

# St. James United Church

September 8, 2019/Creation Time begins/Communion

Minister: Rev. Brian Colbourne  
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM  
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown  
Organist: Amy Dalziel  
Soloist: Hannah Sheppard  
Usher in Charge: Susan Pike  
Greeters and Ushers: Robert & Betty Langdon,  
Bill & Cindy Pike

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

## MUSICAL PRELUDE

**LIGHTING THE CANDLE:** (One) We are here this morning, surrounded by the promises of the faith and alive to opportunities yet to be experienced.

## WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: God is creating a new world, and invites us to be a part of it.

**All: God is promising new and bright futures for those who follow God.**

One: We rejoice in the goodness of God.

**All: Thanks be to God, who makes all things good. Let us worship God.**

**OPENING PRAYER:** (together) Loving God, we gather together to celebrate Your gift of life and light given to us in Jesus, through whom we find Your forgiving, renewing grace. We offer this time of worship and reflection to the glory of God. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**HYMN:** *Worship the Lord* 401

## CHILDRENS' TIME, BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

**HYMN:** *Spirit, Open My Heart* MV79

## OFFERTORY INVITATION

### OFFERING

**OFFERTORY CHORUS:** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures high and low;  
give thanks to God in love made known:*

*Creator, Word and Spirit, One.*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER:** (together) We joyfully bring our gifts to You, Holy One. We ask Your blessings on these gifts. Give us joy in our hearts from the knowledge that our gifts will help not only us and our mission, but also the world around us. Continue to grow our generosity so that we may better serve You and Your world. Amen.

**SOLO:** *Nocturno*

**SCRIPTURE:** Isaiah 65: 17-25  
2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13

## **MEDITATION**

**INVITATION TO CONFESSION:** (One) God has opened to us the gates of righteousness that we may enter through them. Confident in God's love, let us confess our sin.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:** (together) Holy One, sometimes the trials of our lives can seem too heavy a burden to bear. The slings and stones of the world hurt us deeply. Forgive us when we lash out at those who seek to wound our spirits. Forgive us when we forget to return hatred with love. Forgive us when we forget to forgive ourselves for our very human reactions. Help us to remember to take refuge in You, for You forgive our failings and redeem us in Your faithfulness. Amen.

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**A NEW CREED** 918

**HYMN:** *Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face* 459

## **SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

(Please follow the congregation communion liturgy.)

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD & POURING OF THE CUP**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:** (together) Thank You, O Christ, for this feast of life. We are fed by Your love; we are strengthened by Your life. We are sent forth into this world to live Your way and share Your joy. We are now commissioned to feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN:** *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* 575

**SENDING FORTH:** (together) Let us go out with joy awakened to the treasures within and around us, to bring transformation, challenge and hope to the world. And may the

abundant blessings of God, Source, Saviour and Spirit, be ours today and always. Amen.

### **BLESSING FOLLOWED BY MUSICAL POSTLUDE**

*(Let us share the peace of Christ with each other as we leave.)*

**Minute for Mission:** Our gifts for Mission & Service support programs at places like Naomi Centre and Emmanuel House, both part of Stella's Circle in St. John's. For Canada's 150th celebration in 2017, Stella's Circle organized a concert. *Stella's Circle Sings for Canada* featured the premiere of a song written by the Inclusion Choir with Amelia Curran, and a screening of a film by Roger Maunder about the process. The Inclusion Choir includes many living on the edges of Newfoundland society, blended with staff from Stella's Circle. The concert was due in large part to three student placements. Reflecting on their learning, the students spoke about the power of the song-writing process and how participants saw the song as "our song." One said it allowed her to focus on how music can have an impact on social situations and lives; another commented on the fact that as soon as choir members walked out on stage, they stood taller. He saw singing as a mindfulness act. The third saw how the work she learned in human resources could be put into action in terms of diversity, and she enjoyed how everyone collaborated. From the perspective of Stella's Circle, they saw three students embrace something new, fit right in, and add value to what was happening at Stella's Circle. What a great experience for all!

