

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith

330 Elizabeth Ave, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9



The people of St. James United Church are eternal seekers who value diversity within our congregation, our city and all of society. We affirm each person's uniqueness and believe that all persons deserve to be valued, treated with equity, and respected. We are all children of God, walking many paths of spirituality.

Further, we proudly and publicly declare our commitment to practice radical hospitality and strive in every way to provide a safe and supportive place for all persons to participate in the worship and work of our church.

Guided by the teachings of Jesus, we embrace all persons, regardless of creed, race, age, ability, economic status, cultural and ethnic background, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, or any other difference that has led to marginalization or oppression.

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of
Clyde Taylor
with love from wife Helen, sons Brian, Glen, Paul & Shelley, Graham & Riza,
and grandchildren Alex, Alicia, Sarah, Amy, and Chynna.

February 20, 2022, Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
(Second Sunday of Black History Month)

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft
Accompanist: Bob Rose
Music Leadership: Glenda Winsor

We Come to Worship

MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME: *We extend greetings in Inuttitut, Korean and Yoruba.*

LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE

We light the candle as a sign of Christ's spirit both with and within us.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

We take time to give thanks for the land and the Indigenous peoples who continue to steward it; we also commit to be an inclusive community for all.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(inspired by Psalm 92:1-4)*

One: It is good to be together as we sing to the Most High.

All: It is good to make a joyful noise to the Lord.

One: We draw near to the Divine presence with thankful hearts.

All: We declare God's faithful love each morning and night.

One: We praise God with strings and pipes, drums and voices.

All: For the Holy One has done such wonderful things.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: "Sing Praises to God" *Voices United 228*

1 Sing praises to God! Sing praise in the height;
rejoice in God's word, blest angels of light;
high heavens, recalling by whom you were made,
come, offer your worship in brightness arrayed.

2 Sing praises to God! Sing praise upon earth,
in tuneful accord, you saints of new birth;
praise God, who has brought you rich grace from above,
and showered your life with abundance of love.

3 Sing praises to God! all things that give sound,
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, your glory tell out in deep tone,
and trumpets, the story of what God has done.

4 Sing praises to God! Thanksgiving and song
be ever outpoured, all ages along:
for love in creation, for hope spread abroad,
for grace of salvation, sing praises to God.

We Share

OUR LIFE AND WORK

We acknowledge the connection between our work and worship as we announce what is going on in our congregation and community.

RECOGNITION OF OFFERINGS

We acknowledge the ways people contribute to the community of faith and wider community, especially by way of supporting St. James UC financially.

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(in unison)*

**Source of all goodness, we pray with open hearts,
grateful for the many blessings of our lives.
And we serve with open hands, ready to share your love.
Accept then all that we have to offer –
the thankfulness of our hearts and ingenuity of our minds,
the praise from our souls and the courage of our lives.
May they be used according to your grace,
for the building up of your reign of justice and peace.
We pray in the name of Jesus, our hope and our strength.
Amen.**

SOLO: "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" by Virgil Thomson

We Listen

TIME OF CENTERING

We listen to a singing bowl, preparing our hearts for the day's readings.

READINGS: Luke 6:40-48

1 Corinthians 15:53-58

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

READING: "Of Earth and Sky" by Drew Jackson

MESSAGE: "Defeating Death"

HYMN: "How Firm a Foundation" *Voices United* 660

1 How firm a foundation, you servants of God,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can be said than to you has been said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with you; O be not dismayed!
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen and help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand.

3 "When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;

for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

4 "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply:
the flame shall not hurt you, I only design
your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.

5 "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not -- I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake,
I'll never -- no, never -- no, never forsake!"

We Respond

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We take time to pray for the needs of our global and local communities, knowing that what we pray for we in turn are called to do something about.

THE PRAYER OF JESUS

Please pray in your first language. A traditional version in English follows:

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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

We Leave to Serve

HYMN: "One More Step Along the World I Go" VU 639

1 One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go,
from the old things to the new
keep me travelling along with you:
**R:And it's from the old I travel to the new.
keep me travelling along with you.**

2 Round the corners of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn;
all the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me. **R**

3 As I travel through the bad and good
keep me travelling the way I should;
where I see no way to go
you'll be telling me the way, I know: **R**

4 Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough;
leap and sing in all I do,
keep me travelling along with you: **R**

5 You are older than the world can be,
you are younger than the life in me.
ever old and ever new,
keep me travelling along with you: **R**

BENEDICTION

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

St. James United Church

Lead Minister:	James Ravenscroft, OM
Youth/Christian Education Minister:	Susan Sheppard, DLM
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Acting Music Director:	Bob Rose
Associate Music Director:	Alba Chen
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Office Administrator:	Tracy Bishop
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor