

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith

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

**Celebration of Worship for June 9, 2024**



The people of St. James United Church are eternal seekers who value diversity within our congregation, 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.

## June 9, 2024, Third Sunday after Pentecost

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft  
Leading Music: Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose and the Senior Choir  
Reader: Mischa Bahnan  
Ushers: Donna Downey, Barbara Butt, Menetha Dyke,  
Marilyn Adams and Jean Thompson

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*Please rise in body or in spirit where there is an \*.  
Print in **bold** indicates that the portion is read or sung by everyone.*

### **We Come to Worship**

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **WELCOME; ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP**

*We greet each other in Inuktitut, French and Korean as we give thanks for the land and Indigenous peoples, and commit to full inclusion for all.*

#### **LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE**

#### **\* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*We continue to extend welcome with signs of Christ's peace, offering a wave, a bow, a hand to the heart, a prayerful wish for God's blessings.*

**INTROIT:** "O Let the Power Fall on Me" - trad. Caribbean (MV 13)

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP** (*inspired by Psalm 138*)

Give thanks to God with all your hearts!

**We give praise to God for their steadfast love!**

Exalt God's name whose word is above everything,

**who gives strength to all who cry out for help.**

God may be above all things yet looks kindly on the humble,

**Fulfilling their holy purpose in all the ways we live in love.**

## OPENING PRAYER

Source of Love, we gather to sing and praise your name, drawn together from many places in the unity of your love. Be with us as we worship, ruling over our hearts, and enabling us to entrust our lives to your grace, through your Spirit following in the way of Jesus in whose holy and loving name we pray. Amen.

\* **HYMN:** “Blest Be the Tie that Binds” (*Voices United* 602)

## We Share in Love

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



**OFFERTORY:** *There are many ways to give to St. James. You can place an offering in the plate, scan the QR code on the left, contribute via PAR, website ([www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)), e-transfer (email [treasurer@stjamesuc.org](mailto:treasurer@stjamesuc.org)), mail to the church office or drop in our secure mailbox. In whatever way you choose to give, the community is grateful.*

\* **PRESENTATION HYMN:** *We dedicate our offerings to God’s love as we sing: “Spirit of Life” (*Voices United* 381)*

**Spirit of Life, come unto me. Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion. Blow in the wind, rise in the sea; move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice. Roots hold me close; wings set me free; Spirit of Life come to me, come to me.**

## PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

## We Listen and Respond

**READINGS:** *At the end of each reading please say, “Thanks be to God.”*

1 Samuel 8:4-20; Mark 3:20-35;

“The House of Belonging” by David Whyte

**ANTHEM:** “When in Our Music God is Glorified” (*VU* 533)

## REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

**HYMN:** "I Come with Joy" (*Voices United* 477)

## **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

Just as Jesus shared meals to show how everyone is loved by God, **we gather now at table to celebrate God's all-embracing grace.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Open your hearts. **We open them to God.**

Let us give thanks. **It is good to give God thanks and praise.**

It is good to praise you, God of the Covenant. In you we discover true meaning. The earth and all that dwell upon it find their source, all humanity made in your image is enlivened through your breath. **Creator, we give you thanks and praise.**

We praise you for your gift of freedom, for delivering your people from bondage, calling them at Sinai to holiness, and through your prophets renewing your invitation to justice and to love. **Spirit, we give you thanks and praise.**

And we praise you for the life of Jesus who healed the sick and comforted the sorrowful, challenged the powerful and uplifted the outcast, proclaiming your coming reign of peace and grace. **Christ, we give you thanks and praise.**

In faithfulness to your reign, he revealed your love until the end, proclaiming your forgiveness from the cross, and walking with us in the power of resurrection. In gratitude, we join the angels' praise:

**All: Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosana in the highest.**

On the night before he died, Jesus sat at table with his friends. After taking bread and giving thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you." In the same way, he took the cup, and gave it to them

saying, "Take, drink. This is the cup of the new covenant in my blood. Each time you do this, do so in memory of me." We do remember and praise your gift of love:

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!**

Open our eyes then O God, to the presence of your Spirit here with us and within these gifts of bread and wine. May they be for us the sign of your covenant, that all who share this bread and cup may share his life, one with Christ and each other. 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!**

**THE PRAYER OF JESUS** (*Voices United* p. 921)

**SHARING IN COMMUNION** (*please respond to the bold text*) The bread that we break, is our sharing in the life of Christ. The cup for which we give thanks, is our sharing in Christ's love.

