

St. James United Church
A Community of Friends in Faith
330 Elizabeth Ave, St. John's, NL, A1B 1T9
Celebration of Worship for July 21, 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.

July 21, 2024, Pride Sunday (9th Sunday after Pentecost)

Leading Worship: Members of the Diversity Committee

Leading Music: Amy Dalziel and Becca-Ann Bartlett

Ushers: Marilyn Adams, Jean Thompson,

Skyler Simpson, and Leah Kirk

*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 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 extend welcome with signs of Christ's peace, offering a wave, a bow, a hand to the heart.*

INSTRUMENTAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on the colours of the Pride flag)*

One: We gather today to affirm the worth and goodness of all.

All: We celebrate the gift of life in all its diversity and colour.

One: We come with awareness of the hurt many people carry.

All: We seek the healing that that true welcome brings.

One: We open ourselves to the hope and promise of new life.

All: We affirm that we are each a gift of warmth and light.

One: We gather with gratitude for the world around us.

All: We honour how we are strands of one web of creation.

One: We pray for a world that is divided and in deep conflict.

All: We trust that true harmony begins with each one here.

One: We come to worship the One who has called us together.

All: We gather as one rainbow, united in the Spirit of love.

* **HYMN:** “Let Us Build a House” (*More Voices 1, V.1, 2, 4, 5*)

OPENING PRAYER

Father and Mother of us all, you have called us into being, and delight in all the hues that colour your creation. We too celebrate the diverse threads you have woven into a rich tapestry of identities, experiences, and ways of life, making us one family, siblings joined together in your love. Be with us as we gather, that we may grow in our gratitude, setting aside the biases and fears that may tear us apart, and affirming the breadth and beauty of each other’s lives. We pray in the name of Jesus, our brother and Lord. Amen.

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), e-transfer (email 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.*



* **HYMN:** “Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow” (*VU 514*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; give thanks to God in love made known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

We Listen and Respond

LEARNING TOGETHER

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

* **HYMN:** “All the Colours of the Rainbow” (by Carl P. Daw from *Songs of The Holy Other*, Tune: Abbot’s Leigh, VU 260)

**All the colours of the rainbow
live unseen in daily light,
but their splendours find expression
when released to human sight;**

**so the church reveals most beauty
where diversity is real:
breadth of race and class and gender,
room for doubt and space to heal.**

**All the body’s parts are wanted,
nor can one despise the rest:
head and hand must work together,
as must eye and ear and chest;
so the church needs all its members
for a range of ministries:
varied gifts with one great mission,
“Do this for the least of these”**

**Teach us, God our need of others;
through them help us fully live.
Wean us from our selfish habits;
let us listen, learn, forgive.
May we see your longed-for image
in each human heart and face,
and behold how those around us
can be channels of your grace.**

READING: Mark 9:33-41

REFLECTION #1

READING: Acts 11:1-18

REFLECTION #2

SOLO: “Fearfully, Wonderfully Made” (N. Crabtree, E. Whitehill)

READING: “Catching a Rainbow”, Suzanne, Open Table Chester

We have so much to talk about!
To laugh and sing and dream about
As we navigate our roundabouts
On our way to glory.

An invisible love comes into view
It's there for you, it's there for me
Constantly.
How can I be loved this much?
Look up!

Catching a rainbow as it dips into the sea
A fleeting thing, now a memory
Yet safety remains 'neath the wide arc of hope
Choosing our lives, unique and bespoke.

Heads held up high
As we step out with Pride
Arms open wide -
'Come on in!'
Gathered back together by the Healer, our Redeemer
Rescued and delivered
From a less spacious place.

A little less broken
Restoration by grace
Held in the arms
Of a warm embrace
Welcomed into a sacred space
Back home now
You're safe.

REFLECTION #3

* **HYMN:** “God of the Sparrow” (*Voices United* 229)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for the needs of our global and local communities.

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

We Leave to Serve

* **HYMN:** “Draw the Circle Wide” (*More Voices* 145)

* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

Let us go in the wide-armed embrace of God
who affirms each of us in love and calls us to do the same.

Let us go in the company of Christ who accepted our humanity with
compassion and care, and calls us to do the same. Let us go in the power of
the Spirit who casts a vision of a world without exclusion and calls us to live
into the same.

**We go in the blessing of God’s expansive love
in order to share the same. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

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;
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Life and Work - July 21, 2024

We offer our sincere condolences to Ray Tucker and family on the passing of his wife, Elizabeth (Betty) on July 10, 2024. Funeral took place at Barrett's Chapel on July 13, 2024.

Away on Holiday: Our Office Administrator Stephanie will be away on holidays from July 16th to August 20th, 2024. Our summer student Rachael Murphy will be covering the office in her absence.

Are you planning a road trip this summer? Or have to visit any provincial locations for work? If so, please take as many pictures as possible! We will be compiling them and creating a 2025 Scenes of Newfoundland and Labrador calendar that will be available for purchase in October (more details regarding the sale will be given later in the year). This is your chance to brag to friends and family that you are now a published photographer! So get out there and explore.....we can't wait to see all your talent.

We're Invited to Gower Street United Church this Sunday for a Pride Themed Service (Sunday, July 21st):

Gower Street UC will have a Pride-Focused Worship on Sunday, July 21 to celebrate Pride Week and Pride Sunday. Gower Street UC will have an early service at 10AM, followed by lunch and then walking (if you are able) in the Pride Parade @ 12:00pm.

We are having a service here at St. James UC at 11AM led by our Diversity Committee. We hope to see you all there!

Walking in the Pride Parade: Once again, St. James United is joining with other churches to walk in the parade in solidarity with the 2SLGBTQIA+ Community. The parade is a bit earlier this year, starting at 12:00pm. The assembling area is on New Gower Street. We are in Zone B4 (in front of the Mary Brown Centre). The parade proceeds along Duckworth Street turning onto Cavendish Square and proceeding onto Military Road ending at Bannerman Park.

Be sure to dress for the weather, and bring some water.
See you there!

Abra Whitney, BMus, MMus, and General Manager Coastal Sounds Choir Association is pleased to announce she will be in concert at Topsail United Church on Sunday, July 21st at 3:00pm. It will feature Folk, Jazz, Country

and Pop music. The show will be an hour without intermission, and admission is by donation at the door (cash or e-transfer).

Bridges to Hope: Bridges to Hope is currently running a “Bag to School” Program to support K-12 students in our community. This program ensures hundreds of students go back to class in September with a backpack custom-filled with the supplies they need for a successful school year. For anyone wanting more information about the program and how to donate, there are brochures available at the church office.

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 the church office for your temporary parking permit. Thank you.

2024 Cemetery Memorial Services

General Protestant (Topsail Road) - July 22, 2024 at 7PM

Holy Sepulchre - July 23, 2024 at 7PM

Foxtrap (Dunns Hill Road) - July 28, 2024

Memorial Gardens (Beaumont Hamel Way) - July 29 at 7PM

Foxtrap (Church Road) - August 4, 2024

Salvation Army (Blackmarsh) - August 7, 2024

Please note:

In the event of inclement weather, the services will move ahead to 7 P.M. the next evening.