

# St. James United Church

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1958-2024  
Celebrating 66 Years!!

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In Loving Memory of  
**James Alan Beckett**  
(Dec. 25, 1940 - Nov. 17, 2021)  
From Wife Sheilah, Son David, Daughter-in-law Tina and  
Precious Granddaughter Kayleigh  
“A life that touches others goes on forever”

## **November 17, 2024, Anniversary Sunday**

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft,  
Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose, and Senior Choir  
Ushering: Brenda and Clyde Flight, Marilyn Adams,  
Jean Thompson and Susan Pike

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*Please rise as you are able where there is an \* in the service.  
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 & Turkish, and honour Christ with us.*

#### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SHARING OF PEACE**

**INTROIT:** “We Praise You, O God”

#### **RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE SENTENCES** (Psalm 118:1-2)

O give thanks to God for they are good,  
their steadfast love endures forever. Let all the people say:  
**God’s steadfast love endures from age to age.**

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

O God of every age and generation,  
**in this centenary year as The United Church of Canada,  
we celebrate as well our sixty-sixth year as a congregation.  
This is a time for us to ponder what it means to be church,  
not just in past years together but as we look to the future  
and to where you are calling us in hope and in faith.**

**Animate us with your love as we sing and pray together,  
that we may follow Christ, your Incarnate Word  
into the promise of your reign. In his name, we pray. Amen.**

**\* HYMN:** “O Christ, the Word Incarnate” (*Voices United 499*)

## **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](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:** “In Gratitude and Humble Trust” (*Voices United 544*)

**In gratitude and humble trust, we bring our best today, to  
serve your cause and share your love with all along life’s way.  
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son,  
teach us to give ourselves each day until life’s work is done.**

### **PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

### **HONOURING TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE**

*We pause to remember those killed because of their gender expression or identity and all others who have experienced hurt and persecution. We light candles, concluding the ritual with the following words:*

**Their light comes from the eternal light. It will not be put out. May all  
be free to shine as who they are both inside and out.**

**\* HYMN:** “Spirit, Open My Heart” (*More Voices 79, verse 3*)

## **We Listen and Respond**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:**

God of all that is, was and is yet to be,  
**in every age you have revealed your wisdom,  
speaking through your Spirit to open and receptive hearts.  
Be with us now, as you were with all who came before us,  
that we too may embody your call in love and in faith. Amen.**

**READINGS:** *At the end of each reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*  
Psalm 119:1-16; Mark 12:28-34; Excerpt from Ilia Delio, *The Unbearable Wholeness of Being* (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2013), 131.

\* **HYMN:** "Many Are The Lightbeams" (*Voices United* 588)

## **REFLECTION ON THE READINGS**

**ANTHEM:** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (Dan Forrest)

## **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:** "Rise Up, O Saints of God"

**Rise up, O saints of God! Have done with lesser things;  
give heart and soul and mind and strength  
to serve the King of kings.**

**Rise up, O saints of God! The kingdom tarries long;  
bring in the day of Christlike love  
and end the night of wrong.**

**Lift high the cross of Christ! Tread where his feet have trod;  
led onward by the Son of Man,  
rise up, O saints of God!**

**BLESSING AND SENDING** *(Based on 1 Peter 2:9; 2 Corinthians 12:9)*

We are called to be a people of hope,

a community of God's beloved living in the spirit of Christ,

**God's chosen community sharing in service of God's reign.**

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

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**

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**St. James United Church**

Chair of Council:

Michelle Skinner

Minister:

Rev. James Ravenscroft

Music Director:

Amy Dalziel

Associate Music Director

Bob Rose

Office Administrator

Stephanie Harnum

Technology Support:

Jake Thompson

Custodian:

Bruce Winsor

## Life and Work - November 17, 2024

### **We accept the following donations to the General Fund:**

- \* In memory of Tom Rose and Bruce Hunt from Eric and May King
- \* In memory of Tom Rose from Jeanette Dwyer; George Beckett; Mildred, Lisa, Kaitlyn, Evan and families

**The Advent/Christmas edition of The Visitor is looking for submissions.** A cherished Christmas memory about the church? A story you'd like to share? We'd love to hear from you. Please send submissions to [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org) with "Newsletter" in the subject line by Thursday, November 21. Note: submissions may be edited for clarity and/or space.

**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, November 20. New members are always welcome.

**November Pub Theology:** Our regular gathering at Guv'nor Pub is delayed until November 28.

**Save the Date:** Wild Light Spiritual Oasis (Forest Church) for November is scheduled for November 24<sup>th</sup> at 3PM. Details to follow.

**Worship Assistants:** Beginning in Advent, we are looking to have Worship Assistants. If you are interested in helping in any way, please let Rev. James know at [james@stjamesuc.org](mailto:james@stjamesuc.org)

**Christmas Decorating:** Looking to get into the Christmas Spirit? We need your help to decorate the sanctuary for the season. Especially needed are some tall people (or those who are not afraid of heights) who can help with our 12 foot tree and hanging the lights along the sides of the sanctuary. We will be starting at 10:00am on Saturday, November 30. Snacks and beverages will be available. Time frame will depend on the number of volunteers we have to assist as it must be completed on that day. So, if you have an hour or two to spare, a warm welcome awaits. No advance notice is necessary.

**St. James Calendar:** 2025 Calendars are available to purchase. If you wish to buy one, please contact the office. The cost is \$20.



**Free Books:** We have *Old Red Hymn Books*, plus *Good News Translation*, and *Books of the Psalms* that are free to anyone that would like to take them. They are located in the back of the foyer.

**Free for the taking:** We have a sewing basket with pinking shears if anyone would like to have it. Please contact the office for information.

**Social & Enviro-Action Committee:** We need a couple more volunteers to help facilitate an informal, ESL/EFL conversational café once a week, to give newcomers an opportunity to learn and practice speaking English. We'd like to start soon. *While no teacher training or experience is needed*, attending Teachers on Wheels' tutor workshop on Nov. 16 may be helpful.

If you are interested in participating in this, *or in any* social issue and/or environmental issue of concern to you during 2024-2025, please notify Robin at [robinbartlett1224@gmail.com](mailto:robinbartlett1224@gmail.com) or (709) 682-3927. Thanks!

**Topsail United Fall Craft and Bake Sale:** Topsail United Church will be hosting a Fall Craft & Bake Sale on Saturday November 30 from 10 until 1 P.M. All are Welcome.