

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith

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

Celebration of Worship for September 29, 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.

**September 29, 2024, Orange Shirt Sunday
(Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost)**

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft
Leading Music: Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose and the Senior Choir
Ushering: Karen and Tom Brown, Marilyn Adams,
Jean Thompson and Susan Pike

*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 AND LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE: *We share greetings in Inuktitut, French and Japanese, and honour Christ with us.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

We give thanks for the land, First Peoples and commit to full inclusion.

* **SHARING OF PEACE:** *We greet others while also conscious of their comfort with touch, sharing a wave, a bow, a word of blessing.*

CHORAL INTROIT: "Senzeni Na?" (MV 66) - Zulu Song

CALL TO WORSHIP *(inspired by a blog by Honarine Scott)*

Today we wear orange.

We wear orange to honour all the Indigenous children who went to residential schools.

Today we wear orange, and we pray.

We pray for residential school survivors and their families who continue to live with the impacts of a painful history.

Today we wear orange, and we are thankful.

We are thankful for all those who speak the truth, and who work to shine a light on injustice.

Today we wear orange in the spirit of truth and reconciliation.

We listen to difficult truths with a heart of compassion and we seek reconciliation.

OPENING PRAYER

God of deep compassion, we come together with aching hearts. **We come as a people inspired by the teachings of Jesus yet saddened by how those teachings were twisted to burden with hurt and shame, peoples that should have been viewed as siblings. Be with us as we pray, easing the guilt we feel as a result of the actions of our ancestors, and grant us the grace to seek reconciliation with all our relations. We pray through Jesus, your love and forgiveness made known. Amen.**

* **HYMN:** “Spirit, Open My Heart” (*More Voices 79*)

We Share in Love

OUR LIFE AND WORK

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:** “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.**

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:** “Sisters Let Us Walk Together” (*More Voices 179*)

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD ANDEACH OTHER

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

ANTHEM: “Dear God, Who Loves All Humankind”

READINGS: Colossians 3:1-15; and Mark 3:31-35

VIDEO

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

* **HYMN:** “In Suffering Love” (*Voices United* 614)

VIDEO LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE, “We are Here”:

A responsive litany developed by the Anglican Church of Canada and affirmed at Walpole Island First Nation in April 2018.

We join those praying on the video, those on the NE side honouring the voice of Indigenous peoples and those on the SW side voicing the words of settlers and newcomers to what some Indigenous peoples refer to as Turtle Island.

We are still here, on Turtle Island, placed by the Creator.
Some of us came seeking home, displaced or persecuted.
And we were here, diverse nations, many people at home.
Some of us came seeking adventure, riches or glory.
And we were here, living with deep connection to the land.
Some of came seeking a better life, security, possibility.
We offered peace and friendship.
And some of us accepted, treaty people, living in relationship.
We shared the land, our deep wisdom of this place.
And some of us were open to hear.
At first you were few, and we were many.
*And then we were many, with greater and greater
hunger for land.*
The land of our ancestors, our identity.
The land we imagined could be ours.
At first, we were friends and allies.
But then you became enemy, in the way of what we wanted.
We shared and still share a deep reverence for life

gifted from the Creator.
*We seemed unable to recognize your faith,
seeking to impose our own.*
We believed we could live side by side, two boats
in the same river.
We could only imagine you becoming like us.
You spoke benefit but brought harm.
Trying to dissolve you into our image.
You brought unspeakable pain.
Abuses of power, holding tight to our sense of superiority.
You took our children from us.
Breaking sacred bonds of kinship.
Your gospel of love distorted by hate.
How could we have been so wrong?
Your ways tried to break us.
But still you rise.
Your vision tried to disappear us.
But still you stand.
We are resilience and strength.
We are beginning to understand.
We are coming home to our traditions.
We still seek home, but now alongside and with you.
You are facing the truth.
We are listening, unlearning and learning anew.
Stand beside us in acts of justice.
Receive our contrition, embodied in solidarity.
May the Creator's plan *For right relations in this place*
Finally come to be. Amen.

