

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith

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

Celebration of Worship for August 25, 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 25, 2024, Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft
Leading Music: Amy Dalziel and Jessica Willcott
Ushers: Barry Cutler, Daphne Coish,
Marilyn Adams and Jean Thompson

*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 Innu-aimun, French & Pashtun as we give thanks for the land and Indigenous peoples, and commit to full inclusion for all.

LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE

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

CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Psalm 111)*

We have come together to worship God with all our hearts.

In this gathering of the faithful we offer our praise.

We come with thanks for all God's works are to be treasured.

We celebrate how God's goodness is established forever.

We come to meditate on the wonder of God's ways,

knowing that worship of God is the beginning of wisdom.

OPENING PRAYER

Living God, **giver of wisdom and true discernment,**

you guide those who seek your ways to choose the good.

Open our hearts to your presence in our worship,

that we may be comforted in spirit and nourished in mind,

ever assured in the promise of everlasting life in Christ,

in whose name we pray. Amen.

* **HYMN:** “Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom” (*More Voices 10*)

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 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

LEARNING TOGETHER

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

* **HYMN:** “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” (*Voices United 575*)

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

1 Kings 2:10-12 and 3:3-14; Jn 6:51-58; “Amma Syncletica in the Apophthegmata Patrum” (<https://publicorthodoxy.org/2020/12/04/encouragement-from-the-desert-mothers-in-troubling-times>)

SOLO

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

* **HYMN:** “Love, Who Made Me in Your Likeness” (*Voices United* 565, sung to the hymn tune *Irby*, “Once in Royal David’s City”)

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:** “There’s a Spirit in the Air” (*Voices United* 582)

* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

It is in knowing that we would find ourselves in loving community that we came to worship, and it is to share the same that we go, called to uplift others in the unifying grace of God’s love.

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;
Emergency Cellphone: 709-351-0983; Website: 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.

Life and Work - August 25, 2024

We accept the following donation to the Cemetery Fund:

* In loving memory of Husband Bas Jamieson from Lorna

Construction Update: The intersection of Anderson, Elizabeth, and Paton is still closed. The church parking lot is still accessible via Paton Street. Best access to the church is to come down Paton via University Avenue.

Planning Retreat: We are having a retreat on Saturday, September 14, 9 am to 3 pm. We will take time for community building, idea sharing, including ways to address our financial situation, and goal setting for the coming year.

All council and committee members are encouraged to attend for the full day with an open invitation to interested members of the congregation in the afternoon.

Please RSVP as soon as possible by emailing the church office (info@stjamesuc.org) to register or Rev. James (james@stjamesuc.org) if you would like more information.

Communion on the Beach: This coming August 29 at 7pm is 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 communion.

Parking Permits Required: Please remember to get your temporary parking permit from the church office whenever visiting the church during weekdays. Parking Enforcement are actively monitoring our parking lot, and the Parking permits will indicate to MUN Parking Enforcement who is a visitor of the church and who is not and will help to avoid receiving parking tickets. Thank you.

NL Pictures for Calendar: All summer you have been seeing the announcement asking for you to take pictures along your travels. Well now we are asking for you to send them along to the office. We will be compiling the photos and creating a 2025 calendar with them. When sending your pictures, please include the area shown and who took it so we can give proper credit. The calendar will make a great Christmas gift to someone missing "home".

Deadline for submissions: September 13. Information regarding purchasing will be made upon its completion.

Youth Confirmation: This fall, Rev. James will be leading confirmation classes. If you have a child or grandchild in their mid to late teens who would like to be confirmed, please email Rev.

James, james@stjamesuc.org

The Visitor: We are looking for submissions for the Fall edition of The Visitor. Did you try something new? Attend a concert? See a new community? We would love to hear all about it! Please send them to the church office with subject line "Visitor". Deadline for submissions is September 13.

First United Church Concert: There will be a concert at First United Church, located at 221 Park Avenue, Mount Pearl on Saturday, September 14th at 7pm featuring 'The Irish Descendants'. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased at the First United church office on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 12pm, or after their 11am Sunday Worship service. For further information, please call the First United church office at 709-368-2194.

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.