St. James United Church

 October 13, 2013

 Pentecost 21/Thanksgiving Sunday/Baptism

Minister: Rev. Terrie Burry

Minister of Visitation/MUN Chaplain Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald

Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM

Clerk of Session: Susan Pike

Choir: Senior Choir

Organist/Senior Choir Director: Christine Tiller

Assistant Organist: Gillian Burry

Soloist: Rev. Marion Davis

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**Organ Prelude:** *We Thank Thee* Peterson

**Choir Introit:** *For Simple Things* arr. Wagner

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship:** (responsive)

One: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
**All: God's steadfast love endures forever.**
One: Give thanks to God and call upon God’s name.
**All:** **Make known God's deeds among the peoples!**
One: God blesses us with gifts of love:
**All: with food and clothing, home and family.**
One: God blesses us with daily work:
**All: and all we need from day to day.**
One: God calls us into relationship:
**All:** **and forms us into one holy people,** **the Church of Jesus Christ in this place.**
One: Therefore shall we offer thanks and praise to the Lord our God.
**All:** **O Lord our God, we will give thanks to you forever.**

 **Opening Prayer:** (together)

Gracious and generous God, we gather to give You thanks for all the gifts we have been given individually and as a community. We give special thanks for our parents and families. May we always remember to offer You thanks and praise for all that You provide for us. We ask this through the greatest gift, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

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**Hymn:** *Come, You Thankful People, Come* 516

**Time with the Children**

 **Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

**Baptismal Hymn:** *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* 444, v.1-3

 **Presentation
 Parents’ Baptismal Vows

Congregational Commitment (together, standing as you are able):**We have heard the will of these parents. We receive these children in Christ’s name as we ourselves have been received. We all belong to the one household of Christ. We will support these parents by providing an environment where love is shown and faith is nurtured.

**Affirmation of Faith:** A New Creed 918

**Prayer of Thanksgiving & Pouring of the Water

 Action of Baptism**

**Avery Natasha Gollop**, daughter of Wendy Catherine & Richard Cyril Gollop

**Kolby Alexander Greene**, son of Linda Frances & Justin Erwin Greene

**Blessing (together):**May God bless you and keep you. May God’s face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace.
 **Baptismal Hymn:** *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* 444 v.4 **Offertory Invitation:** (together) In the name and in the spirit of Jesus, we are about to bring our gifts to You, O God. Help us to give with them a ready mind, a willing spirit and a joyful heart. Amen.

**Organ Offertory:** *Joshua* arr. Boud

**Offertory Hymn:** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* 541

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**Offertory Prayer:** (together)

Through these gifts, O God, may all heed the voice of justice, hear the call to compassion, embrace the way of sharing, and know solidarity with the loving Christ. Amen.

**Life and Work at St. James**

**Prayer for Illumination** (together):Eternal God, in the reading of the scripture, may Your Word be heard;

in the meditations of our hearts, may Your Word be known;

and in the faithfulness of our lives, may Your Word be shown. Amen.

 **THE WORD OF GOD**

**First Testament:** 1 Samuel 3: 1-21

**Responsive Psalm 66:** *Refrain 2, parts 1&2*  784

**Hymn:** *Here I Am, Lord* 509

**Gospel:** John 6 : 19-23

**Soprano Solo :** *Thanks Be to Thee* (Handel) Rev. Marion Davis

**Sermon**

**Prayers of Concern**

**Closing Hymn:** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*  651**Blessing & Sending Forth**

*\* prayers adapted from Celebrate God’s Presence*

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**Ushering this week is provided by:**

**Ushers in Charge:** Al & Minnie Penney

**Greeters:**  Ray & Sadie Keats

**Ushers:**  Helen Penney

Karen Brown

 Betty Winsor

 Nina Abbott

 Beatrice Wadland

 Doreen Wells

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Church Fax: 722-2998

Church Email: info@stjamesuc.org

Church Web Site: [www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)
Emergency Pager: 727-4067
NL Conference: [www.newlabconf.com](http://www.newlabconf.com)

U.C. of Canada: www.united-church.ca

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**We offer our condolences to the following people:**

\*\*Nellie Thompson on the passing of her sister, Rita Warford, in Montreal.

