

# St. James United Church

February 12, 2017

A Service for those who grieve

Minister:	Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Minister of Youth/Christian Education:	Susan Sheppard, DLM
Acting Minister of Visitation:	Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray
Organist:	Doreen Brown
Soloist:	Glenda Winsor
Choir:	Senior
Choir Director:	Emma Clark

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

## Musical Prelude Gathering and Welcome



### Assurances:

One: We give thanks unto God; for God is the source of all goodness, God's loving kindness lasts forever, as does God's faithfulness to all generations.

*Psalm 100:5, adapted*

### Opening Prayer:

**All: God of grace and Tender Mercies, be with us and bless us gathered here. We are gathered for all different reasons, but in common we are all filled with grief and have suffered much. Give us the strength and wisdom we need for this gathering; the strength to face and to endure our enormous grief and pain, and the wisdom to rise above our grief and find ample thanksgiving for that which we have lost.**

One: God, who gives us life and receives us when we fall and when life is over or drastically changed, keep us and comfort us now. Your goodness is our strength. Your purpose is our hope. May our confidence in Your goodness and our faith in Your purpose be unwavering. And may our words be true to Your Glory and to Your Creation this night and forever more. Amen.

**Song:** *In the Quiet Curve of Evening* 278

### Moment of Silent Prayer:

Each of us has the need to find, in the midst of tragedy, a meaning or two to suit our own personal needs. Your heart will tell you what your needs are. In the moments of silence scattered throughout this service, be intentional in listening

to your breath and to your heart. Through silence and prayer it will tell you what you need...

### Meditation

#### Candle of Memory

#### Moment of Silence

**Song:** *Lord Jesus, You Shall be My Song* 641

#### Candle of Community

#### Moment of Silences *the Deer Pants for the Water*

766

#### Candle of Grief

#### Moment of Silence

**Song:** *On Eagle's Wings* 808

#### Candle of Joy

#### Moment of Silence

### Candle for the Mystery of Life and Death

### Personal Remembrances and Candles to Represent our Journey through Grief

**Solo:** *I Have a Dream* Glenda Winsor

#### Candle of Thanksgiving

#### Moment of Silence

### Candle of Love

And so we light a final candle for Love: the love we have for life and its mysterious but sure Source, which many of us name God; the love we have for that which we have lost.....; the love that has brought us together. In the spirit of this love we say our good-bye, and give the pain of our burdens to You, O Holy One....

**Anthem:** *The Prayer* Choir

### Blessing as we go forth into the world:

One: Spirit of Life with us, giving us the peace of acceptance and understanding, and the assurance in those things that never die, those things that pass from person to person through the generations into eternity- especially love. In the spirit of love we have gathered. In the spirit of love we depart. Amen.

### Musical Postlude

