

St. James United Church

June 9, 2013

Pentecost 3/Union Sunday

Minister: Rev. Bill Bartlett
Minister of Visitation/MUN Chaplain: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard
Organist/Choir Director: Dr. Philip Roberts
Assistant Organist: Gillian Burry
Choir: Sight Restored

Organ Prelude

Welcome



Introit: *St. James Liturgical Dancers*

Call to Worship: (unison)

Today is the ending of a journey with our Sunday school students and teachers. It is also the celebration of the 88th anniversary of the United Church of Canada. We have travelled together during this year, exploring God's Word, learning about each other, and learning how to be disciples.

L: These pieces of cloth remind us of the seasons of the church year that we have travelled through. The candle reminds us that God is with us and we do not travel alone. Let us joyfully worship in God's name.

Prayer of Approach: (unison)

God, will you sing "Happy Birthday" with us? Will you help us to celebrate this part of your family? Will you help us to know that, even with our wondering and wanderings, you love us? Give life to our words and love to our actions. In Christ's name we ask these things. Amen.

Hymn: Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet 245

-2-

Time with the Children

Presentation of Sunday School Certificates

Hymn: We Thank You, God, for Teachers

We thank You, God, for teachers who help us learn Your way, who show by their example how we can serve and pray, who find great joy in worship, who listen with concern; for in their loving witness, they help us want to learn.

We thank You, God, for children and older people too, who value times of learning and want to grow in You, who seek Your precious kingdom and wisdom from above; for wise ones of all ages still seek to learn Your love.

We thank You, God, for families of every kind and size, who keep the vows they spoke when their children were baptized, who pray and read the Bible, who love and serve the poor; they teach by what they value, the way of Christ our Lord.

We thank You, God, for churches that welcome one and all, that nurture every person in answer to Christ's call. So fill us with Your Spirit, and give us life anew, that we may help each other live faithfully in You.

Offertory Invitation : (unison)

With joy, let us present offerings of commitment and support for the work of Christ's church, to mark the 88th anniversary of church union.

Offering: Bring Many Names 268

Offertory Hymn: Spirit, Open my Heart

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living. as You love may I love, in receiving and in giving, Spirit, open my heart.

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

Holy God, bless us by the moving of Your Spirit among us. At this critical time for our earthly home, for the human community, for Canada and its people, grant that we of the United Church of Canada may be faithful to Your call. May Your generous Spirit make us bold in showing gospel hope, and in walking the way of peace, healing and justice. May our monetary gifts be used for the building of Your justice community. Amen.

Life and Work of St. James

Recognition of Susan Sheppard as Designated Lay Minister

Prayer for Illumination: (unison)

Loving God, You speak to us in so many ways: in the song of a bird, in the babbling of a brook, in the voices of our friends, in the hug from Mom or Dad, in the songs we sing, and in the stories of the Bible. Speak to us now through the reading of scripture. Help us to hear Your voice and follow the way of Jesus. Amen.

The Word of God

Hebrew Scripture: 1 Kings 17: 8-16
The widow's jar of flour and jug of oil.

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 146 868
As long as I live, I will praise God.

Anthem: *Days of Elijah*

Gospel: Luke 7: 11-17
Jesus raises the widow's son at Nain.

Hymn: It's Me, O Lord
1. Not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, O Lord,
standin' in the need of pray'r.

Chorus: It's me, it's me, O Lord, standin' in the need of pray'r;
it's me, it's me, O Lord, standin' in the need of pray'r.
2. Not the preacher, nor the deacon, but it's me, O Lord,
standin' in the need of pray'r.
3. Not my father, nor my mother, but it's me, O Lord,
standin' in the need of pray'r.
4. Not the stranger, nor my neighbor, but it's me, O Lord,
standin' in the need of pray'r.

Meditation

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me 575

Commissioning: (unison)
"May the blessing of God, fountain of living water, flow within us as a river of life. May we drink deep of her wisdom. May we never thirst again. May we go through life refreshing many, as a sign of healing for all; through the One who is Life eternal." *Miriam Theresa Winter*

Choral Benediction: You Shall Go Out with Joy 884

Organ Postlude



Usher in Charge: Marilyn Adams

Greeters: Baxter Howse
Bill Legge

Ushers: John Parker
Jean Thompson
Susan Pike

Resources for the service taken from *Gathering, Pentecost 1, 2013*;
Celebrate God's Presence &
600 Blessings and Prayers