

This bulletin is dedicated in memory of  
a loving mother, Winnie Parsons (September 5, 2005)  
from Louise & Tom Harris.

## St. James United Church

September 4, 2016/Pentecost XVI/Baptism/Ocean Sunday

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

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

### Musical Prelude

### Acknowledgment of Land

#### Lighting of the Community Candle:

One: All creation is made of star-stuff; from the basic building blocks of the universe come fire, air, earth, and water. Baptized by the water of the sky, standing firm on the earth, breathing deep the breath of life, warmed by this flame.

**All: We go where Christ's light shines!**

One: Alleluia.

**All: Alleluia, amen!**



### Welcome and Life and Work of St. James

#### Sharing The Peace:

One: May a heart of peace rest with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*You are invited to share the peace with your neighbours.*

#### Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: From the beginning of time, and out of the depths, voices are calling us today.

**All: God calls us to notice, to hear, and to respond. One:** The One who created the oceans and mountains, the streams and the stars, invites us to worship in wonder and in praise.

**All: Oceans and mountains, streams and stars themselves also call to us – they call us to worship in the knowledge of our Creator, and with the awareness of how Creation struggles today.**

One: Come, in our worship; let us listen both to the Creator, and to Creation's call;

**All: let us open our minds, hearts, and spirits to the yearnings of Creation, and recognize our own yearnings in these voices, for we are one. In great wisdom we have been created in deep communion with each other.**

One: Come. In our worship, let us hear the voice of God calling, and the voices of creation seeking communion with us,

**All: and let us worship in humble thanksgiving for all of creation today.**

**Opening Prayer:** (together) Loving Creator, like holding shells to our ears while standing at the seaside, we listen for You today. We long to hear the rhythm of Your wisdom; to feel the wind of Your refreshing grace; to see the glistening glory of Your powerful light of love, and to smell the strength of Your deep presence. Be with us as we worship. Help us to discover new depths of understanding as we approach this Ocean Sunday. Inspire us to dive deeply into Your mystery. And help us to recognize our commitments to stewardship and care, as we venture into Your wild and wonderful gifts. Like glimpsing the spout of a whale on the ocean's horizon, help us to glimpse and be confident of Your presence with us as we worship. Amen.

**Hymn:** *Called by Earth and Sky*

MV135

### Children's Time & the Circle Song

#### Celebrating Belonging: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

#### The narrative

#### Presentation

#### Promises



#### Congregational Promises:

One: Each of us knows the need for support and care as we share in a journey of faith. As these families gather around this font and this water, symbols of belonging and community, let us pledge our care for them.

**All: We stand as witnesses to the commitment these families have made this day. And we pledge ourselves to their support and care as they discover the ways that the Spirit unfolds for them.**

## A New Creed

918

### Pouring the Water

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** (together) We acknowledge our responsibility to ensure we use the resources of water well, and make available future resources for our children and their children. We give thanks for the gift of this water. May it be the birthing waters of a new and holy life. Amen.

**The baptism: Nolan Bernard Guy Forward**, son of Melanie Rose (McDonald) & Hedley Guy Forward, and **Jacob Aaron Christopher James**, son of Diane Michelle (King) & Stephen Christopher James.

### Blessing

**Baptismal prayer** (together) Bless these newly baptised children. May they always know that the Source of all Love lives and comes to unique expression in them. Bless their parents; may they always show their gratitude for the new life given them. Bless this faithful people. May we all live in love. And may we continue to draw encouragement from the faith which connects our loving with the mystery we call 'God'. Amen.

### Baptismal candle

**Hymn:** *Crashing Waters at Creation* 449 to tune of 444

### Invitation to the Offering

### Offering

**Offertory Hymn:** *We Give You But Your Own* 542

**Prayer of Dedication:** (together) We dedicate ourselves anew, loving God, to the privilege of caring for creation. As we bring our gifts of money and time to our worship life, help us also to bring new understanding of Creation's pain to our everyday lives. Bless us as we leave this place, that we might take the depths of the seas and the power of the churning oceans into our day-to-day realities with more compassion and concern. Help us to affirm, in all we do, that it was and is You who have created all life, and that we are called today to try again to be good stewards of it all. Bless this worship we pray. Amen.

### Scripture Readings

**Hebrew Scripture:** Job 38: 1-18

**Musical Offering:** *French Horn Duet* Hannah Sheppard & Danielle Grundy

## Gospel:

Luke 5: 1-11

**Hymn:** *Like a Healing Stream*

MV144

### Meditation and Prayers of Creation

**Closing Hymn:** *Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

563

### Parting Words

### Blessing

### Musical Postlude

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**The office will be closed tomorrow** for Labour Day, and open Tuesday – Thursday, 9.30am – 1pm and 1.30 – 4pm.