\*\*Ronald Skanes and family on the passing of Jean Skanes, whose funeral took place at St. James on September 26.

\*\*Alice Bursey and family on the passing of Graham Bursey, whose funeral took place at St. James on October 11th. Graham was the Shift Superintendent of St. John’s Regional Fire Department.

 **Donations have been received for Project Grace** from the Naturals Group of Rotary and the Soulful Sounds Music Studio.

**Mary Hood** has been preparing Holy Communion faithfully for us for several years. This is a great undertaking not to be taken lightly. Mary has prepared our wine (Grape Juice) and on many occasions baked our bread truly with a divine spirit.

Receiving Holy Communion worthily brings us graces that affect us both spiritually and physically. Our souls become more united to Christ, both through the graces we receive and through the change in our actions that those graces affect. By receiving Christ's Body and Blood, our own bodies are sanctified, and we grow in our likeness to Christ. We are humbled and thankful to Mary for undertaking this enormous task of preparation of the elements for us and wish her all the best.

**We thank Rev. Marion Davis,** who has been singing with our choir for the past two weeks: we particularly appreciate her solo this morning. Thank you Rev. Marion for your ministry of music to us.

**The Publications Committee, headed by Jan Winsor, has been able to send 249 copies of The Visitor by email.** Here is some of the feedback we have received around this new venture**:
“**The St. James Visitor received on Line. Thanks. Long overdue.”

“Thanks! It is really great getting it this way - looks good with the colour.”

‘Thank you! It looks great in color! This is definitely the best way to receive the Visitor. Many thanks to Rebecca for all her hard work to make the e-mail format a reality. “

**Tickets for *A Spirit of Newfoundland Dinner Theatre Fundraiser****“Beatles…. Back In The N.F.L.D.”*  will be available in the foyer after today’s services. The final day to request tickets is Monday October 14th via email to rebeccapike@warp.nfld.net (October 17th at 7pm, doors open at 6pm; tickets $80 per person ($30 tax receipt) at the Masonic Temple, 6 Cathedral Street.)

**The next AOTS dinner meeting** will be on Wednesday October 16 at 5.30pm

**Fall Sale and Morning Coffee**: Sponsored by the UCW in the St. James Auditorium on Saturday, November 2 from 9:45am – 12noon. Tickets are $6. Members of the congregation who would like to donate - in any way - may contact Sale Convenors: Muriel Cole - 364-5619 or Menetha Dyke - 726-8527.  Tickets can be purchased from members, the church office or at the door.

**St. James 55th Anniversary Celebrations:** Pick up your invitation for Friday, November 15th, along with ideas for the Goods and Talent Auction from the church foyer today!

**St. James AOTS will offer their semi-annual Fish Dinner on Friday November 22** at 6pm. $18 tickets are available from David Hapgood and Albert Styles.

**Opportunities to Serve the Community:**  Please contact SuAn if you feel to continue Al & Minnie Penney’s good work of keeping The Observer subscriptions up to date and/or continuing Mary Hood’s good work of preparing the Communion Service on a monthly basis.

**The AED (Automated External Defibrillator)** is located in the west side closet of the church foyer. A sign saying such is on the door.

**From now until the end of the year, there will be a weekly 9.30 service**. Tell your friends! The 11am Sunday Service will continue forever.

**Ladies! October 20-26 is Pap Test Awareness Week**. When was your last test? If the next one is due, call your health care provider this week for an appointment. For more information about it all, please call Susan White of Eastern Health at 752-4353.

**Topsail United Church Annual Harvest Festival Celebrations**: Tomorrow, Monday October 14th, beginning at 11am and continuing until 1pm, their Annual Sale of Baked Goods, Preserves and Crafts, also a soup Luncheon with dessert tea and coffee cost just $7.  Their Annual Jiggs Dinner will take place from 4;30 to 6pm Cost $14, To reserve tickets please call the church office at 834-4567 from 9am - 1pm.