

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of
John Harvey Butt, November 7, 1921 - November 26, 2005
from
daughters and sons-in-law, Glenda & Glenn Winsor, Gloria & Keith
Le Feuvre and grandson Joel Le Feuvre.

St. James United Church

November 24, 2019/Reign Of Christ Sunday

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| Minister: | Rev. Brian Colbourne |
| Minister of Youth/Christian Education: | Susan Sheppard, DLM |
| Minister Emeritus: | Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown |
| Guest Minister: | Rev. Jim von Riesen |
| Organist: | Amy Dalziel |
| Choir: | St. John's Gay Men's Chorus |
| Choir Director: | Yohei Sakai |
| Accompanist: | Sarah Sauvé |
| Usher in Charge: | Barry Cutler |
| Greeters and Ushers: | Linda Babstock, Sandra Thistle, Bill & Cindy Pike |

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

WELCOME

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND WORK

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE: (One) We light this candle as a reminder that the Eternal Divine Spirit moves around, among and within us, calling us into Sacred Community.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: We come to this sacred circle because we seek to worship our God, and we hunger for a closer relationship with the Eternal Presence.

All: Every morning, every day, every evening, every moment, God is with us.

One: We come, because we seek a better understanding of Jesus so we might follow Him more faithfully.

All: Jesus will feed us with hope, will replace our emptiness with grace and walk with us on our Journey.

One: We come, because we thirst for the Spirit.

All: The Divine Spirit, who fills our yearning for peace and can quench our thirst for justice.

PRAYER OF APPROACH: (together) God of steadfast love, You offer to all a world where all thirst is quenched, all the hungry are fed, all strangers become family. You dare to envision a world where we do not waste a single person, but offer hope to those in despair, bring light into every shadow and embrace the lonely and broken. You inspire us not to toss aside any of the gifts we have received, but to offer peace to angry hearts, to share joy with mourners and to welcome those whose ways are not ours. Continue, we pray, to nurture us with Your steadfast grace. Amen.

HYMN: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* 651

CHILDRENS' TIME, BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

HYMN: *How Firm a Foundation* 660

We Respond to God's Love

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY CHORUS: *In Gratitude and Humble Trust*

*In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today
to serve Your cause and share Your love with all along life's way.
O God, who gave Yourself to us in Jesus Christ, Your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (together) Having been blessed by You, Loving God, we will not waste our gifts but offer them back to You, so that parched throats might be soothed by Your grace, the hungry feed on Your bounty, and the strangers welcomed as family who have been away for too long. This we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

ANTHEM: *The Storm is Passing Over* Choir

We Listen for God's Word

HEBREW SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 55:1-9

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 63, Refrain #2 781

HYMN: *Holy Spirit, Truth Divine* 368

GOSPEL READING: Luke 13:1-9

MEDITATION: Plant Deep; Water Often

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sending Forth

HYMN: *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

120

COMMISSIONING:

One: God sends us out to empty our gifts for others,

All: letting us charge whatever we need to grace's account.

One: Jesus sends us out to find those who are thirsty and hungry,

All: giving us the water for parched children, filling our arms with bags of groceries for the hungry.

One: The Spirit sends us out to search for those who long for community,

All: taking us by the hand when we grow weary, so we might continue to welcome the stranger.

BENEDICTION

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

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

St. James United Church Life and Work, November 24, 2019

We offer our condolences to the children, family and friends of Helen Crummell, who passed away on November 19. Helen's funeral service will take place from St. James tomorrow Monday, November 25 at 2pm.

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations to the General Fund in loving memory of Ben Lake:

- *Kevin & Marilyn Pardy
- *Howard & Alice Forsey
- *Running Peeps and Stride
- *Craig and Cathy Whalen
- *Edward Hodder
- *Jean and George White
- *Mary Lush
- *Nellie Thompson
- *Wife Maude Lake
- *Jean and Paul Thompson

We gratefully acknowledge a donation to the General Fund in loving memory of Rev. William Coish from Howard & Alice Forsey.

