



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



Creation Time 5 / World Communion Sunday
October 6, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

Gathering

Those going to Sunday School leave now

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

Prelude: VU 213, “Rejoice the Lord is King”

Welcome:

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:

When we gather, the Holy Spirit will be with us. When we gather, we will praise your holy name. When we gather together, bless us and all creation.

As we light the candle of Christ, we joyfully welcome our Lord among us.

Introit: VU 301, “Before the Earth Had Yet Begun” (vs 1)

**Before the earth had yet begun
its journey round the burning sun,
before a seed of life had stirred,
there sounded God’s creating Word.**

Call to Worship:

Your steadfast love is before our eyes, O God.

Help us move in faithfulness.

When tests and trials come—when evil itself appears—
we place our trust in God, who knows joy and suffering.

Help us move with integrity.

Place us on level ground, O Redeemer.

**Move us to sing songs of thanksgiving
and to proclaim your wondrous deeds.**

Hans Holznael, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

Opening Prayer: (together)

O God, in the beginning, all creation began to move with your word. For millions of years, you have spoken clearly to the world. And those words have been good, beautiful, and righteous.

With your vastness and love, God's Home has opened up for creation. We rejoice and delight in the colours, sounds, textures, tastes, and smells you have given us. With life full of vitality and new energy, our vocal cords vibrate, and my heart fills with gratitude.

Hallelujah! We praise the God of Life, the God of Creation.
Amen.

Dario Barolin, 2024 World Communion of Reformed Churches

****Opening Hymn: VU 678, “For the Healing of the Nations”**

Prayer of Self Reflection:

We are conscious this day, O God, of the world’s great needs: for love, caring, and right relationships of all kinds.

We are conscious, too, of the times we fall short: the small daily choices and the large systems in society that impede the loving world you envision. Save us from hypocrisy and help us find the places where your glory abides.

Now, we have a quiet time for a deep conversation with God. O God, have mercy on us with your love.

(Time for Silent Prayer)

Words of Assurance:

God made humans a little lower than the angels, but

sometimes we lived differently. Nevertheless, God crowned us with glory and honour. We are loved and forgiven in Jesus' name.

Thanks be to God.

Hans Holznagel, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

****Hymn of Praise:** MV 195, "Long Ago and Far Away"

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Jennifer Abbott

Psalm 26

Mark 10:2-16

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

Thanks be to God

Message:

Special Music:

Responding

Announcements:

Stories for Mission and Service:

Jean Fisher

Presentation of our Gifts:

As God's family, we share our gifts with those who need what we have and receive the gifts we need from those who share them with us. Our offerings and commitments are meant to build and fulfill God's Beloved Community in this faith community and the world.

Offering Invitations and Prayers 2024, the UCC

Sung Response: MV 182, "Grateful" (short, modified version)

**Grateful for the life you give us,
Thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing
over all, O God of Love.**

**Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,
thankful for your Holy Word,
joyful in your mercy flowing,
we will praise you.**

Prayer of Dedication: (*together*)

As God's family, we share our gifts with those who need what we have and receive the gifts we need from those who share them with us. Our offerings and commitments are meant to build and fulfill God's Beloved Community in this faith community and the world.

Offering Invitations and Prayers 2024, the UCC

Service of Table

Word of Invitation:

Christ was the sibling of all. Jesus invited all his followers to the table and called them a family. Jesus' table was open to all, where people ate and drank together. Those gathered were restored in body, mind, and soul and foretaste the joy of the kingdom of God.

Today, all are invited to join this feast of love as Christian family members. Come, all God's people, family of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Invitation Hymn: VU # 467, "One Bread, One Body"

Call to Give Thanks:

God be with us.

God is here among us.

Let us open our hearts to God.

We open them to God and to one another.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving:

In the beginning, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth created us from dust. The Creator called us to live in the image of God and to be of one mind.

Even when we grumbled and complained, and we argued and

fought, God called us to unity and love. Even when we neglected God's teachings and turned away from the holy call, God invited us back into God's vineyard of mercy and grace. And so, with the people of God on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise our Creator's name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy One, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one
who comes in the name of God.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Remembering Jesus at Table:

As children of your mercy and grace, we come with humble hearts and open minds, remembering how Jesus shared a feast of love and how he invites us to share this feast of love with one another even now.

On the night before he died, Jesus took Bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke and gave it to the disciples, saying:

“Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks to you, and gave it to the disciples, saying:

“This is my life in the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.”

Affirmation of Memory and Hope:

In remembrance of these, your life-giving acts of love and grace, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as children of your love, in union with Christ's love for us, and our love for one another, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Prayer for Transformation:

Gracious God. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the life and love of Christ, that we may be the body of Christ for the world, redeemed and unified by Christ's love and grace.

**Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forever. Amen**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer:

- Sharing thanks or concerns
- Ecumenical Prayer Cycle (06 - 12 October 2024):
Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama

O Lord Jesus,

At this time, we also remember all those with whom you would have us share your feast. We pray for all who are in sorrow or in pain, all who are ill or alone, all who live with fear, oppression, or hunger, and all whom the world counts as last and least.

We pray for the Regional Council and for sibling churches and their various ministries, for countries in the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, for our province and community, for our families and friends on the journey, and for every name on our hearts.

O God, hear our voices, whether we have spoken or unspoken. Now, we pray together as Jesus taught us,

**Our Father-Mother, who is in heavens,
may your name be made holy,
may your dominion come,
may your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today the bread we need;
and forgive us our debts,
as we have forgiven our debtors;
and do not put us to the test,
but rescue us from evil.
For yours is the dominion, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen.**

Alternate versions of the Prayer of Jesus, VU. p.916

Breaking the Bread and Filling the Cup:

(Breaking of the Bread) Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.

Thanks be to God for the Bread of life.

(Pouring of the Cup) Jesus Christ, the True Vine.

Thanks be to God for the cup of blessing.

Come, for all things are now ready.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup:

- It is the open table of Jesus Christ for the whole people of God. So, Everyone is welcome to take Communion.

- When receiving the bread and cup, respond "**Amen**" or "**Thanks be to God.**"

Prayer After Communion: (together)

God, rich in grace and mercy.

Thank you for how you nurture, feed, and nourish our bodies, minds, and souls. We have experienced new hope and passion at this table. Help us to hold on to this foretaste of the kingdom of God in every step of our lives.

In Jesus' mighty name, we pray. Amen.

We Go Out As God's People

****Blessing Hymn:** VU 707,

“For the Faithful Who Have Answered”

****Commissioning and Benediction:**

Today, all the brothers and sisters of Christ in God's home joined the Feast of the Kingdom of God prepared by Christ.

Although it happened at different times and places,

Christ called us to his table and united us as one family.

We are welcomed to the table of Christ.

Now, we will reach out to our neighbours and welcome them to our table with God's love.

The grace of Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of us, now and forever.

Amen.

www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle

Postlude: VU 289, “It Only Takes a Spark (Pass It On)”

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Worship Leader – Rev. Eunky Ju

Rev. Eunky Ju (rev.ekji@gmail.com)

Tue. and Thur. at Forest Hill, 9 am - 12 pm or by appointment

Wed. and Fri. at Gibson Memorial, 9 am - 12 pm or by appointment

Usher – Annemarie Manson

Teller – Lorna McKnight

Reader – Jennifer Abbott

Mission & Service Reader – Jean Fisher

Hospitality – Diane Robinson

Music – Alex Good, Brian Cassidy and Libby Cassidy

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych

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



<Our Cooperative Ministry Partner>

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