

St. James United Church

October 4, 2015/World Wide Communion Sunday

Minister: Rev. Terrie Burry
Minister of Visitation: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM
Organist: Amy Dalziel
Choir: UCW & Youth
Choir Director: Doreen Brown

Please remain seated comfortably until invited to stand.
Please turn off your cell phone during the Service.

Musical Prelude:

Welcome and Life and Work of St. James



Introit: *Jesus Stand Among Us*

UCW & Youth

Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: Around the globe, God's people gather this day.

All: On World Communion Sunday we gather around God's table.

One: We gather with different languages.

All: We gather with differences too numerous to count.

One: Yet we are more the same than different.

All: Created in the image of God, we are all named good and treasured by our Creator.

One: Let us worship in unity, peace and joy!

All: Holy is our God! Blessed are we to be in the presence of our God!

Opening Prayer: (together)

Our God, we draw near to You and to others in faith. We come remembering the taste of bread and wine. We come remembering the freedom of forgiveness and the strength of Your presence. Draw us nearer to You. Help us to know our lives start from faith and end in faith. Amen.

Hymn: *The Church's One Foundation* 332

Children's Time, Circle Song & Passing of the Peace

Hymn: *Eat This Bread and Never Hunger* 471

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Minute for Mission and Invitation to the Offering

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

Offertory Prayer: (together)

Gifts on our table: the cup, the loaf, the oil of blessing. Gifts in our hands: our offering and PAR. Gifts in our hearts: gratitude, humility, and faith. Receive and bless every gift that is given at this table, and at all the feasting tables this Sunday. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Scripture: Job 1:1, 2: 1-10

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 25 752

Anthem : *Bwana Asifiwe (Praise the Lord)* Youth

Gospel : Mark 10 : 35-45

Sermon

Communion Hymn: *Bread of Life, Feed My Soul* MV 194

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Presentation of the Breads

Invitation



The Great Thanksgiving: (responsive)

One: Let us join our hearts to make a vine. Grounded in the vine that is the source of our existence, we give thanks for the gift of life that connects us to all creation.

All: We are one with Earth and its creatures.

One: Grounded in the body that is the life of Christ, we give thanks for our brothers and sisters who follow the way of Jesus

All: We are one with those who share our story.

One: Grounded in our passion for justice, we give thanks for all who work for the common good.

All: We are one with all who seek to be community of compassion.

One: Grounded in the bread we break and the cup we share, we give thanks for what we receive at this table: wholeness and unifying peace, courage to break boundaries and strength to self-give.

All: We are one with love itself in the path that we follow and the life we are called to lead.

One: In Jesus, love incarnate, You provide us all we need for each day.....The bread of life,

All: Nourishes our hungry bodies.

One: The cup of blessing,

All: Revives our thirsty souls.

One: The gathered community,

All: Strengthens our growing faith.

One: The church sometimes weeps,

All: We wait lovingly for You, God.

One: For centuries, Christians of different customs have gathered to commune with You and each other through the sharing of this feast.

All: In their partaking You have been with them, just as You are with us now.

One: And so we join with our siblings around the world..... With these elements, nourish and sustain us, our way, our truth, our life. We bind together these and all our prayers using those ancient words Jesus taught us to pray to You, saying together, "Our Father....." Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Communion

Prayer following Communion

Closing Hymn: *We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection* 586

Blessing & Sending Forth

Musical Postlude



Ushering this week is provided by:

Ushers in Charge: Kim Mayo

Greeters: Trevor & Janet Bartlett

Ushers: Kim & Gerry Mayo, Shirley Feltham, Jean Thompson

A bronze plaque, commemorating the 200th Anniversary of Methodism in the Northeast Avalon and containing the names of the present United Churches on the Northeast Avalon, has recently been installed in downtown St. John's. It is the product of the Bicentenary Celebrations Committee made up of representatives of United Churches in the area. The plaque was installed to commemorate the founding of Methodism in this area in 1815, their first minister Rev. John Pickavant, and their first little chapel. That makes this year the 200th anniversary of an event that ultimately produced all the present United Churches in this area.

That Methodist congregation, with their first minister, must have been very pleased when they had their first service in the chapel at Christmas. However, disaster struck in February when a large fire burned down their precious chapel. The congregation was determined to build another one right away and to have it finished for the following Christmas. They decided not to build on the land they used for the first chapel; it was too crowded with houses for them. They chose instead to use the land that is now that of Gower Street United Church.

When the Bicentenary Celebrations Committee planned the plaque, they decided it should be erected outside and preferably in the location of the first little chapel. As there were no church records indicating its exact location, we found one record suggesting it was not far from the east end of the wall holding the steps between Duckworth Street and Victoria Street. Eventually, the St. John's City staff prepared the area sufficiently secure for the plaque, and that is where it was mounted last month.

The plaque was dedicated by The Right Rev. Dr. Gary Paterson, Moderator, in the special joint worship service at Gower Street United on April 26 of this year. The Committee thanks Doug Peters for all his help and patience.

