

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9
May 16, 2021



The Church is a fellowship of believers who have responded to God's call through Jesus Christ. As members of a Christian community initiated by Christ to proclaim God's love for the whole creation, we are called to:

- (1) Believe in God and God's love made visible in Jesus Christ;
- (2) To participate in a spiritual journey, intentionally proclaiming, celebrating and deepening spiritual consciousness;
- (3) To be good stewards of all that we possess and to care for the Earth which is God's creation;
- (4) To develop meaningful and caring relationships with others as well as with God;
- (5) To empower individuals and groups, in response to the call of Christ, to increase their awareness of the oppressive forces around them, and with God's help, to seek justice for all people.

Administration/Office:

Church Email:

Church Web Site:

Facebook:

Twitter:

Instagram:

Emergency Pager:

NL Conference:

U.C. of Canada:

722-1881, ext. 200

info@stjamesuc.org

www.stjamesuc.org

St. James United Church

StJamesUnited

St.JamesUC

727-4067

www.newlabconf.com

www.united-church.ca



The bulletin may be accessed at stjamesuc.org/bulletins
password: StJamesUC

St. James United Church

May 16, 2021/Seventh Sunday of Easter

Minister: Rev. Jim Von Riesen
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Music Director: Amy Dalziel
Soloists: Katelyn Mayo
Rebecca-Ann Bartlett

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

We Gather as God's People

MUSICAL PRELUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY/FIRST PEOPLES

WELCOME

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:

We light this candle to remind us that Jesus is the Light of the world. May the light of Christ burn in us and in this place as we worship.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: As we enter into this sacred place, may we put away the pressures of the world that ask us to perform, to take up masks, to put on brave fronts and may we silence the voices that ask us to be perfect.

All: This is a community of compassion and welcoming. We bring all that we are and all that we yet can be, to this safe and holy place.

One: The Eternal Spirit moves around, among and within us drawing us into sacred community. Let us worship together.

OPENING PRAYER: (in unison)

**Loving God, always among us; we rejoice and give thanks for this day and for the opportunity to gather as a community for worship. May we be aware of the divine presence all around and within us as we lift our hearts and voices in praise.
Amen.**

HYMN: *New Every Morning* VU 405

We Respond to God's Love

OFFERING RECOGNITION:

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)

Eternal, life giving Spirit, we dedicate our offerings, our lives and all that we have to the work of life, of love, of peace. Receive our gifts and lead us in wisdom and courage. Amen

ANTHEM/SOLO/SPECIAL MUSIC

We Listen for God's Word

EPISTLE READING: Galatians 2:15-21

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 32 VU 759

Blessed are those whose offences are forgiven,
Whose sin has been put away.

**Blessed are those to whom God imputes no guilt,
And in whose spirit there is no deceit. R**

When I keep silent, my body wasted away,
While I groaned all the day long.

**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
My strength dried up as in a summer drought.**

Then I acknowledge my sin to you, my guilt I did not hide.

I said: "I will confess my sins to God";

And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all the faithful pray to you in time of trouble;

When great floodwater rises, it shall not come near them.

You are a hiding place for me,

You will preserve me from trouble;

You will surround me with shouts of deliverance. R

I will teach you, and guide you in the way you should go.

I will keep you under my eye and instruct you.

Be not like a horse or mule, without understanding,

Whose course must be checked with bit and bridle.

Many pains are in store for the wicked,

But whoever trusts in God,

Is surrounded by steadfast love. R

HYMN: *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* VU 271

GOSPEL READING: Luke 7:36-50

MEDITATION: Put an Extra Leaf in the Dinner Table!

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

We Are Sent Forth to Live our Faith

HYMN: *To Show by Touch and Word* VU 427

To show by touch and word devotion to the earth,
to hold in full regard all life that comes to birth,
we need, O God, the will to find
the good you had of old in mind.

Renew our minds to choose the things that matter most,
our hearts to long for truth till pride of self is lost.
For every challenge that we face
we need your guidance and your grace.

Let love from day to day be yardstick, rule, and norm,
and let our lives portray your word in human form.
Now come with us that we may have
your wits about us where we live.

COMMISSIONING: (in unison)

**We leave here to continue our journey of faith; open to receive the gifts of life,
and to share the love we have been given. May our living be filled with joy.**

BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: *Go Now in Peace*

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Life and Work – May 16, 2021

We would like to acknowledge the following donation to the Cemetery Fund:

*in memory of Mother Mildred Blackwood and sister Ida Dowden from Lorna Jamieson

We would like to acknowledge the following donation to the Memorial Fund:

*in memory of Marjorie Gibbs and Winona Kelsey from Gerald White and Carolyn Bradbury

We would like to acknowledge the following donations to the General Fund:

*in memory of Winona Kelsey from Bill and Glenda Butt

*in memory of Winona Kelsey from Kimberly Kelsey

*in memory of Mothers Margaret Quick Babstock and Mildred Bradley Murphy from Linda and Ed Murphy

On Sunday May 16th at 2 PM (NDT), the service for Rebecca Pike's Commissioning as a Diaconal Minister with the United Church is taking place. You can watch the live stream of the service using the UCC East Youtube Channel or the First Dawn Eastern Edge Facebook page:

UCCEast YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG9m0i4iudZEdE4Ts1dr1CQ>

First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstDawnEasternEdgeRC>

Topsail United Church & Friends present "Spring has Sprung!", a virtual concert fundraiser, Fri. May 28 at 7pm. Tickets at [Facebook.com/TopsailUnitedChurch](https://www.facebook.com/TopsailUnitedChurch) and [Eventbrite.ca](https://www.eventbrite.ca) or contact office@topsailunited.ca or 834-4567. Minimum \$10 suggested donation. An email address is required to receive a private concert link

The George St United Church and the Jimmy Pratt Memorial Outreach Centre will be hosting a Turkey Cold Plate Take Away Dinner on May 29th, 2021 AT 4:00 PM. Tickets for the dinner are \$15.00 each and can be purchased at the GSUC office Monday- Friday 8:00 AM -12:00 PM. Tickets will be on sale till May 25, 2021. There will be no tickets sold at the door.

Topsail United Church Men's Club will be holding a takeout Flipper Dinner on Monday May 24 from 4:30 until 6 P.M. Tickets \$25 and must be paid for in Advance. No tickets sales at the Door. Tickets are available by calling the church office at 834-4567. Due to Covid 19, social distancing must be maintained during pick up. There will be no ticket sales after May 19.