



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



14th Sunday after Pentecost  
August 25, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

## Gathering

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

**Prelude:** MV 41, “O Beautiful Gaia”

**Welcome & Announcements:**

**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:**

God’s light is shining, Christ’s love is flowing, and the Spirit’s presence is here, sustaining and strengthening us. As we light the Christ Candle, we affirm that the Holy Spirit of God is here with us.

\*\***Introit:** MV 1, “Let Us Build a House” (v.1)

**Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,**

**rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

**Call to Worship:**

God is our sun and our shield.

**God's glory shines upon us.**

God is our strength and our hope.

**God's faithfulness guides us.**

God is our hope and our salvation.

**God's love and mercy welcome us.**

*Mary J. Scifres, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*

**Opening Prayer: (together)**

**Holy One,**

**all those who trust in you are truly blessed.**

**Indeed, we would rather dwell outside your house than in  
the tents of the wicked.**

**We would rather have a small moment in your light than  
live in the shadows of uncertainty.**

**Hear us this day, O God, as we sing your praises. Receive  
us as we are,**

**and at the end send us out to be your people  
in our world. Amen.**

*The Whole People of God 2018*

**\*\*Opening Hymn: VU 663, "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"**

**Prayer of Self Reflection: (in unison)**

**Glorious God of spirit and life,**

**we long to look upon your face and live.**

**We yearn to shine with your glory,  
despite our tarnished lives.**

**We seek to stand firm and faithful,  
even when the storms of life threaten us.**

**Lift us up with your mercy,  
that we may perceive your loving grace.**

**Light our paths with your wisdom  
and strengthen us with your powerful Spirit,  
that we may follow you faithfully all the days of our lives.  
Now, we ask God for forgiveness and reconciliation in  
silence.**

**O Lord, hear our voices and have mercy on us.**

*(Time for Silent Prayer)*

**Words of Assurance:**

God is our sun and our shield. Christ is the bread of our lives.  
The Spirit is our strength and our power. In these truths, we  
are clothed with protection to live with justice, truth, and  
peace.

**Amen.**

*Mary J. Scifres, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*

**Sharing Time:**

**\*\*Hymn of Praise:** VU 626, "I Heard the Voice of Jesus"

## Exploring

**Words from Our Bible:**

Lorna McKnight

1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43

John 6:56-69

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

**Thanks be to God**

**Message:**

## Responding

**Presentation of our Gifts:**

Through this worship, we are called to share God's abundance  
in this age. All creation is to rejoice together in God and be  
thankful for all that has been given. As followers of Christ, we  
will build God's kingdom together in every place of our lives.

*2024 Offering Invitations and Prayers, the UCC*

**Sung Response:** MV 191, “What Can I Do?”

**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.**

**Prayer of Dedication:** *(together)*

**Bread of heaven, thank you for nourishing us  
with your mercy and your grace.  
Thank you for blessing us to be your disciples—  
disciples who share freely with your world.  
May our gifts and offerings  
become food and blessings for your world.  
Amen.**

*Mary J. Scifres, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*

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

- Sharing thanks or concerns
- The WCC Ecumenical Prayer Cycle (25 - 31 August 2024):  
Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal

**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:** VU 481, “Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”

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

God sends us forth with wisdom and understanding.

**We go to be a blessing to the world.**

God sends us forth to be honest and just.

**We go to be a blessing to the world.**

**Wherever we go, we will walk with God.**

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

**Amen.**

*Michael Beu, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*

**Postlude:**      "May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You"  
by Meredith Wilson

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# Forest Hill United Church



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## OFFICE

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Worship Leader – Reverend Eunkyu Ji

Reverend Eunkyu 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 – Robert Christie

Teller – Lorna McKnight

Reader – Lorna McKnight

Hospitality – Jennifer Abbott

Music – Alex Good, Brian Cassidy and Libby Cassidy

Pianist – Diane Robinson

Administrative Assistant - Kris Yarych

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

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<Cooperative Ministry Partner>

## Gibson Memorial United Church



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