



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



2nd Sunday in Lent
 February 25, 2024 11:30 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

Gathering

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

Prelude: Come Touch My Heart MV 12

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.

Extinguishing the Second 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: We come today to worship
 All: **Come and gather together as a worshipping community.**

One: We come to review the work of this church in the past year.

All: **Come and gather together as those who care about Forest Hill United Church.**

One: We come to look forward and plan how we can all help shape our way into the future led by God, Christ and the Holy Spirit.

All: **Come, gather and worship together.**

Gathering Prayer: (All)

Creator God, enlighten us to your presence with us this morning.

Great Teacher, show us the paths you want us to follow.

Energizing Spirit, touch our hearts as we listen, pray and praise your name.

Prepare us in our worship to do your work together in this coming year.

Prepare us to follow Christ's journey through Lent to Good Friday and Easter's

Resurrection, the ultimate promise to us. Amen

**Opening Hymn: Touch the Earth Lightly VU 307

Intergenerational Time: What's in a Name?

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:** To Abraham and Sarah VU 634
Those going to Sunday School will leave after the first verse

Prayer of Self Reflection:

Let's face it, God,
following your prescribed way is impossible.
It is like walking a tightrope in work boots.
We try, but -
we lose patience,
we hesitate when we should act,
we cling to our routines,
we make promises with all good intention, but
we fail to follow through,
we fall short of our possibilities,
or we avoid doing the work which you require of us.
For this we seek your forgiveness.

Time for Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Psalm 22: 23-31 VU 746 Parts 3&4
Mark 8: 31-38

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

****Hymn of Reflection:** O Jesus, I Have Promised VU 120

Reflection

Special Music:

Responding

Presentation and Dedication of our Gifts:

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.**

Dedication of Offering: (All)

**God of miracles, we ask that you look upon the time, talents
and treasure given freely by your people here. Bless it so
that we use it to make a difference in our church, in our
community and in the world around us. Amen**

Prayers of the Community:

Sung Response: Stay With Us Through the Night VU 182 Verse 1

**Stay with us through the night.
Stay with us through the pain.
Stay with us,
blessed stranger till the morning breaks again.**

****Closing Hymn:** Sent Out in Jesus' Name MV 212

Commissioning and Blessing:

****Choral Amen:** May the God of Peace (X2) 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: Deep In Our Hearts MV 154

OFFICE
(506) 455-0988 | foresthillunited.com

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

Usher – Jean Fisher
Teller – Joan Mitchell
Hospitality – May Houston
Music – Alex Good, Brian Cassidy and Libby Cassidy

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