

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9
July 25, 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:

U.C. of Canada:



722-1881, ext. 200

info@stjamesuc.org

www.stjamesuc.org

St. James United Church

StJamesUnited

St.JamesUC

727-4067

www.ucceast.ca

www.united-church.ca

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

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of

S. JOHN STUCKLESS

who passed away July 29, 2020

From his wife Frances, son Andrew,
and daughter Carol Ann.

St. James United Church

July 25, 2021/9th Sunday after Pentecost

Minister:	Rev. Rebecca Pike
Minister of Youth/Christian Education:	Susan Sheppard, DLM
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Music Director:	Amy Dalziel
Associate Music Director:	Branden Olsen
Senior Choir Member:	Glenda Winsor

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 LAND & KINSHIP

WELCOME

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

A MOMENT FOR PRIDE

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Red is the colour of strawberry and rose petal, passion and birth.

All: Red symbolizing life in all its richness.

Thank you, God!

One: Orange is the colour of pumpkin and flame, warmth and compassion.

All: Bright and enlivening, colour of healing: orange.

Thank you, God!

One: Yellow is the colour of lemon and sun, joy and enthusiasm.

All: Radiant and bold, colour of hope: yellow.

Thank you, God!

One: Green is the colour of inchworm and pine, calm and growth.

All: Restful and abundant, colour of nature: green.

Thank you, God!

One: Blue is the colour of sky and mountain ridge, depth and inspiration.

All: Soaring and fluent, the colour of harmony: blue.

Thank you, God!

One: Purple is the colour of grape and lilac, strength and dignity.

All: Profound and majestic, the colour of spirit: purple. Thank you, God!

One: In God's sight, all humanity is a rainbow people.

Come, let us worship God together.

OPENING PRAYER: (in unison)

Imaginative and vibrant God, creator of all things, you made this planet and all its variety. Let us celebrate the diversity of the colours of the world. With red, yellow, and orange we praise and give thanks for the warmth of your love shared between all your children, for the energy of the Holy Spirit that powers us forward in service to, and for the joy of being accepted by you, just as we are. With green, blue, and violet we worship and honour you: for the softness of your caring and grace, for the stillness of prayer when we draw close in your loving embrace. Imaginative and vibrant God, creator of each of us, you made us the way we are. Together, we are a diverse blend of all your colours, help us love and celebrate each other as part of your beloved creation. Amen.

HYMN: *There Is Room for All*

MV 62

There is room for all in the shadows of God's wings;

There is room for all, sheltered in God's love.

And I rejoice and sing,

"My refuge and my rock, in whom I trust."

There is room for all,

there is room for all!

We Respond to God's Love

RECOGNITION OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)

Holy One, there are many different gifts, reflecting the wondrous diversity of creation, with all of us being made in your image and likeness. We offer ourselves our willingness to be in community and form relationships. We offer the joy in our hearts for the gifts of safety, sanctuary and unconditional love, and our desire that all may be affirmed in their place in your creation. In the name of Jesus, who lifted those who did not always receive affirmations and encouragement, we make this prayer. Amen.

ANTHEM/SOLO/SPECIAL MUSIC

We Listen for God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 3: 14 - 21

HYMN: *Deep in Our Hearts*

MV 154

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;

deep in our hearts there is a common song;

deep in our hearts there is a common story,

telling Creation that we are one.

Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;
deep in our hearts there is a common goal;
deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,
justice and peace in harmony.

Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;
deep in our hearts there is a common theme;
deep in our hearts there is a common current,
flowing to freedom like a stream.

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
deep in our hearts there is a common song;
deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation the we are one.

GOSPEL READING: John 6: 1-21

MEDITATION

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE PRAYER OF JESUS

We Are Sent Forth to Live our Faith

HYMN: *Open My Eyes, That I May See* VU 371

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wave-notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare

love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

COMMISSIONING

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

May God's sheltering wings,
*her gathering wings protect you.
May God's nurturing arms,
*her cradling arms sustain you,
and hold you in *her love,
and hold you in *her love.

*Alternative: his

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Worship today was inspired by Gathering, Pentecost 1, Year B, 2021 and resources from Affirm United.



Life and Work – July 25, 2021

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

*in loving memory of Eric Patey from Betty, Jeff & Karen

Our parking lot here at St. James will have a lot of activity on Tuesday, July 27, and Wednesday July 28. We have the production crew from a local filming company that will be filming the new show "Son of a Critch" featuring Mark Critch.

Our parking lot will be overrun with trailers and crew, and we kindly ask you to refrain from visiting the church office during these days as these trailers are large and there will be crew coming and going from our parking lot all day. We have a very limited number of parking spots available for those days.

The office will be open, but unable to accept visitors during these days. If you have any concerns, you can call the church office at 722-1881 and Tracy will be able to help you with whatever you need.

Bridges to Hope - "It has been another hard year for students, and we are determined to send them back to school with everything they need to thrive.

Normally, most of our school supplies are donated, but this year due to the pandemic and Health and Safety protocols, we decided it would be safer to purchase all our supplies. While this is quite the financial endeavor, we are confident that with the help of our Corporate Sponsors and your generosity – we can achieve this goal.

Students will be given a top-quality school bag packed with all the top brand products and headphones to ensure they start the year off right – with the dignity of not being seen as a 'poor' student by their classmates.

