

## St. James United Church

December 29, 2019/First Sunday after Christmas

Minister:	Rev. Brian Colbourne
Minister of Youth/Christian Education:	Susan Sheppard, DLM
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Organist:	Amy Dalziel
Music Group:	St. James' Guitar Group
Usher in Charge:	Eric King
Greeters and Ushers:	Don Blackmore, Ruth Baker, May King, Robin Bartlett, Paul Walsh

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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:** *I Saw Three Ships*  
*O Come, All Ye Faithful*  
*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

### WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LIGHTING THE CANDLE:** (One) We give thanks for the light of hope. We give thanks for the light of peace. We give thanks for the light of joy. We give thanks for the light of love.

Now let us light the Christ candle as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Jesus Christ is the Light of the world. The light shines in the darkness. And the darkness has not overcome it.

**INTROIT HYMN:** *Joy to the World* 59

### CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Light shines in shadowed places.

**All: Hope abounds where once there was fear.**

One: God's chosen one is born into our hearts.

**All: We honour the child with gifts of devotion, love and commitment.**

One: We worship with gladdened hearts.

**All: Let us worship God.**

**OPENING PRAYER:** (together) Dear God, we gather today to remember the birth of Jesus. Today we celebrate and give thanks that Jesus came into a chaotic world with the message of hope and peace. Amen.

### CHILDREN'S TIME, BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



An opportunity to “come and see” our Mission & Service global partners can deepen our understanding of what it means to be in partnership. The People in Partnership program goes deeper, combining the experience of what we are called to be as a United Church, and how we are to live out the greatest commandment of loving one another and loving our neighbours through a program of conversation and integration. Those who have gone on one of the “come and see” experiences have come back changed. The experiences offer a way to see the world with new eyes and a transformed heart. The result is a life-changing view of the world, and Mission & Service as the heart and soul of The United Church of Canada. Opportunities for short-term and longer-term experiences are available. To learn more, visit People in Partnership on The United Church of Canada website, [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca)

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