We gratefully acknowledge a donation to the Cemetery Fund in loving memory of Cecil G. Cole from Muriel and family.

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| Financial Update: 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.) | Givings: November 3: \$3,168 |
| | November 10: \$4,861 |
| | November 17: \$3,264 |

If you use envelopes, please find your 2020 box on a window sill or chair in the Sanctuary, in alphabetical order of your last name. If you are considering setting up PAR for 2020, this is a great time to do it!

Are you looking to help in some way? Our Lay Visitation Program Co-ordinator is looking for folks who may be interested in participating in the program. If this area of help speaks to you, please call or email SuAn in the office: 722-1881, ext. 200, info@stjamesuc.org and let her know your availability. *“One of the comforts that life offers us is that you cannot sincerely help others without helping yourself.”* William Shakespeare

Monday, November 25: Susan’s Sewing Studio is cancelled due to the funeral.

Christmas Poinsettia: If you would like to order one or more, please write your order on the sheet outside of Susan’s office; \$15 per plant.

Next Sunday, December 1: The Soup lunch is postponed until Sunday, December 15.

Stella's Circle annual Christmas event seeking donations of gift cards. Gail Thornhill, Housing Director for Stella's Circle, notes: *“St James UC has been generously supportive of the Stella's Circle annual Christmas service and dinner. The past couple of years the congregation has donated gift cards to be given out at the dinner as draw prizes.”* Cards can be dropped off at our church office by Wednesday, December 4.

The popular Palestinian olive oil, dates and seasoning are again available for purchase from Karen Brown, 689-7297.

Minute for Mission: Our gifts for Mission & Service support ministries like *Our Place Society* in Victoria, BC, which offers programs for those on the margins that make everyone feel like family. One of the proudest moments of the Victoria Pride Parade was when a young pre-op transgender woman said that she never felt brave enough to walk in the parade until the day she marched with the staff and family of Our Place. It says a lot about the unique downtown centre for Victoria’s most vulnerable that this woman felt included in Our Place’s definition of

family. It is one thing to preach hope and belonging, but quite another to live it. Loving our neighbours is at the core of Our Place, as all who come through its doors become family.

Bethlehem Market, Saturday, November 30 at St. James!

Admission: \$2.00 single; \$5.00 family of 3 or more

Sanctuary: Nativity with music

11-11:30: Contemporary
12-12:30: Children's Music
1-1:30: Pipe Organ
2-2:30: St. James' Guitar Group

Auditorium: Bethlehem Market Café

10-11:30: Muffin and drink \$2.00
11:30- 2: Hot dog, drink and a sweet \$5.00
Soup, roll, drink and a sweet \$5.00

- *Live animals
- *Bake Sale
- *Craft Sale
- *Flea Market
- *Fish Pond
- *Carpenter Shop

Items for the bake table and the café can be dropped off at the church anytime after 1 pm on Friday

Items remaining to be volunteered: Soup - 1 Vegetarian, 1 Turkey

We look forward to seeing you here!

This evening at 7: Cowan Heights United Church: A Musical Pot Luck for a celebration and dedication of their Grand Piano. Tickets are \$20; children under 12, no charge. For tickets contact Cowan Heights church office, 745-2871 or Sharon Collins, 682-7973.

Yoga at Cowan Heights UC: Chair Yoga Classes: Tuesday and Wednesday at 10am. Yoga: Monday and Wednesday at 7pm. \$10 drop-in fee; buy 7 classes, get your 8th class free. Instructor is Pat Watkins, fit4life_nl@yahoo.com

The Glenbrook Lodge Ladies' Auxiliary's annual Christmas Gospel Concert, Friday, November 29 at 7:30pm at The Salvation Army St. John's Citadel, Adams Avenue. Tickets (\$12) from Bernice Langdon (368-1850), Major Fran Duffett (745-5232), or the Glenbrook Lodge (752-8896).

Gower Street UCW Fall/Christmas Afternoon Tea and Sale, Saturday, November 30' 2-3:30pm in their Lecture Hall. Tickets are \$7 at the door.

Please see the Community notice board outside the Sanctuary for information on more community events.

THE END