*St. James United Church Life and Work, September 8, 2019*

**We gratefully acknowledge the following donations** from the summer:

\*to the Bethany Danielle Pike Memorial Camp Fund from the Sorensen School of Dance, their Christmas Concert 2018;

\*to Project Grace from Susan L Pike in Toronto.

<p><b>Financial Update:</b> St. James sincerely thanks our congregation for their ongoing support. To meet our budget, we need average weekly givings of \$3,961. (This includes the weekly PAR contributions.</p> <p>Givings for: August 18: \$2,915 August 25: \$3,938 September 1: \$2,721</p>
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**St. James would like to extend a warm welcome to our first time visitors** with a little welcome gift. The ushers will bring it to you if you raise your hand during the welcome but if you prefer, you can identify yourself to the ushers as you leave. Thanks for attending our service and please sign our guest book. We feel privileged to have you join us.

**Next Sunday, September 15, 2-6:30pm:** United Communities of Faith joint church picnic at The Sunshine Camp on Thorburn Road. There will be food, crafts, stories, games and entertainment. This is a free event – just show up! Rain venue will be at St. James. The Committee is seeking congregation members who wish to share their talents or volunteer to

help make it happen on that day. If you are interested in making this a great event please contact Kelly Tuck, 682-7698, [kellyetuck01@gmail.com](mailto:kellyetuck01@gmail.com)

### **Heads-up for Choirs:**

**\*Our Senior Choir** begins their practices this Tuesday, September 10 at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary. New members welcome!

**\* AOTS and UCW Choirs** will have their first practice together on Wednesday, September 25 at 10am. New members welcome!

**\*Our Youth Choir** will begin practices on Wednesday, September 25 at 7pm. New members needed!

**Monday, September 9, 3-6pm:** Susan's Sewing Studio Fall Session begins. No matter your gender, age, ability or faith, drop in anytime between 3 and 6 to start or continue a project. Relax, sew, chat, laugh and receive help and friendship from others in an informal atmosphere. Just bring yourself, your sewing machine and materials.

**Monday, September 9, 7:30pm:** Our UCW will be starting their fall meetings in the Auditorium. New members welcome!

**English Country dancing starts Tuesday, September 10 at 7:30pm** in the Fellowship Room. Come and join them for an evening of dance. For information:745-3881

**Thursday, September 12: 2-4pm:** Café of Memories 2019 at Freemasons' Hall, Mount Pearl for an afternoon of entertainment and refreshments for those with dementia and their caregivers, hosted by the Alzheimer Society of NL and Lodge Westmoorland. Call 576-0608 to register - no charge.

**Saturday, September 21 at 5pm:** Burry Heights Dinner Theater. Entertainment is provided by young members of the Burry Heights community. Dinner tickets are \$20/adult and \$10/children. Email [burryheightsday@gmail.com](mailto:burryheightsday@gmail.com) or call 754-8824 for tickets or more info.

**Sunday, September 22, noon -2pm:** St. James' Third Annual Diversity Fair in our Auditorium. Come learn about groups working to make St. John's a more inclusive and just community. Refreshments will be served.

**Project Grace is offering:** *\*Music Lessons for Grown Ups* on Tuesday evenings, September 17 - November 7, 7:30-8:30pm for \$120 per person at The Bethany Center. Registration is now open online: [www.projectgrace.ca](http://www.projectgrace.ca)

**\*Project Grace is now accepting** registration for their After School Music Program for children in grades 1 through 12. Lessons are offered in violin, cello, flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, piano, percussion and ukulele. Please visit [www.projectgrace.ca](http://www.projectgrace.ca) to learn more & to sign up!

**This afternoon, 2-3pm** in the Community Room at the St. John's Farmers' Market, 245

Freshwater Road: *The Seniors Memory Mug Up*. This is a free and informal story sharing session for seniors.

**Please see the Community notice board outside the Sanctuary for information on some community events, including:**

\*Bridges To Hope fundraiser on Thursday, October 3 at 6pm: Dinner theatre for \$80 – *Over the Narrows and into History*. 722-9225;

\*Office Admin. position available at Cowan Heights UC.

THE END