

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9
August 15, 2021



The Church is a fellowship of believers who have responded to God's call through Jesus. 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:

The United Church of Canada:



722-1881, ext. 200
info@stjamesuc.org
www.stjamesuc.org
St. James United Church
StJamesUnited
St.JamesUC
727-4067
www.ucceast.ca
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The bulletin may be accessed at stjamesuc.org/bulletins

Password: StJamesUC

Still the Spirit gives us light,
seeing wrong and setting right:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!

When a stranger's not alone,
where the homeless find a home,
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.

May the Spirit fill our praise,
guide our thoughts and change our ways.
God in Christ has come to stay,
live tomorrow's life today!

There's a Spirit in the air,
calling people everywhere:
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.

We Respond to God's Love

OUR LIFE & WORK AND RECOGNITION OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)

Holy One, we come with thankful hearts, ready to live in service of others. May the gifts we offer be an ongoing witness to your loving grace, both here in this faith community and in a world that yearns for hope, for healing, for peace. Amen.

ANTHEM/SOLO/SPECIAL MUSIC

We Listen for God's Word

PRAYER TO BE CENTRED

FIRST TESTAMENT: 1 Kings 3:3-14

EPISTLE: Ephesians 5:15-20

HYMN: *Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom* MV 10

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
she who danced when earth was new.
Follow closely what she teaches,
for her words are right and true.
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of wisdom,
crying in the market-place.
Hear the Word made flesh among us,
full of glory, truth, and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens,
peace and righteousness embrace.
Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;

nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit guide and close companion,
bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people,
holy friends of God and earth.

GOSPEL: John 6:51-58

MESSAGE

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER OF JESUS - adapted by Parker Palmer (in unison)

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother, holy and blessed is your true name. We pray for your reign of peace to come, we pray that your good will be done, let heaven and earth become one. Give us this day the bread we need, give it to those who have none. Let forgiveness flow like a river between us, from each one to each one. Lead us to holy innocence beyond the evil of our days – Come swiftly Mother, Father, come. For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy: Forever your name is All in One. Amen.

We Are Sent Forth to Live our Faith

HYMN: *Take My Life and Let It Be* VU 506

Take my life and let it be
consecrated, all for thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love,
take my feet, and let them be
swift and purposeful for thee.

Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee;
take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love: and I will pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

COMMISSIONING

SUNG BENEDICTION: *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* (v.4) VU 602

**This glorious hope revives
our courage on the way;
that we shall live in perfect love
in God's eternal day.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Life and Work – August 15, 2021

**We gratefully acknowledge the following donation to the
Memorial Fund:**

*In Loving Memory of Harvey Hilliard from Paul, Gail, Julia,
and Alan Hamilton

St. James Policy on masks in the building - August 15, 2021

Worship and other services:

Masking will continue to be required at worship services until you are seated; and required when singing and when moving around the building or exiting the building. This decision is made out of respect for our children, and others attending worship, who may not be either fully vaccinated or unable to be vaccinated.

We will continue to require pre-registration for our worship services and all other events taking place in the building until the need for physical distancing and contact tracing has passed, as defined by the Chief Medical Officer of Newfoundland.

Office:

Visitors will be asked to wear a mask until given permission to remove their mask by the staff person they are visiting. Staff in the office will monitor themselves as is necessary. They will be free to remove their mask while working in the office, if they are comfortable to do so.

REMINDER: Any change in the mask restrictions does NOT change the need to sign in and out of the building, or to continue to practice physical distancing while in the building.

In both the above policies we must recognize that should our (St. James) policy, or provincial policies change, we could revert back to stronger measures at any time.

Contact Info for Rev. James Ravenscroft:

He can be reached by email at james@stjamesuc.org OR by calling the office at 722-1881 ext. 202. The office hours are 10am-2pm Mon-Fri. If it is outside office hours you can still call the office and choose our staff directory (# 1), and Rev. Ravenscroft's extension is 202 and you can leave a message for him.

Calling all green thumbs: Do you have a lovely houseplant that is tolerant of lower light conditions that would also be the type that you can take a clipping from to grow a new plant? If so, (Rev.) James and Glen are looking for clippings of houseplants to green up their new home. You can reach James at james@stjamesuc.org or on his phone: 351-0983.

The United Church of Canada is making funds available to support the work of Indigenous communities for the identification of unmarked graves, knowledge gathering, and ceremony to honour the children who did not return home from its 15 residential schools. This is an act of reparation and responds to Calls to Action 73–76 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

“The United Church of Canada was an active participant in a system that ripped Indigenous families apart by forcibly removing the children from their homes,” says the church’s Moderator, Richard Bott. “We have written to Indigenous leaders of the communities where 13 United Church-run residential schools were located, and in the case of the other two, communities whose children were taken there. We have let them know that we have made funds available so that the work of bringing home the children does not solely rest on their shoulders. We played a critical role in this and we as a church need to be more action focused in our commitment to reconciliation.” The Moderator also released a wider statement to the residential school survivors, their families, and communities.

A special meeting of the General Council Executive on July 20th, 2021 approved three million dollars to fund this work, which also includes archival research and providing communities access to documents. The United Church turned over all its existing records to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation Commission and continues to send records that come to light. The General Secretary, Rev. Michael Blair, notes, “Our history as settlers is a ‘we can fix this’ attitude. Clearly, we have been very wrong. We need to listen before we act, and support communities as they define their needs.”