



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



Creation Time 3  
September 22, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

## Gathering

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

**Prelude:** MV 12, “Come Touch Our Hearts”

**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:**

The bright light on the Christ candle symbolizes the Spirit of God, the Creator, and the source of life. Warm love and joyful hope from the Creator are with us in every breath and place we live.

\*\***Introit:** VU 301, “Before the Earth Had Yet Begun” (v1)

**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:**

Happy are those who follow paths of righteousness.

**We take delight in the wisdom of God.**

Happy are those who reach out to those in need.

**We find delight in the love of God.**

Happy are those who set aside envy.

**We draw delight in the selflessness of God.**

*Michelle L. Torigian, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*

## **Opening Prayer: (together)**

Triune God, Creator of all.

We praise you for your goodness, visible in all the diversity you have created. You have made us a cosmic family living in a common home. Through the Earth you created, we experience love and nourishment, home and protection.

In this season of creation, we try to listen sensitively to the groans of creatures, people, and this earth. Grant us a fresh vision of our relationship with Earth and with one another as creatures made in your image. Amen.

*Season of Creation 2024*

**\*\*Opening Hymn: VU 340 “Jesus Friend of Little Children”**

## **Prayer of Self Reflection:**

Creator God, who cares for all life, we regret before God that we have not regarded the Earth as a Mothering gift from you, our Creator.

Our selfishness, greed, neglect, and abuse have caused the climate crisis, loss of biodiversity, human suffering, and the suffering of all our fellow creatures. We have failed to listen to the groans of the Earth, the cries of all creatures, and the groans of the Spirit of hope and justice that lives within us. Lord, help us renew our responsibilities and obligations to God's beloved community.

God, now we move into a quiet time for deep conversation with you. O Lord, hear our prayers and have mercy and love on us.

*(Time for Silent Prayer)*

**Words of Assurance:**

God’s grace renews our hearts each day. The wisdom of God beckons our souls, revealing our world in a different light. In this season of creation, we will yield the fruit of faith in our adventure with God.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Season Of Creation 2024*

**Sharing Time:**

**\*\*Hymn of Praise:** MV 127, “I Saw the Rich Ones”

*Those going to Sunday School will leave after the first verse.*

## Exploring

**Words from Our Bible:**

Psalm 54

Mark 9:30-37

May Houston

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

**Thanks be to God**

**Message:**

**Special Music:**

## Responding

**Announcements:**

**Presentation of our Gifts:**

All that we are and all that we have comes from our Creator God. What we offer helps to reflect God’s love in the world today. We can share God’s abundance at this time through offerings or the work of this community of faith, Mission and Service in person and online.

*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*)

God of truth and justice, fill us with your spirit of mercy.  
Guide us in the path of righteousness. Allow us to live and act  
in solidarity with creation. Give us wisdom and courage to  
speak the truth when faced with systemic injustice and  
unfairness.

Empower us to be ecological prophets, wiping away all the  
tears of the Earth and creation. Amen.

*Season Of Creation 2024*

**Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer:**

- Sharing thanks or concerns
- The WCC Ecumenical Prayer Cycle (22 - 28 September 2024): Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Peru

*[www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle](http://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle)*

**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*

# We Go Out As God's People

**\*\*Blessing Hymn:** MV 152 vs 1-3,  
“You Who Watch the Highest Heavens”

**\*\*Commissioning and Benediction:**

May divine strength be our clothing.

**May holy righteousness be our guide.**

May the wisdom of God usher us on our path.

**May the Love of Christ yield fields of mercy.**

May we delight in our adventures with God,  
each moment of our lives.

**May we live in God's house with all creatures as God's  
beloved community.**

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

**Amen.**

*Michelle L. Torigian, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*

**Postlude:** VU 586, “We Shall Go Out”

*Worship resources are used with permission:  
One LICENSE with license # A-742581.  
All rights reserved.*

# Forest Hill United Church



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to visit the website.

45 Kimble Court, Fredericton, NB, E3B 6X5

Tel: (506) 455-0988

email: [foresth.office@bellaliant.com](mailto:foresth.office@bellaliant.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/foresthillunited](http://www.facebook.com/foresthillunited)

## OFFICE

(506) 455-0988 | [foresthillunited.com](http://foresthillunited.com)

---

Worship Leader – Reverend Eunkyū Ji

Reverend Eunkyū Ji, [rev.ekji@gmail.com](mailto: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 – Mary-Anne Blakney

Teller – Jennifer Abbott

Reader – May Houston

Hospitality – May Houston

Music – Alex Good, Brian Cassidy and Libby Cassidy

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych

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

---

<Cooperative Ministry Partner>

## Gibson Memorial United Church



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to visit the website.

183 Gibson Street, Fredericton, NB, E3A 4E4

Tel: (506) 457-1951

email: [gibsonmemorial@nb.aibn.com](mailto:gibsonmemorial@nb.aibn.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/gibsonmemorialunited](http://www.facebook.com/gibsonmemorialunited)