We Leave to Serve

* **HYMN:** "We Turn to You" (*Voices United 685*)

BLESSING AND SENDING (*inspired by 1 Peter 2:9; 2 Cor. 12:9*)

We are called to be a people of hope,
a community of God's beloved working for unity and peace,

God's community seeking reconciliation in our world.

We do it in the power of love, blessed in God, Abba, Christ & Spirit.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

POSTLUDE

St. James United Church

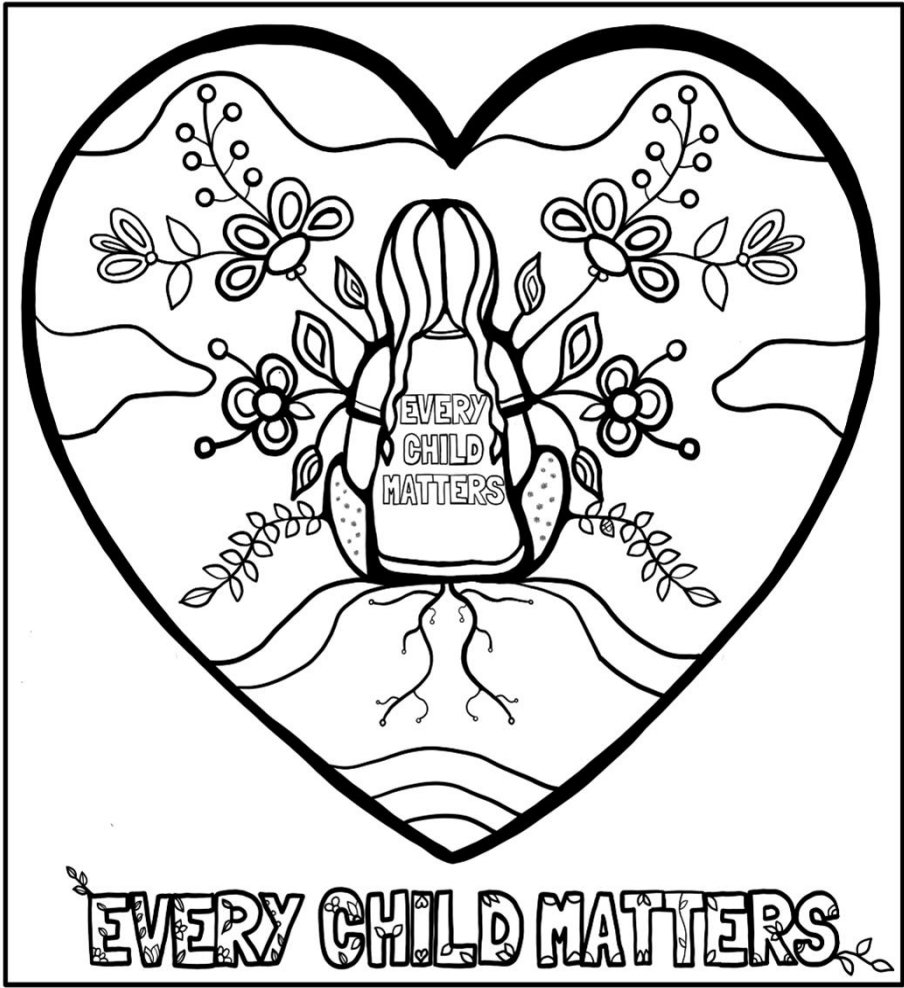
Chair of Council:	Michelle Skinner
Minister:	Rev. James Ravenscroft
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Music Director:	Amy Dalziel
Associate Music Director	Bob Rose
Office Administrator	Stephanie Harnum
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor

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.



We accept the following donation to the Bethany Pike Memorial Camp Fund from The Sorensen School of Dance.

The Fall Visitor is here!

This edition of the Visitor is completely online, so please visit the church website at www.stjamesuc.org to download your edition.