*Communion will be shared by intinction. Participants dip some pita bread or a rice cracker into non-alcoholic grape juice and consume before returning to their place. After this, communion can be brought to people needing to remain seated.*

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

**We give you thanks, almighty God for this sacred meal.**

**May the bread and wine we have shared, strengthen us to go forth to create in love, to work for justice, and to walk with hope for a world made new. Amen.**

### **We Leave to Serve**

\* **HYMN:** "Deep in Our Hearts" (*More Voices* 154)

\* **PRAYER IN HONOUR OF CHURCH ANNIVERSARY**

\* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

Go into the world renewed by God's word.

**We go joined together in the unity of God's grace.**

Go into the world inspired by the witness of Christ.

**We go emboldened to follow his way.**

Go into the world in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**We go with God's blessing to live out God's reign of love.**

## POSTLUDE

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**WiFi: StJamesGuest WiFi Password: StJamesUC**

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

Minister:	Rev. James Ravenscroft
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Music Director:	Amy Dalziel
Associate Music Director:	Bob Rose
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Office Administrator:	Stephanie Harnum
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor

Office: 722-1881, x200; Email: [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org);

Emergency Cellphone: 709-351-0983;

Website: [www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)



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## Life and Work - June 9, 2024

**We offer our sincere condolences** to the family and friends on the passing of Edna Mary Hunt who passed peacefully on May 29, 2024, age 85 years. A celebration of life to honor Edna's life will be planned in conjunction with her husband, Everett "Bruce" Hunt, when that time comes, as they attended services together and shared so many years as a loving couple.

**Caution - Construction:** The construction has started on Elizabeth Avenue. When coming to the church, please use the back entrance of the church on Paton Street to avoid the construction and detours.

**Regional Council Meeting:** From Friday through Sunday is our annual Regional Council Meeting, the first in person meeting since 2019. This meeting will be held at the main campus of MUN in St. John's. Please pray for all of those attending as we make decisions which shape our shared life as the United Church here in Newfoundland and Labrador.

**Congratulations to Susan Sheppard:** In case you haven't heard the good news, Susan Sheppard was being ordained this Sunday at the Celebration of Ministries Service that concludes the Regional Council Meeting. The worship service is at 10 am at the Bruneau Centre Lecture Hall at MUN. It will also be broadcast live on the UCCEast YouTube channel and Facebook page.

**Tapestry this evening at 7:00 pm:** This evening is our Tapestry service for June. The theme is "One World" in which we will look at how we are called to share our world across nations as well as across species. If you wish, bring a symbol or song or reading that goes along with the theme in this interactive service.

**Away on Retreat:** Rev. James will be away on retreat from this coming Wednesday (June 12) to Monday (June 17). Rev. Peggy Johnson will lead the Sunday service.

# Cold Plate Dinner Fundraiser: Deadline for Orders is June 14, 2024.

## *Cold Plate Dinner Fundraiser*

St. James United Church (330 Elizabeth Ave.) is now taking orders for cold plate dinners.

They are \$18 and can be pre-ordered by calling the church office at (709) 722-1881.

Payment is required to place your order and can be paid in person or by e-transfer. The dinners will be available for pickup on June 21, 2024 anytime after 1:00 pm.



Cold Plate Dinners  
will be provided by:



**Help Requested with Cold Plate Dinners:** Would anyone be available and interested in the morning of June 21st to help put the Cold Plate dinners together and again in the afternoon to help distribute them? We will need 3 to 4 people.

**Parking Permits Required:** We have been informed by MUN parking enforcement that there have been incidents of high school students and other people parking in our parking spaces. Due to this, parking enforcement will actively be monitoring our parking lot. We have been asked to provide temporary parking permits to our visitors of the church during weekdays. This will help indicate to MUN parking enforcement who is a visitor of the church and who is not. When visiting the church, please see Stephanie in the church office for your temporary parking permit. Thank you.