

St. James United Church

April 24, 2015

Confirmation Sunday/Communion

Minister: Rev. Terrie Jackson
Minister of Visitation: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM
Choir: Senior
Music Directors: Amy Dalziel
Sophia Werden Abrams

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



Reading

Sharing the Peace:

One: The peace of God is here..... to stay.

All: Thanks be to God.

One: You are invited to share in signs of peace with your neighbours.

Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: Jesus reminded the disciples

All: "Love one another as I have loved you."

One: Jesus taught and witnessed to God's love:

All: "Love one another as I have loved you."

One: Jesus encourages us to love each other with tenderness, compassion, and hope.

All: Let us love one another as Christ loved us. Amen.

Opening Prayer: (together) Gracious and Loving God, we are grateful that You have called us together this day, drawing us from darkness to Your light. May our spirits rejoice at the good news You have for us today. Open our hearts to Your healing love, for we ask this in Christ's Name. Amen.

Hymn: *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty* 315

Children's Time

-2-

Hymn: *I See a New Heaven* 713

Offering Invitation

Offertory Hymn: *This Is the Day That God Has Made (chorus)* 175

Offertory Prayer: (together)

God of loving kindness, we bring these gifts as we offer ourselves in the very real hope that we may contribute to the peace and well being of Your world. Amen!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Scripture: Revelation 21: 1-6

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 148 871

Anthem : *Here I am Lord* Choir

Gospel: John 13: 31-35

Hymn: *We Are Pilgrims, v.1-3* 595

Meditation

Hymn: *We Are Pilgrims, v.4-6* 595

Holy Baptism/Confirmation

Introduction

Presentation of Candidates:

Daniel Adams, Rebecca-Ann Bartlett, Margaret Butt, Sophie Fitzgerald, Rachel Moss, Aaron Oates, Amelia Quinton, Victoria Smith and Claire Snow who seek to renew the faith proclaimed in their baptism.
Amita Goyal who seeks to profess her faith through baptism.

Profession of Faith and Promises

Congregational Commitment:

One: Let us pledge to these persons our continued support and care:

All: We will continue to support you, walk with you, and grow with you. With God's help, we will live out our baptism as a loving community in Christ: nurturing one another in faith, upholding one another in prayer, encouraging one another in God's work.

Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed 918

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and Pouring of Water
Laying of Hands
Presentation of Bibles and Certificates***

Prayers for the Candidates: (together)

Gracious God, giver of life, You have called us by name, and pledged to each of us Your faithful love. We pray today for Your blessing on them, watch over them and guide them as they continue to grow in faith. Remind us of the promises of our own baptism, and renew our trust in You. Strengthen us to do Your will, and to serve You with joy, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Recognition of Transfers: Sarah Norman, Rev. Melvin Ralph

Blessing:

On this day you have confirmed yourselves as Christ's followers, may you experience the fresh winds and energizing fire of the Spirit, and dedicate your gifts to serve God in the world all your days. Amen.

Hymn: *Eat This Bread and Never Hunger* 471

Celebrating Community: Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation:

One: This table sets before us the symbols of life.

All: We give thanks to God for our life and the courage we are given to live it.

One: We are here given this sacrament to enhance and enrich our life.

All: We will receive it with thanksgiving and faith.

One: Wherever we are, we are surrounded by the Goodness of God.

All: May the God change our way of being in the world.

One: We pause in gratitude for our life and the many gifts of life.

All: Again and again, we want our life and our gratitude to be good and generous.

Thanksgiving:

One: Here in this sacred place, we are lifted into the awesome mystery of life.

All: And we reach out to all that is good.

One: Here in this sacred place we give words to our inner sense of gratitude and hope.

All: We pause in gratitude for all that has been given; in hope for all that yet will be.

(Pause)

Bread and Wine:

One: The bread is broken for us to take.

All: We will receive it in faith.

One: The wine is here for us to take.

All: We will receive it in faith.

One: May the Good Spirit of God accept us and renew our faith as we receive this Sacrament.

All: This is our hope.

One: May the Good Spirit of God accept us and encourage us to be carriers of goodwill.

All: This is our prayer.

One: May the Good Spirit of God accept us and give new strength to all our living.

All: This is the blessing we seek.

Communion

Solo: *The Table*

Kelsey Brown
Dylan Matthews

Prayer after Communion (together)

Take with you the blessing of this sacrament.

Take with you the blessing of the Good Spirit into your daily life.

Take with you the blessing of care and compassion. Amen

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

575

Benediction



Musical Postlude