If you would like a paper copy, please contact the office.
Thank you to all who contributed.

Thank You: The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone that helped out with the Soup Luncheon last Sunday, by bringing in soup, chili, rolls and sweets, helping set-up, cleaning up and dishes. It was a great crowd, a lot of fellowship and nice to meet new people.

Upcoming Pulpit Exchange with Lunch and Learn: On October 20, we are welcoming the Very Rev. Dr. Marion Parady to lead worship and then facilitate a lunch and learn on the topic of Guaranteed Liveable Income. Join us for conversation during and after the soup lunch as we learn more about this important topic. If you would like to help with preparing and serving the lunch, contact Robin at 709-682-3927.

Confirmation Preparation is set to begin: Are you in your mid to late teens and want to learn more about what our church believes? Running for 5 weeks, our first confirmation session will be on October 20 from 2 to 4 pm. Email Rev. James (james@stjamesuc.org).

Learn more about why we need Truth and Reconciliation: Following worship, Rev. James will show a video about the impacts of the Indian Residential Schools that were in Newfoundland and Labrador followed by a discussion.

Looking for: St. James is asking if members of the congregation could drop off any empty paper towel rolls to the church office for a project. We are looking for around 20-25 rolls. Thank you in advance!

Financial Update to August 30, 2024

This month I will not be breaking revenue and expenses down, just giving you the totals. I want to give you a little more information of where we as a church are financially and the number of givers.

January to August 2024

Revenue:	\$151,263
Expenses:	<u>\$215,154</u>
Net Loss	\$ -63,891

Financial Balance:

Bank Balance	8,425
GIC Investments	<u>109,000</u>
Total Cash	117,425

Memorial Fund	19,494
M&S	5,379
General Protestant Cemetery	450
Bridges to Hope	70
Bethany Pike Camp Fund	103,501
Audrey Fillier Trust Fund	<u>8,273</u>
Total Funds	137,167

Operating Line of Credit	-19,742
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Givers:

Contribution Range	# of Contributors
0 - 0	235
1 - 500	135
501 - 1000	48
1001 - 1500	14
1501 - 2500	10
2501 - 5000	6
5001 - above	<u>0</u>
Total	448

St. James United Church Trunk N Treat: We are looking for your help this year. With the overwhelming number of children who attended last year, we ran short and had to turn some children away. So it would be greatly appreciated if you could donate some treats towards this event. If you cannot get out to shop, monetary donations are also welcome and we will buy what we need. Volunteers are also needed to give the treats out on the day of the event. If you don't have a car

but would still like to participate, that won't be a problem either. We will just buddy you up with another volunteer. Please let the office know first though so we can have it prearranged.



You're Invited to a Cross-Country Church Check-In: We invite you to join an informal, thoughtful national meeting on *October 22 at 6:00 p.m. ET* with the General Secretary, the Rev. Michael Blair, and guests from the General Council Executive—LIVE ONLINE. With the annual General Council meeting scheduled for October 19, this is an opportunity for you to engage with the decisions and dialogue from the annual meeting – right after it happens. Everyone is welcome. Registration is now open on [CHURCHx](#).

(You can contact the office for the link to register)

UCW Harvest Tea and Bake Stall:

St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue

Harvest Tea & Bake Stall



Sponsored by the UCW
St. James Auditorium



Saturday, Nov 2, 2024

Time: 2 – 4 pm Cost: \$8.00

Co-Conveners: Barbara Butt: (709) 687-1041

Sheilah Beckett: (709) 726-7421

All donations are greatly appreciated.



GUARANTEED LIVABLE INCOME PULPIT EXCHANGE

**WORSHIP, LUNCH AND LEARN
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2024 AT 11:00 A.M.
GOWER STREET UNITED CHURCH AND
ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH**

As St. James United welcomes the Very Rev. Dr. Marion Parry, Gower Street United will welcome the Rev. James Ravenscroft from St. James United in worship leadership followed by a lunch and learn on Guaranteed Livable Income.

