



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



Creation Time 4 / Orange T-Shirt Day  
September 29, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME to worship!

## Gathering

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

**Prelude:** MV 144, “Like a Healing Stream”

**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:**

Orange is a warm colour for passion, creativity, fruitfulness, perseverance, and strength. It represents sunrise and sunset, fall and harvest, and the changing of seasons.

In this season of creation, the orange flame reminds us that Christ’s love and healing will be with us forever.

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

We gather to pray.

**We gather to praise.**

May our prayers extend beyond ourselves.

**May our praise rise to the heavens.**

May our lives be salty with love.

**May our prayers be reflections of peace.**

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

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

Powerful Christ,

we are grateful that you came to us as a child, who grew out of a community that nurtured, supported, and taught you the way of your ancestors.

You have asked us to do the same: to treat every child as we would treat you, to love every person as you have loved us. We are grateful that your power is rooted in love, not force; your strength is displayed through community, not might. You have taught us to work toward a better world where all of creation thrives, and where every child matters.

So that we may treat all children as we would treat you, our Beloved. May it be so. Amen.

*Orange Shirt Day Prayer, And a child will lead us, The UCC*

## **\*\*Opening Hymn: VU 581, “When We Are Living”**

### **Prayer of Self Reflection:**

On this Orange Shirt Day, we remember Phyllis Webstad as a child and the stolen childhood of all the children forcibly raised by church-run institutions known as residential schools. We lament and mourn the children who never made it home, the communities that were destroyed, the broken hearts, the stories never shared, and the shattered relationships.

We pray for healing and comfort for all who struggle with the legacy of harm that persists every day. We pray for the courage to tell the truth and work toward reconciliation.

*(Time for Silent Prayer)*

**Words of Assurance:**

Christ Child, as you grew, you reminded us to always welcome and care for children. We remember your children today and pray for healing. May we treat all children as we would treat you, our Beloved.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Orange Shirt Day Prayer, And a child will lead us, The UCC*

**Sharing Time:**

**\*\*Hymn of Praise:** VU 344,

“How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds”

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

## Exploring

**Words from Our Bible:**

Psalm 19:7-14

Mark 9:38-50

Libby Cassidy

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:**

As we have offered our prayers and praises to God, we will now offer our gifts to the world that needs our church and ministry. All our offerings, talents, and dedications are the foundation to fulfill God's Beloved Community on earth.

*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 you have blessed us, gracious God,  
bless the gifts we return to you now.  
May all our offerings and our passion for Mission and Service  
be used to bless your world with love  
and create a peaceful world  
where every child is called our Beloved. Amen.

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

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

- Sharing thanks or concerns
- The WCC Ecumenical Prayer Cycle (29 September - 05 October 2024): Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela

*[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:** VU 619, "Healer of Our Every Ill"

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

God of love, we believe that you are our hope.

**God of love, we believe that our Saviour has called us to work for peace.**

God of love, we believe the Holy Spirit is breathing new life into our communities, churches and nations.

**God of love calls all peoples and nations to work together for change wherever there is pain and suffering in our world today.**

**(all) God of love, you are our hope.**

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

**Postlude:** VU 684, "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

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# Forest Hill United Church



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## OFFICE

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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 – Jean Fisher

Teller – Joan Mitchell

Reader – Libby Cassidy

Hospitality – Jennifer Abbott

Music – Alex Good, Brian Cassidy, Libby Cassidy  
and Heather Fyffe.

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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