

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9
June 27, 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:

First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council:

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St. James United Church

StJamesUnited

St.JamesUC

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

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of

BEN S. LAKE

June 26, 1929 - November 3, 2019

from wife Maude and daughters Elizabeth, Jean, Joan and Lisa and families.

St. James United Church

June 27, 2021/Fifth after Pentecost

Minister: Rev. Jim Von Riesen
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Director of Music: Amy Dalziel
Soloist: Shelby Marshall

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 the Spirit of the eternal God moves around among and within us, drawing us into Christian Community.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Out of the busyness and stress of our daily lives,

All: We gather to find that place of peace which God offers to us.

One: From our worries, doubts and fears,

All: We gather beside the still waters where Jesus offers us a cup of grace.

One: Weakened and tired by the burdens of life,

All: we gather so the Spirit can restore our souls and show us the path to the kingdom.

OPENING PRAYER: (in unison)

Lead us, God our Shepherd: lead us into those places where your mercy waits to nourish our weary souls, where your grace feeds our famished hearts. Lead us to those sanctuaries of hope, where we have the joy of filling the emptiness of others, because the table you have set has room enough for everyone. Place our feet on your right paths, walking us down the streets where we can do justice for all who are wronged in the world. Lead us to those gentle pools where we can fill ourselves, then go to empty them for those parched by loss. Lead us to your green pastures and still waters. Amen.

HYMN:

God is My Shepherd

VU 748

We Respond to God's Love

RECOGNITION OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)

Your steadfast love is but one of the many gifts you pour into us. Our offerings are but a part of the ways in which we can serve you and your people. Bless them, and bless us, to ministries of healing and hope. Amen.

ANTHEM/SOLO/SPECIAL MUSIC

We Listen for God's Word

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 23

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 27 VU 753

**God is my light and saving health,
I shall not be afraid.**

God is my light and my salvation, whom then shall I fear?

**God is the stronghold of my life,
Of whom shall I be afraid?**

When the wicked close in to devour me,
it is they, my enemies and my foes, who stumble and fall.

If an army should encamp against me,
My heart shall not be afraid;

**if war should rise against me,
even then I will not be dismayed. R**

One thing I have asked for God, for which I long:
that I may dwell in God's house all the days of my life,

**to gaze on your beauty, O God,
and to seek you in your temple.**

For in the time of trouble you will give me shelter;
**you will hide me under the cover of your tent,
you will set me high upon a rock.**

And now you have raised my head
above my enemies round about me.

**Therefore I will offer in your dwelling
a sacrifice with great gladness. R**

Hear me voice, O God, when I call; have mercy and answer me.

Your face, O God, I seek.

**Do not hide your face from me;
do not reject your servant in anger,**

you who have been my helper.
Do not cast me off, or forsake me, O God my saviour.
**Through my father and mother forsake me,
my God will take me up. R**

Teach me your way, O God,
**Lead me on a level path,
safe from those who lie in wait for me.**
Do not give me up the will of my enemies,
for liars and false witnesses arise against me.
I believe that I shall see God's goodness
in the land of the living.
**Wait for God; be strong, and take courage;
yes, wait for God! R**

HYMN: *Great Shepherd of Your People* VU 398

GOSPEL READING: John 10:22-30

MEDITATION: The Shepherd's Voice

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

We Are Sent Forth to Live our Faith

HYMN: *He Leadeth Me* VU 657

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me. **R**

**He leadeth me! He leadeth me!
By his own hand he leadeth me!
His faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me!**

Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
by waters calm, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me. **R**

Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
nor ever murmur nor repine,
content, whatever lot I see,

since 'tis my God that leadeth me. **R**

And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace, the victory's won,
even death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me. **R**

COMMISSIONING:

One: Having gathered for worship, we are now sent to work,

All: to find God in all the broken places and serve with healing and hope.

One: Having gathered in silence, we are now sent to speak,

All: to share the words of Jesus about justice and inclusion of all.

One: Gathered for prayer, we are now sent to live,

All: to take goodness and mercy and anoint everyone with these gifts of the Spirit.

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

