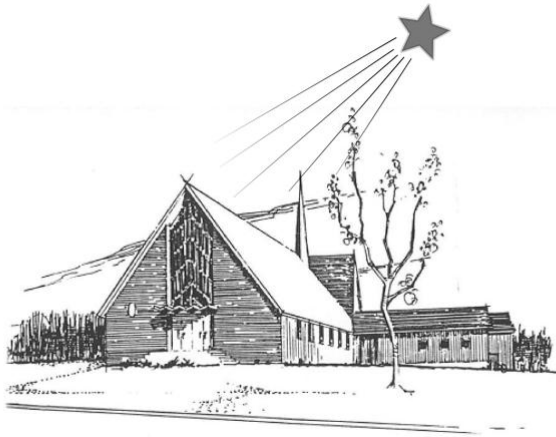


# St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith  
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9  
January 1, 2017



A very Happy and Healthy  
New Year, 2017, to all.

Administration/Office: 722-1881, ext. 200  
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Church Web Site: [www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)  
Facebook: St. James United Church  
Twitter: StJamesUnited  
Emergency Pager: 727-4067  
NL Conference: [www.newlabconf.com](http://www.newlabconf.com)  
U.C. of Canada: [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca)



This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of  
**Melita Saunders**  
from Phil and family.

## St. James United Church

January 1, 2017/Epiphany Sunday

Minister: Rev. Terrie Jackson  
Minister of Visitation: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald  
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM  
Organist: Ashley Ruby

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

### Musical Prelude

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

### Lighting of the Community Candle



### 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:** The beginning of each day, the beginning of each week, and the beginning of each year are opportunities to start anew. Worshipping at the beginning of this week gives us the opportunity to open ourselves anew for God's blessings and challenges, let us pray. Amen.

### Opening Prayer: (responsive)

One: The circle of the year has turned again.

**All: Endings and beginnings; birth and death; changes and transitions.**

One: The circle of the year has turned again.

**All: But in all of the change, there is one sure thing – God is present.**

One: God is present.

**All: We are not alone.**

One: We are not alone.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

One: Let us pray:

**All: Your presence is constant, God. We know You are here. But, sometimes it's hard. Sometimes, in the midst of chaos, we don't know what to do, or to say, or to be. Help us, please. Help us to stop and listen. Help us to stop and look. Help us to be Your people, now and always. Amen.**

One: At this New Year, let us renew our covenant as God's people:

**All: I am completely Yours, God.\* Show me what I need to do. Place me with the people You will, even if it hurts. Use my skills or set them aside as You need. Lift me up or bring me down. Give me what I need. Or don't. Because I freely offer to You my whole self. Holy one, my Creator, my Redeemer and my Sustainer, You are my God, and I am Your child. Let it always be so. May these promises be blessed by Your wisdom and love. Amen.**

*\*What follows the asterisk is a rewriting of John Wesley's Annual Covenant.*

**Carol and its origin:** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* 60

**Offertory Invitation:** At the start of a new year, we present our offerings, our first gifts to God's Church. Let us give joyfully unto the Lord!

**Offertory Hymn:** *to the tune of My Life Flows On*  
*Sheep softly bleat, the angels sing, wise men and shepherds seek Him.*  
*The greatest gift we have received; a child born in Bethlehem.*  
*With grateful and with humble hearts, these gifts we gladly offer,*  
*to share God's love with all the earth, with Jesus Christ, our Saviour.*

**Offertory Prayer** (together) God of new beginnings, today we offer our gifts for the good of the world. Accept these gifts, the products of our hands and minds, and a symbol of our gratitude and eternal love. Amen.

**Carol and its origin:** *The First Nowell*  
91

#### Scripture Readings

**Hebrew Scripture:** Isaiah 63: 7-9

**Gospel:** Matthew 2: 13-23

#### Musical Meditation and Blessing

**Carol: and its origin:** *Away in a Manger* 69

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**Closing Carol:** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

**Commissioning and Sending Forth:** On the first Sunday of a new year, we have worshipped. Depart in joy, renewed in grace. May the light of the World, our Saviour, lead you. Have courage to follow, and may the blessing.....

#### Musical Postlude



Ushering this week is provided by:

**Ushers in Charge:** David Hapgood

**Greeters and Ushers:** Karen Brown, Linda Babstock, Dorothy Hapgood, Tom & Maxine Rose

#### Life and Works, January 1, 2017

**We offer our condolences** to Debbie Janes, family and friends on the passing of Debbie's husband, Leo James Janes on December 25. His funeral took place from St. James last Thursday, with the interment to follow in Carbonear.

**We offer our congratulations** to Jennifer and Tyler Hlcock who were married at St. James last Friday.

**The new poinsettia** adorning the Sanctuary is in loving memory of Feild & Vera Burse from their children and grandchildren.

#### We acknowledge the following donations:

**\*to the General Fund** in celebration of Claire Higdon's birthday from Stephen O'Dea;

**\*to the Bethany Danielle Pike Memorial Camp Fund** in loving memory of Bethany Pike and Joanne Hapgood from the Grennings, and in loving memory of Olive and Roy Pike and Bethany Pike from Susan L. Pike and Michael Kavanagh;

**\*to Bridges To Hope** in loving memory of Edgar David Adams from Marina and family.

**The 9.30 Contemporary Worship Service** will resume next Sunday.

**The office will be closed** tomorrow and Tuesday, to reopen on Wednesday, January 4 at 9.30am

**St. James monthly Long Term Care (Pleasant View Towers)** Service will be held on Tuesday, January 10 at 2pm. All volunteers please meet in the chapel at 1.30pm.