

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.

Sept. 18, 2022, Third Sunday in Season of Creation

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft

Leading Music: Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose and the Senior Choir

Ushering: Marilyn Adams, Susan Pike and Jean Thompson

We Come to Worship

MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME AND LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE

We extend greetings M'ikmawi'simk, Urdu & Ukrainian as we gather as a baptized community and light the candle as a sign of Christ's presence.

One: All creation is made of star-stuff,
from which comes the building blocks of the universe.

All: For this all creation sings praise to the Creator of all.

One: Standing firm on the earth, we breathe deep of the breath
of life, are blessed too by the waters of the sky,

**All: And are warmed by this flame, its shining reminding us
that we are siblings of Christ, star-child for us all.**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

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

INTROIT: "Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above" (J.J. Schulz)

CALL TO WORSHIP *(in celebration of air)*

Air. **Oxygen. Carbon dioxide. Traces of other gases.**

Sky. Thin band of atmosphere making life possible.

Wind. **Animator of air, current of weather, sign of the Spirit.**

Breath. **Invisible gift, inspiring life both physical and divine.**

We give thanks for air, sky, wind and breath.

Sacred signs of God's inspiring and animating love.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: "O Breath of Life" *Voices United 202*

We Share

OUR LIFE AND WORK

OFFERTORY: "For the Gift of Creation" *Voices United 538*

For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,

and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,

we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.

May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts which we give.

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(in unison)*

We dedicate our offerings to the work of God's love and justice. Tax receipts issued at year-end if donor's name and address are provided.

Giver of all good blessings, everything we have received or hope to receive comes from your generosity.

Thank you for this gift, revealing to us another way of being in the world, one grounded in grace, forgiveness, compassion and justice. Open our hearts and hands to this way, The way of your realm on earth for us and all of creation. We pray in the name of Jesus, our inspiration and hope. Amen.

We Listen

LEARNING TOGETHER

We explore themes of the day in a manner that is accessible to all ages.

ANTHEM: "Dear God Who Loves All Humankind" (J.G. Whittier)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

We open our hearts in preparation to hear the day's readings, lighting candles as a sign that we are seeking God's Wisdom in our hearts.

READINGS: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-27; 1 Timothy 2:1-7;
"Chinook Sanctuary" by Mícheál Moley Ó Súilleabháin

HYMN: "Breathe On me, Breath of God" *Voices United* 382

MESSAGE: "Animated into Action"

We Respond

CHORAL INTERLUDE: "Spirit of Life" (Carolyn McDade)

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 also are called to do something about.

THE PRAYER OF JESUS *(please pray in your first language)*

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 Leave to Serve

HYMN: "It's a Song of Praise to the Maker" *More Voices* 30

BENEDICTION *(Adapted from "Gaelic Blessing" by John Rutter)*

The blessing of the running wave to you.

The blessing of the flowing air to you.

The blessing of the quiet earth to you.

The blessing of the shining stars to you.

The blessing of God: Abba, Christ and Spirit to you,

and to all of creation, this day and evermore. Amen.

VIDEO POSTLUDE: "One" as recorded by Bri-anne Swann

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
Associate Music Director:	Bob Rose
Office Administrator:	Stephanie Harnum
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor