

# 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

This Sunday's bulletin is dedicated to the memory of Parents:

Roma and Eric Paul

"So thankful for the love, support, and guidance you provided throughout our lives. You are forever in our hearts." From: Nancy & Anthony

## **October 9, 2022, Thanksgiving Sunday**

(18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/ Latin American Heritage Month)

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft

Leading Music: Amy Dalziel and Sr. Choir

Ushering: Michelle and Wayne Skinner, Marilyn Adams,  
Jean Thompson and Susan Pike

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### **We Come to Worship**

#### **WELCOME AND LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE**

*We extend greetings in M'ikmawi'simk, Spanish & Farsi as we gather as a baptized community, lighting the candle as a sign of Christ's presence.*

**INTROIT:** "O Great Spirit" (*Voices United 239*)

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF 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.*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather in gratitude, even if we fail to give it day to day,

**All: knowing how easily we forget that so much is a gift,  
and say instead "I earned it," "I paid for this"  
and gratitude fades.**

One: So today we pause to say thanks for so much we receive:

**All: for the nip in the air and the warming fire in our hearth,  
the cheer of coloured leaves and the smell of fresh bread, the lingering joys and the  
companions of our years, the recipe from Aunt May and the chair from Uncle Ned, the  
history that prepared the way before our birth, and the coming generations bringing  
hope for the future.**

One: There are so many gifts that we take for granted...

**All: And so today we pause with grateful hearts.**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

One: In the silence of our hearts and minds we pause.

There is much for which we give thanks.... (*pray in silence*)

One: Each is a blessing. **All: Each is a gift.**

**Even if we have received it through great effort on our part,  
the ability to work for something is itself a blessing.**

**And so, Gracious God, with gratitude we come together,  
thankful for all that we see and all that goes unnoticed,  
for all that we hear and all that we ignore,**

**for all we know, are yet to know**

**and so much more that is now forgotten.**

**For all your gifts and blessings, we give our thanks. Amen.**

**HYMN:** "All Praise to You" (*Voices United 297*)

### **We Share**

**OUR LIFE AND WORK:** *We share what is going on in our community.*

**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**

### **We Listen**

### **LEARNING TOGETHER**

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

**HYMN:** "The Butterfly Song" (*See Insert*)

**CENTERING PRAYER**

*We quiet our minds in preparation to hear the readings of the day.*

**ANTHEM:** "Look at the World" (John Rutter)

**READINGS:** Jeremiah 29:4-7; Luke. 17:11-19;  
Excerpt from "Grateful" by Diana Butler Bass.

**MEDITATION:** "For the Beauty of the Earth" (*Voices United 226*)

**MESSAGE:** "Connected by Gratitude"

**We Respond**

**HYMN:** "As Those of Old Their First Boughs Brought" (*VU 518*)

**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.*

**We Leave to Serve**

**HYMN:** "Now Thank We All Our God" (*Voices United 236*)

**BENEDICTION**

One: As we go forth from here:

**All: may we be strong in spirit, courageous in will,  
and gentle of heart.**

One: Each day may our actions be:

**All: rooted in wisdom, nurtured by hope and open to love.**

One: May we meet others as we would wish to be met:

**All: with a heart of compassion, in a spirit of healing,  
and grounded in joy.**

**MUSICAL POSTLUDE**

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**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

**Guest Wi-Fi Name:** St James Guest **Wi-Fi Password:** StJamesUC