

St. James United Church  
A Community of Friends in Faith  
330 Elizabeth Ave, St. John's, NL, A1B 1T9  
**Celebration of Worship for August 11, 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.

## August 11, 2024, Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft,  
Leading Music: Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose and Jean Rose  
Ushers: Marilyn Adams, Jean Thompson,  
Ben Andrews, and Mischa Bahnan

---

*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; CANDLE LIGHTING; LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*We greet each other in Mi'kmawi'simk, French and Portuguese as we honour the land, affirm Indigenous peoples and commit to full inclusion.*

*\* **SHARING PEACE:** We extend welcome with signs of Christ's peace. This time is concluded with a moment of reflective music.*

#### CALL TO WORSHIP *(inspired by Psalm 51:1-12)*

One: We come before God who is faithful and kind,

**All: we come trusting in God's mercy and love.**

One: Wash away all our unjust and foolish deeds, we pray,

**All: creating in us hearts that are righteous and true.**

One: That we may we learn to be honest with our secret desires

**All: and seek instead the ways of God's holy wisdom.**

One: May we rejoice always in God's saving grace.

**All: and be sustained in the power of God's Spirit.**

#### OPENING PRAYER

Saving God, we come, trusting your merciful care.

**You know us through and through,**

**are aware of our faults and our needs,**

**and still you lift us in love, feed the hungers of our hearts.**

**Expand our hearts to receive your forgiveness, that, in turn, we may forgive others and lead lives worthy of your care. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

*\* **HYMN:** "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds" (VU 344)*

### 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.*



\* **HYMN:** "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow" (VU 541)

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

## **PRAYER OF GRATITUDE AND GRACE**

### **We Listen and Respond**

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

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13 and John 6:24-35

**SOLO:** "Pie Jesu" by Andrew Lloyd Webber

## **REFLECTION ON THE READINGS**

\* **HYMN:** "All Who Hunger" (Voices United 460)

## **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

Once, on a hillside, Jesus took bread and gave it to those sitting there, did the same with fish, and each person was satisfied.

**As we gather in this place, he once again takes bread and feeds the people, and once again our hearts will be satisfied.**

## **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 Sovereign God, who created the heavens and the earth. From the beginning, you made a world of plenty. You opened your hand to give food to every living creature and fed our first parents with fruit from the garden. You provided Abraham and Sarah with food for angelic guests and nourished Jacob's family in time of famine. You led your people to freedom and fed them with manna in the wilderness, and through your prophet's hand filled a widow's larder with flour and oil. Even now you feed your people, filling our hearts through Jesus, the Bread of Life, the One you sent to bring abundant life to the world.

With thanks we join all the angels and saints in their festal song:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, 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. Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise you for Jesus, born of Mary, who sang of a time when the hungry would be satisfied. Her words were fulfilled as her son broke bread with outcasts, fed a multitude with fish and bread, and appeared to his friends to share in a reconciliation breakfast. In all these ways he offered himself as food for the life of the world, especially when on the night before his death he gathered with his followers for a final meal. There in an upper room, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat: this is my body, which is given for you." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you: This is the cup of the new covenant in my life's blood. Whenever you eat or drink, do so in memory of me."

We do remember, and thus proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restore our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

We praise you for your Spirit, giving voice to this our sacrifice of thanksgiving. Open the eyes of our hearts to their presence in us and within these gifts, that all who eat this bread and drink from this cup, may be leavened with your loving grace that your whole creation be renewed, and all people find a place at your table. Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, all glory and honour is yours O God, in the unity of the Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

### **SHARING IN COMMUNION**

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.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Faithful and abiding God, we give thanks for the meal we have shared, the Bread of Heaven and the Cup of Salvation. May their taste linger in our hearts that strengthened in your grace we may grow in you. To your glory we pray, Amen.**

**We Leave to Serve**

\* **HYMN:** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" (*VU* 651)

## \* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

It is knowing that we would find ourselves in a community of life and love that we came to this worship, and it is blessed to share the same that we go, called to embody God's mercy in our lives.

**We go in the blessing of God – Abba, Christ and Spirit. Amen.**

## **POSTLUDE**

---

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

Chair of Council:	Michelle Skinner
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)

 @StJamesUCNL  @StJamesUnited  @stjamesuc

WiFi: StJamesGuest WiFi Password: StJamesUC

All worship services at St. James are Live Streamed via video for our online congregation. By participating in this service, you acknowledge that you may be visible on live broadcast or archived video. If you are uncomfortable about the possibility of appearing on video, please speak to an usher who can seat you in an area not visible on camera. You may also speak to Rev. James after the service if you have concerns. All music and lyrics, not in the public domain, are reproduced / broadcast under ONE LICENSE. License #: #A-700000

**We offer our sincere condolences** to Judy Stratton on the passing of her brother, Robert Driscoll, on August 1, 2024. Funeral took place on Monday August 5, 2024 from Wesley United Church.

**We accept the following donation to the Bridges to Hope Fund:**

\* From Jack and Florence Head

**Communion on the Beach:** Mark Thursday, August 29 on your calendars. On that day we will have an outdoor communion service at Middle Cove Beach. We will take time to reflect together and then make bread on a stick over the campfire as we share in communion together.

**Save the Date:** Our church Council is having a planning retreat on Saturday, September 14 and everyone is invited for the afternoon portion of the retreat. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, email Rev. James - [james@stjamesuc.org](mailto:james@stjamesuc.org).

**Free Cookbooks:** There are 3 cookbooks available for anyone who would like one: “100 Easy Recipes - Cakes and Cookies”; “100 Easy Recipes - One Pots”; and “Great American Favorite Brand Name Cookbook - Collector’s Edition”. Please see the church office if you would like to have one of the cookbooks.

**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.

**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 in the church foyer.

**Parking Permits Required:** We have been informed by MUN parking enforcement that there have been incidents of 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.

**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.

### Finance Update to June 30, 2024

At the Annual Congregational Meeting, back on March 17, 2024, you approved a Deficit Budget of \$50,536.00. Below is where St. James is on June 30th compared to 2023 for the same date.

<b>Revenue:</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Collections	71,935.36	78,062.25
Other Envelopes	10,644.70	8,912.35
Rentals	22,293.14	22,985.27
All Other Revenue	16,913.78	15,761.69
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>121,787.08</b>	<b>125,721.56</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Heat	23,947.70	23,879.23
Light	4,465.26	3,523.76
Church	52,461.91	43,399.60
Assessments	9,852.00	8,070.50
Committees	861.91	1,131.08
Salaries	82,788.32	99,373.84
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>172,377.10</b>	<b>179,378.01</b>
<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>-52,590.02</b>	<b>-53,656.45</b>

Our revenue is down a bit from 2023 and so are our expenses.