

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



56th Year Anniversary Sunday
1st in Lent, Communion Sunday
February 18, 2024 10 a.m.



WELCOME to worship!

Gathering

Those going to Sunday School will leave now

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

Prelude: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah VU 651

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.

Extinguish the Lenten Candle

**Introit: Gather Us In MV 7

**Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, gather us in,
Ground us, ground us in you.**

Call to Worship:

One: O give thanks to God, call on God's name. Make known God's deeds among the people!

All: Sing to God, sing praises to God. Tell of God's wonderful promises!

One: Glory to God. Let us Worship God

Gathering Prayer: (all)

Your paths are straight and true, O God. They guide all who seek the way of salvation. By your mercy you instruct your children how to pursue steadfast love and faithfulness. Upheld by your covenant and enlightened by your testimony we live securely in your goodness and truth. Hear us now as we lift our souls in praise to you. Accept our adoration, and teach us your will. Amen

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

Intergenerational Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught: adaptation from the original Aramaic Translations by Neil-Douglas Klotz in Prayers of the Cosmos
**Creator God, Father-Mother of the Cosmos.
Focus your light within us, and make it useful.
Create your reign of unity now.
Through our fiery hearts and willing hands,
help us love beyond our ideals and sprout acts of compassion for all creatures. Animate the earth within so that we can feel the wisdom underneath supporting all.
Untangle the knots within so that we can mend our hearts' simple ties to each other.
Don't let surface things delude us, but free us from what holds us back from our true purpose.
Out of you, the astonishing fire, returning light, and the sound the cosmos. Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise: Teach Me God to Wonder VU 299

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:
Mark 1:9-15

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

Reflection:

Responding

Presentation and Dedication of our Gifts

God of our hope and salvation, your covenant names us, your grace sustains us. We are a people called to minister. We are equipped through your mercy to perform deeds of compassion and love. Accept our offerings as tokens of our faithfulness. May they be used to do your will. May all that we do be a clear sign of our willingness to respond to the call of Christ. Amen

Sung Response: What Can I Do 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.**

Pre-Communion Hymn: Here, O My Lord. VU 459 vs. 1-3

Prayer before Communion; (all)

Gracious, all knowing God, to you all hearts are known, and no secrets are hidden from you. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Spirit. May we grow in love for you. May we be worthy of your calling. Open our hearts as we share this act of Holy Communion with each other. Amen

Sacrament of Holy Communion
Invitation

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion: (all)

God, we thank you that you feed us with both the mystery of Communion and in the gifts you offer us. May we seek your daily feeding, filling our spirit with your presence and the knowledge of your goodness towards us. May we be living witnesses to your love. Amen

Post-Communion Hymn: Here, O My Lord VU 459 vs. 4-5

**Closing Hymn: We Shall Go Out VU 586

Commissioning and Blessing:

**Choral Amen: May the God of Peace MV 224
**May the God of peace and of all good,
may the God of peace and of all good
be always with you.
Amen! May God's peace be with you.
Amen!**

Postlude: God Be With You VU 422

OFFICE
(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com

Worship Leader – Reverend Lisa Greenwood
Pastoral Care – Diane Robinson 506-459-8779

Usher – Jennifer Abbott
Teller – Lorna McKnight
Hospitality – Diane Robinson
Music – Alex Good, Brian Cassidy and Libby Cassidy

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