

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9
August 22, 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

www.united-church.ca



The bulletin may be accessed at stjamesuc.org/bulletins

St. James United Church

August 22, 2021/13th Sunday after Pentecost

Lead Minister:	Rev. James Ravenscroft
Youth/Christian Education Minister:	Susan Sheppard, DLM
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Music Director:	Amy Dalziel
Soloists:	Susan Sheppard, Hannah Sheppard

St. James United Church is a safe place for all to worship regardless of race, creed, cultural background, gender, gender identity or expression, age, ability, sexual orientation, or any other circumstance.

We Gather as God's People

MUSICAL PRELUDE: Nocturne by C. Debussy

WELCOME AND LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND & KINSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 84):

One: It is good to be here in the dwelling place of God's people

All: As one body we sing to God with joy

One: We shout 'Happy are those who live in God's presence'

All: For in the presence of love tears become a spring of life

One: They are transformed through the gift of God's healing grace

All: So let us sing 'Happy are they who put their trust in God'

OPENING PRAYER: (in unison)

**Holy Presence, be with us now as you have always been,
ready with wisdom and grace to all who ask with open hearts.**

**Fill us then with such understanding and knowledge that we may act as
instruments of your desire for creation, transforming conceit into concern for
others, fear into love, violence into peace, and brokenness into wholeness for all.**

**We pray in the name of Christ, your loving presence incarnate in our world and
lives. Amen.**

HYMN: *O God of Matchless Glory* Voices United 250

O God of matchless glory,
of all surpassing worth,
you fill the world with wonder;
you bring the stars to birth.
To whom shall we sing praises?
To whom, O God, but you? (but you?)
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
You are our God; we belong to you.

With Wisdom as your partner
you formed the earth and sea;
and still she calls the simple,
"Be wise and learn from me."
Who else gives rest in labour?
Who else, O God, but you? (but you?)
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
We share your yoke; we belong to you.

Your word gives life forever;
our fear of death is stilled.
With living bread and water
our deepest need is filled.
To whom shall we go seeking?
To whom, O God, but you? (but you?)
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
You are our God; we belong to you.

We Respond to God's Love

OUR LIFE AND WORK

RECOGNITION OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)

Holy One, with gratitude for your Spirit, nudging us into the world to share your peace, and for this community, a lived expression of your goodness, we offer our gifts, our lives. May they be used in service of Christ's ministry of healing and of love. Amen.

ANTHEM/SOLO/SPECIAL MUSIC

We Listen for God's Word

PRAYER TO BE CENTRED (based on Psalm 46:10)

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am.

Be still and know.

Be still.

Be. (time of silence)

Amen.

FIRST TESTAMENT: 1 Kings 8:22-30

READING: Excerpt from *Across that Bridge: A Vision for Change and the Future of America* by John Lewis with Brenda Jones.

HYMN: *Love Divine, All loves Excelling* Voices United 333

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

GOSPEL: John 6:56-69

MESSAGE: The Eternal Now

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER OF JESUS (Traditional version)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

We Are Sent Forth to Live our Faith

HYMN: *Be Thou My Vision* Voices United 642

Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art,

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife;
I ever with thee, and thou in my life;
thou loving parent, thy child may I be,
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for the fight;
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower;
raise thou my heavenward, O power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Great God of heaven, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

COMMISSIONING

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

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE: Menuet Francais by A. Tremblay

MUSIC IN TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE:

Prelude: *Nocturne* by C. Debussy

The nocturne, a piece inspired by nighttime, was a favourite genre among piano and orchestral composers alike. Debussy's *Nocturne* (1892) depicts a calm, peaceful evening. Its colourful harmonic language, typical of Debussy and his contemporaries, create gentle moments of surprise and enchantment.

Postlude: *Menuet Francais* by A. Tremblay

Menuet Francais is the second movement of Canadian composer Amedee Tremblay's organ work, *Suite de quatre pieces*.

The main theme, a lively dance in D minor, showcases the organ's incredible range of dynamics, changing swiftly between the softest stops and the full organ.

Life and Work – August 22, 2021

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations to the Cemetery Fund:

*In Loving Memory of husband Bas Jamieson from Lorna Jamieson

*In Loving Memory of Jean Bowering from Glenys and Gordon Drodge

Annual Forest Church End of Summer Bonfire and Communion on the Beach

When: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 at 7pm Middle Cove Beach.

NOTE: rain date Thursday, Aug 26, 2021

What to bring:

a) Due to Covid restrictions this is a Bring Your Own Communion elements and other snacks event.

b) A little wood for the fire (optional)

c) Bring your own chair and/or blanket

d) Wear clothing and footwear appropriate for the weather (this isn't a sandy tropical beach!)

Hopefully you can join us, and a few whales will still be around

Contact Info: Rev. James Ravenscroft can be reached by email at james@stjamesuc.org **OR** by calling the office at 722-1881 ext. 202. If it is outside office hours you can still call the office and choose our staff directory (press 1), and Rev. Ravenscroft's extension is 202 and you can leave a message for him.

St. James Policy on masks in the building - August 19, 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. Our registration line is 700-6064, and Jennifer looks after registration for our worship services. She is available from 11am-4pm Monday - Friday and you can leave a message if she is unavailable.

Please include your name, phone number, service you are attending, and how many guests are attending.

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 provided 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.

United Church of Canada - On the morning of Saturday, August 14, Haiti was struck by a severe earthquake. The extent of the damage is still unclear. Haitians and the international community are working hard to rescue people trapped under the rubble. But the number of deaths is rising. Many homes and community buildings have been destroyed. Hospitals have also been damaged, and acutely injured and traumatized people are struggling to find help. And what's more, Tropical Storm Grace hit Haiti on August 16, making an already bad situation worse.

The United Church of Canada is in contact with Mission & Service partners in Haiti to find out how we can support their communities. Today, people in Haiti need emergency shelter, clean water, and food. Make a gift right now to support the people of Haiti.

Thank you for your generosity.

Donate Now

Online via our secure donation page:

<https://www.gifttool.com/donations/Donate?ID=1955&AID=2274&PID=6332>

Phone: 416-231-5931 OR toll-free: 1-800-268-3781 ext. 2738 and use your Visa or MasterCard.

Send a cheque or money order to:

The United Church of Canada

Philanthropy Unit - Emergency Response

3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200

Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4

*Please be sure to note "Emergency Response—Haiti" on the face of your cheque.