,
 This whispering flame of Peace we'll lift.
 For we are a people of a Story
 Of stars that sing and Love that cries,
 And though these nights are getting longer,
 The path is lit before our eyes.
 Peace is a candle on our journey.
 Peace is the giving and the gift.
 Over the frozen lakes of winter,
 This whispering flame of Peace we'll lift.**

Call to Worship:

One: Hope and Peace are the candles on our journey
All: The promise of Hope and Peace draw us together in this place
 One: Hope and Peace are gifts that will last us throughout our journey
All: The promise of Hope and Peace draws us together to worship.
 One: Let us worship together as a community of faith.

Gathering Prayer: (All)

**O loving God in whom we find Peace throughout our lives, we gather together today to prepare ourselves for the coming of your son, Jesus.
 Each year we journey through each Sunday of Advent focusing on one of your gifts. Today we gather to worship and praise you. We gather to experience the Peace which you alone can give. Amen**

**Opening Hymn: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus VU 2

Intergenerational Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught: Parker J. Palmer

**Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
 Holy and blessed is your true name.
 We pray for your reign of peace to come.
 We pray that your good will be done.
 Let heaven and earth become one.
 Give us this day the bread we need.
 Give it to those who have none.
 Let forgiveness flow like a river between us.
 From each one to each one.
 Lead us to holy innocence.
 Beyond the evil of our days
 Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
 For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
 Forever your name is All in One.**

****Hymn of Praise:** My Love Colours Outside the Lines MV 138
Those going to Sunday School will leave after the first verse

Prayer of Self Reflection:

Time for Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13, VU 802

Mark 1:1-8

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

All: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn of Reflection: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace VU 684

Presentation on the Student Hunger Program by Cassandra LeBlanc

Special Music:

Responding

Presentation and Dedication of our Gifts:

Sung Response: Creator God, You Gave Us Life MV 27 vs 3

**When with our hearts, our hands our minds,
we share our gifts with all the world,
our spirits soar beyond the veil,
to touch the very face of God.**

Prayers of the Community:

Sung Response: Spirit God, Be Our Breath MV 150 vs 3

**Loving God: be our voice, be our prayer.
Reaching out, joining hands as we share,
we seek your guidance through friendship and care.
Loving God, be our prayer.**

****Closing Hymn:** Dream a Dream MV 158

Commissioning:

**Hope and Peace have lit our journey together this morning.
Let the light from these candles flow within and among us,
so that our actions bring Hope and Peace to everyone we
meet in the coming week.**

Benediction:

****Choral Amen:** Peace Be With You (sing twice) 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: People Look East VU 9

OFFICE
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Worship Leader – Mary Grant, LLWL
Pastoral Care – Diane Robinson 506-459-8779

Usher – Jean Fisher
Tellers – Bob Fisher and Lorna McKnight
Hospitality – Annemarie Manson
Music Team – Alex Good, Brian Cassidy and Libby Cassidy

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych
Tuesday & Thursday 8:45 to 11:45 a.m.
