

St. James United Church

October 2, 2016/World Wide Communion Sunday

Minister of Visitation: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM
Organist: Ashley Ruby
Choir: Senior
Choir Director: Emma Clark

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: *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

Choir

Lighting of the Community Candle

Sharing The Peace: *You are invited to share the peace with your neighbours.*

Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: We gather for worship this morning to celebrate worldwide communion.

All: We gather, seeking to be aware of our sisters, brothers and siblings all around the world who join us this morning around the God's table, for we are all formed in the Creator's image.

One: Some who gather will sing and pray like us, in the English language-many other tongues will also be heard;

All: French, Spanish, Italian, Hebrew, Greek, Russian, Ukranian,

One: Syrian, Portuguese, Chinese, Cree, Ojibwe, Mohawk, all these and many more.

All: We are all one family as we gather.

One: May God's Spirit who encounters us here in worship empower us to live in harmony with all the people of Earth, and to love the world in Jesus' name. Let us worship God-Creator, Christ, and Spirit-One. Amen.

Opening Prayer: (responsive)

One: Oh God, hear the sound of one voice, the sound of one person, calling out to You.

All: Oh God, hear the sound of one voice, but the sound of many hearts,

-2-

beating together, in praise and life.

One: Oh God, hear the sound of one voice, the sound of one people, celebrating that we are Your people!

All: Be our love.

One: Be our Hope.

All: Be our possibility! May we be all that You desire. Amen.

Hymn: *God, Whose Love Is Reigning o'er Us*

399

Children's Time and the Circle Song

Prayer of Confession: (together) God of all peoples and places, we confess that we have not acted as one body in Christ, we have not heard the cries of our neighbours, those near and far, those who are refugees, frightened, oppressed, and dispossessed, especially the children. We cling to our nation, our denomination, as if we had all the truth. Hear us, O God, forgive us and remind us again of Your steadfast love which never ceases, Your mercies that are new every morning. (Silence)

*O God we call, O God we call,
from deep inside we yearn, from deep inside we yearn,
from deep inside we yearn for You.*

Assurance of Pardon: (responsive)

One: The biblical story is not about perfect people. The biblical story is about people who fell short of God's will. The biblical story is about people who also knew God's grace and forgiveness. The Good News is that God's love and forgiveness were extended to them; the Good News is that God's love and forgiveness are extended to us.

All: The Good News is that we were never meant to travel this path alone. We are a people of the Good News, travelling together, forgiven together. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn: *When We Are Living*

581

Invitation to the Offering: There are hearts in the world and in this community that are breaking. There are stomachs in the world and in this community that are hungry. There are souls in the world and in this community awaiting a word of promise. Let us offer our gifts to bring God's healing, hope and promise to all. Let us join together in presenting our morning offering.

Offering

Offertory Hymn: *As Those of Old Their First-fruits Brought*, v.1 518

Offertory Dedication: (together) We bring to You the gift of ourselves along with gifts of time and money, and pray that all may be used well, seeking justice and resisting evil, with and for our neighbors in the world. Amen

Scripture Readings

Epistle: 2 Timothy 1: 1-14

Gospel : Luke 17 : 5-10

Anthem : *As We Gather at Your Table* Choir

Meditation

Invitation to Communion

One: The table is ready. It is the table of bread and wine, the table of Christ, the table of the world.

All: We will share one loaf, one cup and the life of Jesus will be with us.

One: So come, with whatever sadness and loss you are experiencing, with whatever longing and hope you know, with the life you are living, for Christ welcomes us and blesses us and touches us with hope. And let us prepare ourselves for this mystery.....Silence.....Amen.

Hymn: *One Bread, One Bod* 467

Sacrament of Holy Communion

One: May God be With Us.

All: God is here among us, as with our brothers and sisters around the world.

One: Let us open our hearts to God.

All: We open them to God and to one another.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

One: Eternal God, Maker of heaven and earth, we join with all Your people to give You praise and glory as we sing together:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.**



One: Let us remember together that vision of God’s reign shown to us in Jesus at table:

All: He shared food with followers and friends,

One: with saints and sinners,

All: with crowds of thousands on the hillside,

One: and a few friends in the upper room.

All: On the night before He died, He had supper with His companions.

One: He took a loaf of bread, and after giving thanks, He broke it and gave it to them saying:

All: “Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of Me.”

One: Then, He took a cup, and after giving thanks, He passed it among them saying:

All: “Drink this. Do this in remembrance of Me.”

One: Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

All: In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Breaking the Bread and Filling the Cup

Prayer after Communion: (together) Holy One, may we who have been fed at this table remember that we are the body of Christ in the world today. May our hearts be open, our words grace-filled, and our actions life-giving. May all that we do and say reveal the presence of Christ, who has met us at this table. Amen.

Closing Hymn: *Take My Life and Let It be* 506

Commissioning: (responsive)

One: The world needs the spirit of community we have shared around this table.

All: This faith-filled community needs the spirit of hope we have shared around this table.

One: Our friends and family need the spirit of joy, which we have shared around this table.

All: Let us share with our world, our neighborhood, and our loved ones the blessing we have received in our worship today.

Musical Postlude

Ushering this week is provided by:

Ushers in Charge: Kim Mayo

Greeters: Katelyn and Laura Mayo

Ushers: Kim & Gerry Mayo, Jean Thompson, Jennifer Bartlett



Next Sunday, October 9 is Thanksgiving Sunday:

Thanksgiving is about more than the harvest! This year, let's bring signs and symbols of all the things we are thankful for on October 9. While bountiful displays of produce will be most welcome, please consider acknowledging the other gifts in your lives by adding them to our decor as well. All items will be returned following the service.

St James United Church
presents
All Ages
Open Mic Night and Coffee House
Friday, October 7
7-9 pm
Cover Charge \$5.00

Nachos, Poutine, Desserts, Coffee, Tea and Soft Drinks;
come with a story, song, a poem to share
or just come to enjoy.

Everyone Welcome to come and share your talents!

For information contact Susan 722-1881 ext 204 or susan@stjamesuc.org

Administration/Office:

Church Email:

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St. James United Church

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