

This bulletin is dedicated in celebration of  
**Rev. Jack Mercer & Marie's 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary**  
from their daughter, Karen Brown and family.

## St. James United Church

March 26, 2017/Lent 4

Minister: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald  
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM  
Acting Minister of Visitation: Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray  
Organist: Anna Bond  
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

### Acknowledgement of Country/First Peoples

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

### Entry into the Celebration

### Lighting of the Community Candle

### Sharing the Peace:

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

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

### Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: Let's go to some place green and cool!

**All: But we have to go through that industrial area to get there!**

One: We'll just take the shortcut by the river.

**All: And let's take something to eat!**

One: Good idea! We can share it with the people over on the other side!

**All: They never have enough to eat!**

One: And tonight we can sleep out under the stars!

**All: We are part of God's creation and God will take care of us!**

One: God is good, all the time!

**All: And all the time, God is good!**

**Opening Prayer:** (together) Loving God, we have come here today to hear Your word and let it change us. We have come to be refreshed by Your presence and reminded that we are never far from You. Open our hearts to receive You, and to reach out to others in love. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

**Hymn:** *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* 326

### Children's Time

**Hymn:** *The King of Love* 273

### Offertory Invitation

### Offering

**Offertory Hymn:** *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery* 121  
*Give us eyes to see You clearly, make us children of Your light;  
give us hearts to live more nearly as Your gospel shining bright,  
as Your gospel shining bright.*

**Prayer of dedication:** (together) Loving God, giver of all things, as people alive to Your goodness, we offer these gifts and the talents of this community to the service of all our children within our neighbourhood and beyond, throughout our nation and our world. Amen.

### Silence

### Scripture Readings

**Psalm:** Psalm 23

**Anthem:** *Down to the River to Pray* Choir

**Gospel:** John 9: 1-41

**Hymn:** *Healer of Our Every Ill* 619

### Meditation

### Prayers of the People



**Parting Words:**

One: Take off your shoes:

**All: hear a word that leads to danger.**

**The ground on which you stand is holy ground.**

One: Go speak a word:

**All: challenge the lies that mean oppression.**

**The world in which you live is God's domain.**

One: Come travel on:

**All: leave a past which wants to bind you.**

**The place towards which you go is promised land.**

**Blessing**

**Musical Postlude**

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**Ushering this week is provided by:**

**Usher in Charge:** Kim Mayo

**Greeters and Ushers:** Pam and Lauren Hollett, Katelyn Mayo,  
Kim and Samantha Hutchings, Sharon Seaward,  
Kennedy and Sara Collins

