



Forest Hill United Church
'open doors, open hearts, open minds'
 Peace Sunday
 21st Sunday after Pentecost
 October 22, 2023 11:30 a.m.



WELCOME to worship!

Gathering

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

Prelude: Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom MV 10

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 of the Christ Candle

**Introit: The Web of Life – Maria Case
 A strand in the web of life let me be,
 a string on the harp that the Spir-it plays,
 At one with the sky and earth and the sea,
 In the web of life let me be,
 let me be, in the web of life let me be.

Call to Worship:

Welcome in the name of the Christ.
Welcome to this place of worship.
 Welcome, you who are weary and in need of blessing.
God will meet you here.

Welcome, you who wonder what the point of all this is.

God will meet you here.

Welcome, you who rejoice at the abundance we have been given.

God will meet you here!

Gathering Prayer: (All)

Holy and gracious God, we gather as seekers, lovers, disciples, and friends. We gather to give you thanks for the blessings of our lives and to replenish and refuel our spirits for the road ahead. We gather to learn the wisdom of your way and feel the warmth of your love. Bless our gathering as we join our hearts and minds together in worship. Amen.

**Opening Hymn: Come, O Fount of Every Blessing VU 559

Intergenerational Time:

Prayer that Jesus Taught:

Sherri J Weinberg

God - heart of the world:
 revealed through every aspect of creation:
 understood through our awareness.
 May we honour the holiness of creation and act accordingly so that your love is reflected in the way we live.
 May we always be thankful for the food we eat and the friends we have.
 May we forgive those who transgress against us and be forgiven for our own.
 In the freedom of love may we live as your heartbeat and not be compromised by hesitation.
 Through our freedom, may your justice be seen and heard and experienced forever and ever. Amen.

**Hymn of Praise: I Am a Child of God MV 157
Those going to Sunday School will leave after the first verse

Prayer of Self Reflection: (in unison)

When we participate in ways that hurt others even while we strive for freedom...

may we trust in your power more than in ourselves.

When we ignore voices that don't agree with us even as we seek to hear calls for justice and hope...

may we trust in your power more than in ourselves.

When we quietly (or not so quietly) rejoice in violence or in the ruin of enemies or the hurt of the one who hurts...

may we trust in your power more than in ourselves.

When we cannot find within us the capacity to forgive others while we hope for forgiveness for ourselves, abide with us in our struggle.

May we trust in your power more than in ourselves.

Prayers for All Seasons, Year A

-silent reflection-

Words of Assurance

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Exodus 33: 12-23

Psalms 99 VU 819

1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10

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

All: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn of Reflection: Psalm 100 VU 820

Reflection: Seeing God's Glory

Special Music:

Responding

Presentation and Dedication of our Gifts:

Sung Response: For the Gift of Creation VU 538

**For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.**

Dedicating our Gifts: (All)

Thank you, God, for these gifts of money, a symbol of abundance and a means of sharing generously all that we have. May this offering bless the ministry of this community of faith and our Mission & Service partners all over the world. Amen.

Prayers of the Community:

Sung Response: And When You Call For Me MV 96

**And when you call for me,
I have already answered.
And when you call for me,
I am already there.**

**Closing Hymn: Love Divine All Loves Excelling VU 333

Commissioning and Blessing:

**Choral Amen: We Are One VU 402 vs 4

**We are one as we hear, as we hear, heart and hand unite;
in the word we receive there's a sense that God is light.
We are one as we leave, as we love, we are loved;
and we seek justice in God's ways as we move
together from this place.**

Postlude: God Who Gives to Life VU 260

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OFFICE
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Worship Leader – Heather Donnelly, LLWL
Pastoral Care – Diane Robinson 506-459-8779

Usher – Annemarie Manson
Tellers – Jennifer Abbott and May Houston
Hospitality – Diane Robinson
Music Team – Alex Good, Brian Cassidy,
Libby Cassidy and Anthony Lecaillon

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