

# 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  
mother **Sadie M. Butt** and aunt **Mildred Legrow**  
from Glenda Winsor and Gloria Le Feuvre and families.

## May 1, 2022, Third Sunday of Easter

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft

Music Leadership: Bob and Jean Rose

Ushers: Mary Daya, Sandra Thistle, Anne Emberly

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### We Come to Worship

#### MUSICAL PRELUDE

**WELCOME:** *We extend greetings in Inuktitut, Swahili and Portuguese.*

#### 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.*

#### LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE *(inspired by Psalm 30)*

One: Let us sing praises to God; give thanks to God's name.

**All: For God has restored us from our deepest despair.**

One: God has turned our sorrow into dancing;

**All: taken away our sackcloth and re clothed us with joy.**

One: Let us sing to God and give thanks without end.

**All: For God has raised us up, turned death into life.**

#### OPENING PRAYER

**HYMN:** "Come, Children, Join to Sing" Voices United 345

1. Come, children, join to sing: Hallelujah!

Praise to our Servant King: Hallelujah!

Let all with heart and voice,

saved by God's gracious choice,

now in this place rejoice: Hallelujah!

2. Come, lift your hearts on high:

Hallelujah!

Let praises fill the sky: Hallelujah!

Christ calls his people friends,

the helpless he defends,

a love that never ends: Hallelujah!

3. Praise yet our Christ again: Hallelujah!

Raise high the joyous strain: Hallelujah!

The whole creation o'er

let all God's love adore,

singing for evermore: Hallelujah!

### We Share

**OUR LIFE AND WORK:** *We acknowledge the connection between work and worship, announcing what is going on in our congregation.*

**OFFERTORY:** "Hallelujah, Hallelujah" *Voices United 179, v 4*

**Refrain:** Hallelujah, hallelujah, give thanks to the risen

Christ; hallelujah, hallelujah! Give praise to God's name.

Come let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Saviour. R

## OFFERTORY PRAYER *(in unison)*

God of Redeeming Love, though we live in a world too quick to punish or exclude, we know in our hearts that you call us to something new, a world where mercy is a first response, and we nurture communities of inclusion and care. We thank you for this new way of seeing and commit our lives to it, these gifts a sign of our dedication to your reign. May they be used in your service, tools to bring about the world that Jesus died and rose to make known to us all. In his name we pray. Amen.

### We Listen

## LEARNING TOGETHER

*We introduce Sunday's theme in a manner that is accessible to all ages.*

**SOLO:** "Who Put The Colours?" J.A.Booth arr James Whitbourn

## PRAYER OF NEW LIFE

**READINGS:** John 21:1-14; Acts 9:10-20; and "Where Does the Temple Begin, Where Does It End?" by Mary Oliver

**MESSAGE:** "A Resurrected World"

### We Respond

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(The Apostles Creed, in unison)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church\*, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*\* referring to the universal Christian church – all followers of Jesus Christ.*

## HYMN: "We Gather Here" *Voices United 469*

1. We gather here in Jesus' name,  
his love is burning in our hearts like living flame;  
for through the loving son God fashions us as one:  
Come take the bread, come drink the wine,  
come, share the Lord.  
No one is a strangers here, - everyone belongs;  
finding our forgiveness here,  
we in turn forgive all wrongs.

2. He joins us here, he breaks the bread,  
the One who pours the cup is risen from the dead;  
the One we love the most is now our gracious host:  
Come take the bread, come drink the wine,  
come, share the Lord.  
We are now a family of which Christ is the head;  
through unseen he meets us here  
in the breaking of the bread.

3. We'll gather soon where angels sing;  
we'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King:  
now we anticipate the feast for which we wait:  
Come take the bread, come drink the wine,  
come, share the Lord.

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

One: Jesus' friends shared meals in his memory;  
though crucified, he was risen and present with them.

**All: We share this meal together knowing he is with us still.**

## PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: Christ is risen! **All: Christ is risen, indeed!**

One: Open your hearts. **All: We open them to God.**

One: Let us give thanks. **All: It is right to give thanks & praise.**

One: Hallelujah! and praise to you, Ever-Living God, creator of heaven and earth. It is right that we give you thanks. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When your people turned away from you, you remained steadfast and constant. You saved them from the flood, putting a rainbow in the sky as a sign of your love. You delivered Israel from captivity, claiming them as your own and setting before them your way of life and blessing. Through them you have blessed all nations. Grateful for this constant love, we join your angels and saints in a song of praise:

**All: O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space. All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace. Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise. And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name always! (More Voices 203)**

One: Hallelujah! and praise to you, God of our salvation, for your Son, Jesus Christ. You affirmed him as your beloved and through the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, gave birth to your Church, establishing a new covenant by water and the Spirit, your people born anew to a living hope. Called to embody his constant love in the world, we remember how on the night before he died, Jesus took bread and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you." In the same way, he took the cup and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, drink. This is my blood poured out for you. Whenever you eat and drink, remember me." Hallelujah! and praise to you, Redeeming God. We do remember, grateful that on the day of his resurrection, Jesus was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and that even today he comes to meet us as we share this meal. With joy we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**All: Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again! (x2) (MV 204)**

Open our eyes then O God, to the presence of your Holy Spirit,  
here with us and within these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body  
and blood of Christ, and by your Spirit we may be one with Christ and one another.  
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours,  
God most Holy, now and forever.

**All: Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!**

**Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen! (MV 205)**

*Adapted from a prayer written by Oliver Dingwell, Easter 2018, Great Thanksgiving Inspired by  
At Your Table, United Methodist Church, 1981*

## THE PRAYER OF JESUS *Voices United 960*

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 them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### **SHARING IN COMMUNION**

*There is a central station to receive bread (served with tongs), and two side stations to receive juice served in communion glasses. Please wait until you have returned to your seat to consume the bread and juice.*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** *(in unison):*

**Holy God, here at this table your promise of new life is made tangible as we taste your nourishing presence and welcome you into our lives. Strengthened by this gift of grace, send us now to proclaim your resurrection by feeding others as we have been fed, forgiving others as we have been forgiven, loving others as we have been loved, for the sake of Jesus, the Risen One. Amen.**

### **We Leave to Serve**

#### **HYMN:** "The Strife Is O'er" *Voices United 159*

1 The strife is o'er, the battle done,  
the victory of life is won;  
the song of triumph has begun, hallelujah!

2 The powers of death have done their worst,  
but Christ their legions has dispersed:  
let shouts of holy joy outburst, hallelujah!

3 He closed the ancient gates of hell,  
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;  
let hymns of praise his triumphs tell,  
hallelujah!

4 On the third morn he rose again,  
glorious in majesty to reign;  
O let us swell the joyful strain, hallelujah!

### **SENDING FORTH**

#### **BENEDICTION:** "May the God of Hope Go with Us" *VU 424*

1 May the God of hope go with us every day,  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

**Refrain:** Praying, let us work for peace;  
singing, share our joy with all;  
working for a world that's new,  
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

2 May the God of healing free the earth from fear,  
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.  
May the God of love keep our commitment clear  
to a world restored, to human life renewed. **R**

### **MUSICAL POSTLUDE**

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*A space to doodle, take notes, write your grocery list,  
do math equations. This space is for you.*



### **St. James United Church**

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

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