St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith 330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9 Confirmation Sunday/Communion May 6, 2018

Minister:	
Minister of Visitation:	
Minister of Youth/Christian Education:	
Organist:	
Choirs:	
Choirs Director:	

Rev. Brian Colbourne Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald Susan Sheppard, DLM Paul Rodermond Youth and UCW Doreen Brown

St. James United Church is a safe place for all people to worship, regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background or sexual orientation.

Musical Prelude

Acknowledgement of the Land Welcome and Announcements: Life & Work of St. James Lighting the Community Candle

Introit: Mother and God

Choirs

Call to Worship: (responsive, inspired by Psalm 97)

One: Hear the sounds of the singing of cities.

- All: They celebrate their Creator and lift their hearts in hope, as the birds rise from among the towers to greet the dawn.
- One: See the sun light up the world,
- All: and the trees on the mountains swaying in delight as the lightning sparks excitement, and the world bows before its Maker.

One: The heavens proclaim God's righteousness,

All: and we are among the people in this day who behold God's glory. Alleluia!

One: Let us worship God!

Opening Prayer: (together) Today is a great day. We can feel Your presence in the sunshine, the wind, and in our hearts. We know You are with us, holding our hands, keeping us from falling. We know You will be with us tomorrow, and the next day, and every day. On the day each of us was born, we embarked on a journey together with You, a journey which will last a lifetime. We've hit potholes, roadblocks, construction, and detours, but ultimately, we've come to a place, together where we can grow and develop a relationship. We've had help along the way, those who have supported us,

watching and guiding us as we developed into who we are. We realize one thing- that we want You in our lives. We need You in our lives. We know the journey will never end, as long as we continue on it together. Amen.

Sharing the Peace:

One: The peace of God is here...to stay. **All: Thanks be to God.** *You are invited to share the peace with your neighbours.*

Hymn:	I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry	644		
Children's Time				
Hymn:	I Am a Child of God	MV157		
Offertory InvitationChoirsOffertory Anthem: Give ThanksChoirsOffertory Chorus:Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.As You love may I love, in receiving and in giving, Spirit, open my heart				

Offertory Prayer: (together) Generous God, in confirmation we rededicate our lives to You and pledge to become Your voice in the world. Hold us close in our confirmation vows as we bring ourselves, our time, and our possessions to You that they may be gifts of Your love in a world in which Your tender voice of love is often drowned out by voices of violence, hatred, and oppression. Use us and all we have to Your works in the world. Amen.

Silence

Acts 10:44-48	The gift of the Holy Spirit comes as Peter preaches.
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Anthem:	Hallelujah (Leonard Cohen)	Youth
John 15:9-17	Love one another as I have loved you.	
Hymn:	I Have Called You by Your Name	MV161

Confirmation

Introduction

Presentation of Candidates:

Vanessa Crocker	Laura Keough	Alexandra Smith
Julia Fitzgerald	William Quinton	Hope Thomas
Nathan Fitzgerald	Sophie Skinner	

Profession of Faith and Promises

Congregational Commitment: (together) Let us pledge to these persons our continued support and care: We will continue to support you, walk with you, and grow with you. With God's help, we will live out our baptism as a loving community in Jesus Christ: nurturing one another in faith, upholding one another in prayer, encouraging one another in God's work.

Affirmation of Faith

918

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Pouring of Water Laying on of Hands Presentation of Bibles and Certificates

Prayers for the Candidates (together) Gracious God, giver of life, You have called us by name, and pledged to each of us Your faithful love. We pray today for Your blessing on them, watch over them and guide them as they continue to grow in faith. Remind us of the promises of our own baptism, and renew our trust in You. Strengthen us to do Your will, and to serve You with joy, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Blessing

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion Hymn: One Bread, One Body

467

Welcome to the Table:

One: At this table we give thanks for justice, love, peace and freedom.

All: At this table we give thanks for friends and strangers together in community in this safe place.

One: At this table we welcome old and young.

All: A place at the table. And all are invited.

Thanksgiving:

One: We give thanks for the unfolding of matter... Gifts from an Easter God.

- All: We celebrate our common origin with everything that exists.
- One: We celebrate the mystery we experience and address as 'God'... unique and personal expression.
- All: God is everywhere present.

The Story:

One: We remember the stories from our tradition... enable us to dare

and to dream and to risk.

- All: Together may we re-imagine the world.
- One: Together may we work to make all things new.
- All: Together may we celebrate the possibilities and hope we each have and are called to share.

One: For everyone born, a place at the table...

Bread and Wine:

One:We break the bread ... plundered for greed.

All: May there be healing of our beautiful blue and green planet.

One:We break this bread ... exploitation and oppression.

All: May there be the healing of humanity.

One:We break this bread ...and the Muslims.

All: May there be healing where there is pain and woundedness.

One:We break this bread... within us all.

All: May we be healed.

One:This is the cup of peace and of new life for all. A sign of love for the community of hope.

All: A reminder of the call to live fully, to love wastefully, and to be all that we can be.

Communion

Prayer after Communion: (together) May our eyes be filled with seeing and our minds with knowing. As the sun rises each day in perfect newness, so may we break upon each new day with splendour and expectation; renewed creatures content with reflected radiance and dirty fingernails. Amen.

Hymn:	Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness	375

Blessing

Choral Benediction: Prayer of Dedication

UCW

Musical Postlude

Ushering this morning is provided by Usher in Charge: Menetha Dyke Greeters: Donna Downey, Shirley Downey Ushers: Glenda Butt, Barbara Butt, Florence Head, Betty Pilgrim, Jean White, Linda Babstock

After the Service, please join our Youth Ministries team in the auditorium for their monthly soup lunch. Cost is a donation.



An evening of music and song with The St. James United Church Guitar Group <u>Date</u>: Thursday, May 24 <u>Time:</u> 7:30 p.m. <u>Place:</u> St. James United Church Sanctuary <u>Admission at the Door</u>: \$10.00 per person Come out and enjoy an evening of great music and songs!

St. James United Church Life and Work, May 6, 2018

We offer our condolences to Lee-Ann Fleming, her siblings, family and friends, on the passing of Lee-Ann's beloved father, Samuel 'Ches' LeGrow on April 27. His funeral took place from St. James on May 1.

We also offer our condolences to Dawson and Jeanette Stuckless, their family and friends, on the passing of their daughter, Shelley Stuckless Warner on May 1. Her funeral took place from St. James yesterday.

We gratefully acknowledge a donation to the General Fund in loving memory of Ches LeGrow from the AOTS Men's Club.

After today's 11am Worship Service: Please join our Youth Ministries team in the auditorium for their monthly soup lunch. Cost is a donation.

Tomorrow, Monday, May 7: Beginner Quilting with Susan continues at 4:30pm.

Tuesday, May 8: *2pm: Pleasant View Towers Service; volunteers, please meet at 1:30 in the Chapel; *7-9pm: Grief and Bereavement Information Session in the Cafeteria Conference Room, L.A. Miller Centre. For Further Information, please contact Peter Barnes at 777-2167 <u>or Mag</u> Snook at 777-8972.

Thursday, May 10: Uppity Women of the Bible group in the Youth Room at 7pm.

"You are invited to a fun evening of song: Thursday, May 24 at 7:30. You will know many of the tunes, and will be encouraged to sing along. Looking to take a friend or family member out for an evening? This guitar and accordion concert is sure to give you a lift! We hope to see you here. The more the merrier! Tickets at the door!" The St. James Guitar Group

Minute for Mission: Our gifts for M&S change lives around the world. Our global partner, the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK) is addressing the problem of severe drought by creating a conservation agriculture program. This model uses matching, crop rotation and minimal tilling, combines with water harvesting, and management to move toward the goal of local food security. The NCCK works with Kenya's National Drought Management Agency and advises the agency of needs in drought stricken areas. The agency in turn reports to the national government where help is needed. Much effort is made through various organizations doing trials and experiments in technologies to determine the varieties of drought tolerant maize and legumes that are the most suitable for growing in parts of Kenya. The agency partnerships started as a result of M&S support of conservation agriculture. They share best practices and enjoy a collaborative relationship. Farmers appreciate the support this project has received. In one area, more than 800 households have participated in the conservation agriculture project. Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our M&S.

Project Grace is hosting Summer Music Camps for children in grades 1 through 9, and Adult Music Lessons during July and August! A wide range of camps and lessons is available - something for everyone! Please visit projectgrace.ca for more information and fill out the online registration forms.

Please Support School Breakfasts for Canadian Children! In Canada it only costs \$1 to give a child a breakfast, and yet every morning over 1 million children go to school without a meal. Recognizing this problem, Enactus Memorial, a volunteer organisation from Memorial University's Faculty of Business, started their latest project: *SmartCooking*. It's a social enterprise that, through a partnership with Choices for Youth, employs at-risk youth to produce a healthy, ready-to-eat cookie dough, SmartCookie. SmartCookie is then sold, with profits going to the Breakfast Club of Canada, allowing them to provide balanced breakfasts to children in need. If you would like to purchase SmartCookie for yourself, or would like to make a donation to purchase some for a local youth community group in need, please contact choir member Stephen Browne (scbb80@mun.ca, 763-8804), or visit www.smartcookingco.ca

Request for Assistance: The Jimmy Pratt Memorial Outreach Centre provides a hot breakfast every Monday morning from 8:30 - 10, to help those less fortunate. The program's sponsor is Husky Energy, providing the financial support as well as 4 staff volunteers each week to help prepare, serve and do the clean up. They need 4 additional volunteers weekly during the summer months to give their fall, winter and spring volunteers a break and avoid burnout. If you could spare a Monday morning, any Monday, from May 21 to September 9, they could use your help. They will have a cook and team leader on hand each week. If you can help or need more information, please call George Parsons, Programs Coordinator 685-0066.

This evening: Cowan Heights United Church Dessert & Silent Auction Party at 6:30pm; music by Whizgiggin; doors open at 6pm, tickets are \$15.

Wesley United Church's three separate Flipper Dinners on Thursday, May 10, Thursday, May 24 and Thursday, June 7, all at 6pm. Eat in only, no takeouts. Tickets are \$25, valid only on the night for which they are purchased, from Pheobe at 726-1689, Joan at 368-0434 or Wesley Church office at 579-3682.

Agnes Pratt Mother's Day Afternoon Tea on Saturday, May 12. Tickets are \$15 per person, available from Jackie, 752-8957. They will have a lovely selection of homemade pastries with jams and cream and delicious tea sandwiches.

Aurora Women's Choir's 4th annual Spring Concert, Saturday, May 12, 7:30pm in our Sanctuary. Special guests are the Trinitas Chamber Ensemble - Michelle Cheramy (flute), Nathan Cook (cello), & Phil Roberts (piano). Tickets \$20 regular, \$18 student/senior; children 12 & under, free admission.

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