## St. James United Church

330 Elizabeth Avenue St. John's, NL A1B 1T9 January 15, 2012

### A Community of Friends in Faith



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United Church of Canada: <a href="www.united-church.ca">www.united-church.ca</a>

We have Scent-Sensitive Concerns

# January 22, 2012 Epiphany 111/Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Minister:

Minister of Visitation/MUN Chaplain
C.E. Lay Minister:
Organist/Choir Director:
Assistant Organist:
Youth/AOTS Choir:
Reader:

Rev. Bill Bartlett
Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Susan Sheppard
Philip Roberts
Allan Morgan
Doreen Brown
Ross Pilgrim

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**Organ Prelude:** 

Welcome:

Introit: God Says (verses 1, 2, 3)

**Call To Worship:** 

L: We come as people within The United Church of Canada.

We are part of a united and uniting church. We share a vision of peace with all God's people.

P: In unity, there is peace.

L: We come as a people on a search for new understanding. We open ourselves to the passion and energy of those who seek to live lives of meaning and vitality. We share a vision of hope with all God's people.

P: In unity, there is hope.

L: We come as a people aware of the needs of others. We look beyond ourselves to the wider world. We share a vision of mutual support with all God's people.

P: In unity, there is support for one another.

L: God is with us – we are not alone.

P: Thanks be to God.

#### **Prayer of Approach**

L: Today we begin the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

P: yet we are anything but unified.

L: We cast our gaze at others within the Christian faith, and wonder how they cannot see our way as best.

P: We become confident and smug in our United Church.

L: Then we begin to look at each other, raising eyebrows at how others amongst us seem to be walking a different path from our own.

P: We begin to wonder how they could be so wrong.

L: We lose sight of our calling into community, a place of living out our faith as the body of Christ.

P: Help us, O God, to see beyond the surface, to understand we are all seeking to follow you, that we need your guidance and understanding. (silent prayer)

**Hymn:** Seek Ye First the Kingdom 356

Time with the children:

**Hymn:** Simon, Simon, a Fisherman 597

#### Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Eternal God, the waves of circumstance break over us; the wild winds of change howl; the flood threatens. We look for firm footing, a place where we can stand secure, and often what seemed to be solid rock is only sinking sand. Familiar landmarks are swept away or disappear under the wreckage of this age. Lift us up now; help us climb ashore on your eternal love — not so that we can rest always untroubled, but so that we can find courage to launch out upon the deep and ride the flood undiscouraged and undismayed. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

#### Life And Work of St. James:

#### Offertory Invitation: (unison)

It is a responsibility and a privilege to be stewards of all that we have. Let us share together in service to God, in the building up of this church, and in the building of God's kingdom. Our offerings will now be received.

Offering: Follow Me

Offertory Hymn: Spirit of Life 381

#### Offertory Prayer: (unison)

We come and, in our becoming yours, O God, we give these gifts and our very selves. Bless us as instruments of your self-giving, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Hebrew Scripture:** Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

Jonah calls Ninevah to repent

**Responsive Reading:** Psalm 62: 5-12 779

Be still, my soul, and wait for God

Anthem: I See the Love of God Katelyn Mayo

**Gospel:** Mark 1: 14-20

Jesus calls Simon, Andrew, James and John

**Hymn:** Will you come and Follow Me 567

Sermon:

Prayer for Discipleship: 564

Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer:

**Hymn:** Jesus, you have come to the Lakeshore 563

#### **Commissioning:**

Be ready to venture out in faith. Enjoy the journeys you take. Rejoice in your fellow travelers. Remember that in the joy and trials of your travelling God is there, and that in your celebration at journey's end, God is eternally there.

**Organ Postlude:** 

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**Usher in Charge:** Oliver Wellon

**Greeters:** Kevin and Marilyn Pardy

Ushers: Janice Winsor Linda Babstock
Dorothy Hapgood Betty Pilgrim

Wayne, Michelle, Maggie and Sophie Skinner