Please offer your support and help us spread some relief and joy in our community — both to the students and their parents. Donate at www.bridgestohope.ca"

Tea To Your Table - This summer the **Cathedral Tea Room** team is offering a takeout tea to enjoy at home, or on the go.

Cost: Small Box serves up to 2: \$15

Large Box serves up to 4: \$25

Packages include everything you need: scones, tea biscuits, breads, squares, jam, butter, knives, and napkins.

Order deadline is July 28 and pick-up date is July 31.

Place your order TODAY by calling 709-726-5677 or email our office at office@ourcathedral.ca.

Farewell to our Associate Music Director, Branden Olsen

This is his last Sunday with us here at St. James United, as he will be returning to his home province of New Brunswick where he will begin his chosen career in music. Branden came

to St. James United 2 years ago as a Master Music student at MUN in Voice Performance. He graduated from MUN with a master's degree in Voice, October 2020 and also received his Masters Degree in Conducting from MUN in May 2021. He joined our music program an Associate Music Director with primary responsibility for the direction of our senior choir. He very quickly endeared himself to anyone he met and has provided valuable service to our Music Program, not mention an incredible voice that has many in the congregation in awe.

The senior choir has flourished under his direction and have noted that they have learned so much about singing from him. Branden and Amy, our Music Director, have become an awesome team and we have been very blessed to be the recipients of their collaboration and creative energy. There is no doubt he will be missed, and we wish him much success in all future endeavors.



THANK YOU Branden for sharing your friendship and exceptional talent with us here at St. James United. We can only hope you leave with many pleasant memories and the satisfaction of knowing you made a difference here.

Cowan Heights United - The GO Project 2021: Calling all Youth who are ready to meet new people and have a fun (and safe) in-person experience at Cowan Heights United Church this summer! The GO Project is excited to be presenting a two-week long day program, Monday to Friday from August 9-13 and 16-20. Our programming starts at 8:30 a.m. and runs until 4:30 p.m. each day. The youth will also be helping to lead in worship at Cowan Heights United Church on Sunday, August 15, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.

This year, we will be exploring the theme of Pride in our lives through worship, reflection, community outreach, discernment, games, activities, and so much more! Open to all youth between Grades 7-11. We hope to see you there! To register visit: <https://forms.gle/g1G1C8J2BKgjYfqD9>

The cost of registration is \$300 and includes a healthy lunch and two snacks each day. Bursary options are available. Contact office@cowanheightsunited.ca or visit <https://theproject.ca/about-the-go-project/> to find out more!

United Church of Canada – Moderator's Statement on Residential School Burial Sites

To Residential School Survivors, Families, and Communities:
I want to acknowledge the pain that you, as survivors of residential schools, families, and communities, are experiencing. We understand that the pain endured at these schools went far beyond their walls and grounds into community and through generations.

The United Church of Canada operated 15 residential schools: Alberni, Ahousaht, Coqualeetza, Kitimaat (Elizabeth Long Memorial Home), and Port Simpson (Crosby Boys' and Girls' Home) in BC; Edmonton, McDougall Orphanage/Morley, and Red Deer in Alberta; Cote (formerly Crowstand), File Hills, and Round Lake in Saskatchewan; Brandon, Norway House, and Portage la Prairie in Manitoba; and Mount Elgin in Ontario.

We are aware of cemeteries on some of these sites, and we know that there are also unmarked and likely undocumented graves of children.

We acknowledge that our role in the residential school system and colonization is an abuse of power through our Christian faith. We hope that our ongoing work for reconciliation, which has been guided by United Church residential school survivors, more truly reflects what our faith calls us to be and do. We are committed to the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, especially those directed to us as perpetrators. These include those related to burial sites and missing children.

In the spirit of truth telling and transparency, we want to share the work that we have done, in consultation with community, on identifying and restoring graveyards. The United Church in southwestern Manitoba has actively supported ongoing work on the identification and preservation of gravesites related to the residential school in Brandon; this includes the 104 graves identified off-site in 2018. In Saskatchewan, we supported the community of Okanese in preserving its graveyard and honoring the children buried there. The United Church of Canada has also been a partner in the preservation of the Regina Industrial School cemetery. (Regina was operated by the Presbyterian church, but the United Church shares responsibility.) United Churches in Red Deer, Alberta, worked to preserve the residential school cemetery in cooperation with the communities whose children were sent to Red Deer. There has also been research into possible graves at the Edmonton Residential School. This work is just a beginning, and we understand that it must continue. Steps are required to properly locate, identify, and honor these children, and for the truth that Indigenous people have always known to finally be heard. Any work we do to help search grounds of and surrounding United Church residential schools must be done with respect for, the consent of, and with the guidance of Indigenous leadership, communities, survivors, and families.

We know that we are not the experts in this work. We will continue to share all the documents and knowledge we have. If anyone in community wishes to share information and expertise with us, we will gratefully accept it and be committed to transparency.

We are committed to meeting with leadership to hear how they wish to proceed, and whether they would like our assistance at any stage. This includes financial assistance for what community leadership deems appropriate.

The United Church of Canada is committed to reconciliation and to transparency in our efforts to support Indigenous leadership, communities, survivors, and families in bringing these children the honor we denied them in life.

With respect,

The Right Rev. Dr. Richard Bott
Moderator

