

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith

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

Celebration of Worship for October 6, 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.

October 6, 2024, World Communion Sunday

Leading Worship & Music: Rev. James Ravenscroft,
Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose, Jean Rose and John Austin
Ushering: Marilyn Adams, Jean Thompson and Bill Legge
Communion Servers: Guy and Julie Hollett

*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 Innu-aimun, French & Tagalog, honour Christ with us and give thanks for the land, First Peoples as we commit to full inclusion.*

* **SHARING OF PEACE:** *We greet others while also conscious of their comfort with touch. This time is concluded with reflective music.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to worship God as a global community,
a family across countries and climates, part of one creation.
We gather in Jesus' name to share at one table,
fed as one people so that we might then feed others.
We gather in the unifying power of the Holy Spirit,
uplifted in love to be sent out to serve.

OPENING PRAYER

We praise you, God of love and life,
as we gather in the name of Jesus
who prayed that we would be one.

We gather even as we confess our failure to be united,
knowing that you are present,
breaking through any hostile words and unkind actions,
to heal us in your reconnecting grace, and
send us out to seek your community of justice and peace.
We pray in Jesus who enables us to live in your love. Amen.

* **HYMN:** "O for a World" (*Voices United* 697)

We Share

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

MARKING ANNIVERSARY OF OCT. 7 AND THE AFTERMATH

This time of silent reflection will conclude with “Kyrie” (More Voices 68).

PRAYER FOR HEALING AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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

Numbers 11:24-30 and Mark 5:1-19

* **HYMN:** “We Are Pilgrims on a Journey” (*Voices United 595*)

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

ANTHEM: “Let Us Break Bread Together” (Spiritual)

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Welcome to this table both here and across our community.
Wherever you are, be assured that you are at Christ’s table.

**A table where there are no divisions, where everyone
belongs, where everyone is family in God’s love.**

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We gather in grace. **In God who is around and within us.**

And so we open our hearts. **We open them to God’s love.**

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

It is good to thank you, God of Unifying Love! We live in a world touched by your hand. Wherever we turn, we see diverse beauty - oceans and forests, rivers and mountains, great trees and animals, all connected as one living community. We are grateful to be part of this interconnected whole, and more than that, to have been made self-reflective, able to ponder how we can contribute to this wider world. This capacity has given us power to shape the world around us, but sadly we have not thought enough of our impact,

not on the plants and animals and not on our fellow humans either. And yet you did not abandon us, but raised up prophets to remind us of your teaching, and sent Jesus to heal the divisions we had made. With thankful hearts, we join in creation's chorus of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your light. Glory to you our God.
Blessed is he, blessed are we, blessed are all who come.
Hosannas ring, archangels sing. Blessed are all who come.
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your light. Glory to you our God.**

We sing to your glory, God of Liberating Grace, sing with thanks as a world community. We sing in commitment to share your love, a love that joins us as one family, a love that embraces all creation. This is the vision of Jesus who calls to us over the ages to resist our need to stand over others and instead to stand with them as we seek the unity and peace that you alone can give. Trusting that he is with us now, we remember how on the night before his death, he gathered with his disciples. While at table, he took bread, blessed and broke it. He gave it to them saying, "Take, eat, this is my body." In the same way he took the cup and gave it to them saying "Take, drink, this cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this when you come together in remembrance of me." In his memory we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is ris'n, Christ will come again.

We praise you, God of Abiding Peace, grateful that Jesus stayed committed to your vision, even to death, and so through his risen presence enables us to live into the promise of your reign. We pray in that promise, praying that the same Spirit he breathed on his disciples be present with us and these gifts, transforming this meal that we share into a sign of our communion in him, one another and the world. May we live in union with him in service of your love. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, now and forever.

Amen, amen, alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen.

PRAYER OF JESUS *(in unison)*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

SHARING IN COMMUNION

**The bread we share, is our sharing in the life of Christ.
The cup we bless, is our blessing in the love of Christ.**

Everyone is welcome to share communion – all ages, beliefs, identities and life experiences. Come to the front to receive the bread and grape juice (in a small glass). Please consume both before returning to your pew. Please let us know if you need the gluten free option. If you're unable to come forward, someone will bring communion to you. During communion, the quartet will sing "Eat This Bread" (Batastini/Berthier).

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(in unison):*

Bountiful God, through the gift of bread and cup, you have made us one with you and each other. May the unity we find at this table be a gift that we carry out into your world. Amen.

We Leave to Serve

HYMN: "Praise with Joy the World's Creator" (*Voices United* 312)

BENEDICTION

**We are called to be a people of hope,
a community of God's beloved living in the spirit of Christ,
God's pilgrim people in the world to serve and to care.
We do it in the power of love, blessed in God, Abba, Christ & Spirit.**

Thanks be to God. Amen.

CHORAL DISMISSAL: “Siyahamba” (South African traditional)

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.

Life and Work - October 6, 2024

We offer our sincere condolences to the family of Margaret Day who passed peacefully at Tiffany Village on Monday, September 30, 2024 in her 98th year. In accordance with Margaret's wishes, there will be no visitation or memorial service. <https://www.barretts.ca/obituaries/Margaret-Day?obId=33243906#/obituaryInfo>

Schedule change for Tapestry Service: Beginning this Saturday, October 5, our monthly Tapestry service will be offered on Saturdays and beginning with a potluck at 5:50 pm, service at 7:00 pm, both in the Fellowship Room. Our theme this month is "Words of Love and Encouragement". Those who come are invited to bring a quote or other saying that they have found encouraging over the years. In future months the potluck and service will be on the second Saturday of the month.

AOTS Men's Club: Please be reminded that the next regular meeting of the men's club will be held 12:30 for 1:00 on Wednesday, October 16. New members are always welcome.

Pub Theology: October 17 @ 7PM, it's time for Pub Theology at the Guv'nor Pub. Come for a time of conversation about faith, spirituality and life's big questions. All are welcome!

Upcoming Pulpit Exchange with Lunch and Learn: On October 20, we are welcoming the Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy 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).

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

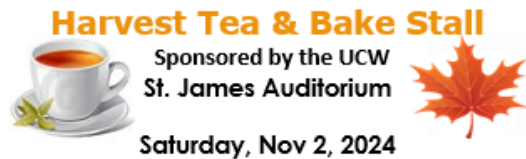
Operating Line of Credit	-19,742
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Givers:

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

UCW Harvest Tea and Bake Stall:

St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue



Time: 2 – 4 pm Cost: \$8.00

Co-Conveners: Barbara Butt: (709) 687-1041
Sheilah Beckett: (709) 726-7421

All donations are greatly appreciated.

Tickets: May be purchased at the door.

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.



St. James United Church,
330 Elizabeth Avenue



AOTS Men's Service Club
Fish Dinner

Friday, October 25, 2024

Time: 6pm Cost: \$25.00

* Tickets are available from any member of the AOTS Men's Club or Aubrey Hill - 709-726-8306 *

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)