

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9
May 2, 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:



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info@stjamesuc.org
www.stjamesuc.org
St. James United Church
StJamesUnited
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727-4067

NL Conference:
U.C. of Canada:

www.newlabconf.com
www.united-church.ca

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

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of
Mother Sadie M. Butt
& *Aunt Mildred Legrow*
from Glenda Winsor & Gloria Le Feuvre
and families

St. James United Church

May 2, 2021/Fifth 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

Associate Music Director:

Branden Olsen

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:

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." This candle is lit to remind us that we have the light of life and it is ours to share.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: When we stand at the edge of fear and worry,

All: God invites us to step into the waters of faith and trust.

One: When we stand at the edge of the world's pain and need

All: Jesus invites us to step into the land of humble service.

One: When we stand at the edge of our hunger and thirst:

All: The Spirit invites us to feast and drink from the bounty of grace.

One: Let us worship the God of Love and Acceptance.

OPENING PRAYER: (in unison)

Spirit of life and love, once again, we have gathered in this sacred place. May we create here a community of love, ever expanding, ever growing: A place of wisdom; A place of connection; A place of service; A place of hope. Amen.

HYMN: *In Christ There is No East or West* VU 606

We Respond to God's Love

RECOGNITION OF OUR OFFERINGS:

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)

Take our gifts, Composing God, and weave a song of healing for the broken, of nourishment for the hungry, of hope for those who despair, and peace for those torn by violence. We sing our praises, as we offer our treasures, as well as our hearts, for the work of the church. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

PURPOSE

PRESENTATION OF PARENTS AND CHILD

Kane James Paul Bavis

child of Megan Andrea Blundon & Brandon Charles Jamie Bavis

Hayley Nicole Hunt

child of Brittany Nicole Roberts & Logan Melvin Hunt

PARENTS' VOWS

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT: (in unison)

We have heard the will of the parents. We receive this child in Christ's name as we ourselves have been received. We all belong to the one household of faith in Jesus Christ. We will support these parents and their child through prayer and provide a community of faith in which they are welcome to belong. May we serve God's world together. AMEN

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (A NEW CREED) (in unison)

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.**

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,**

our judge and our hope.

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

THE ACT OF BAPTISM

LIGHTING AND PRESENTATION OF BAPTISMAL CANDLE

ANTHEM/SOLO/SPECIAL MUSIC

We Listen for God's Word

EPISTLE READING: I Corinthians 12:12-27

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 19

VU 740

The heavens declare the glory of God;
And the vault of the sky reveals God's handiwork.

**One day speaks to another,
And night shares its knowledge with night,**
And this without speech or language;
Their voices are not heard.
**But their sound goes out to all the lands,
Their words to the ends of the earth. R**

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun
Which comes out like a bridegroom from under the canopy,
like an athlete eager to run the race.

***Its rising is at one end of the sky,
It runs its course to the other,
And there is nothing that is hidden from its heat. R***

*God's law is perfect, refreshing the soul;
God's instruction is sure,
Giving wisdom to the simple;
God's precepts are right, rejoicing the heart;
God's commandment is pure
giving light to the eyes;
God's fear is clean, enduring forever;
God's judgements are true,
Every one of them righteous;
More desirable than gold, even much fine gold;
Sweeter also than honey,
Pure honey from the comb. R*

*By them is your servant warned;
For in keeping them there is great reward.
But who can discern unwritten sins?
O cleanse me from my secret faults.
Keep your servant also from presumptions sins,
Let them get better of me.
Then shall I be clean and innocent of great offence. R*

**All: Let the words of my mouth
And the thoughts of my heart
Be acceptable in your sight, O god,
my strength and my redeemer.**

HYMN: God of the Sparrow

VU 229

GOSPEL READING: Luke 4:14-21

MEDITATION: Good Neighbours

MUSICAL INTERLUDE:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

We Are Sent Forth to Live our Faith

HYMN: *Teach Me, God, to Wonder* VU 299

Teach me, God, to wonder; teach me, God, to see;
let your world of beauty capture me.

**Praise to you be given; love for you be lived,
life be celebrated; joy you give.**

Let me, God, be open; let me loving be;
let your world of people speak to me. **R**

Let me, God, be ready, let me be awake.
In your world of living my place take. **R**

Teach me, God, to know you, hear you when you speak,
See you in my neighbor when we meet. **R**

COMMISSIONING:

One: Jesus calls us to be good neighbours.

All: How are we to do that?

One: As God has loved us,

All: We will go to love those despised by the world.

One: As we have been forgiven,

**All: We will go to forgive everyone who has hurt us
and to bring healing into their brokenness.**

One: As the Spirit calls us 'friends,'

**All: We will go to befriend the outcasts, the lonely,
and the lost of our society.**

One: Good neighbours, go in peace.

BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: *May God's Sheltering Wings* MV 214

May God's sheltering wings,
God's gathering wings protect you.

May God's nurturing arms,
God's cradling arms sustain you,
and hold you in God's love,
and hold you in God's love.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Life and Work – May 2, 2021

We would like to acknowledge the following donations to the General Fund in memory of Winona Kelsey:

- * Ed Taylor
- * Ron and Lorraine Robbins

We would like to acknowledge the following donations to the Memorial Fund in memory of Winona Kelsey:

- * Daphne Coish
- * Marilyn Snook
- * Vickie and Albert Styles
- * Gus and Beatrice Wadland
- * the UCW

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

*in memory of Rita Dawe from the UCW

We would like to acknowledge the following donation to the Music Program in memory of Winona Kelsey:

- * Steven and Doreen Walsh

Now that spring has sprung, we are seeking donations of Annuals and/or Perennials for our flower beds on the church grounds. Contact the office between 10-2 Monday – Friday for drop off!!