

# St. James United Church

September 24, 2017/Creation Time 3

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

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

## Musical Prelude

## Acknowledgement of Country/First Peoples Welcome & Life & Work of St. James



**Introit:** *For These Blessings*

Choir

## Entry into the Celebration

### Lighting of the Community Candle

### Passing the Peace of Christ:

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: God breathed life into human beings made in God's image.

**All: We remember. So let's give God the glory!**

One: God called to a runaway shepherd, Moses, to lead God's people out of slavery.

**All: We remember. So let's give God the glory!**

One: God, like a pillar of clouds, led the people through the sea to freedom.

**All: We remember. So let's give God the glory!**

One: God caused a rock in the wilderness to flow like a river.

**All: We remember. So let's give God the glory!**

One: God gives us a way when there seems no way.

**All: We remember. So we worship today.**

**Opening Prayer:** (together) Holy Giver, our hands are open to receive Your gifts. When we don't see the signs of hope we expect, we complain, we turn to other things, and we blame each other. When we do have enough, we want even more

and, by wanting more, often others have less than enough. When we work so hard to get something, we forget Your goodness and think our lives are what we've done, have, or achieve. O Holy One, turn our faces, our voices, and our lives toward You, so we might know goodness, receive what we most need, and share the gifts of life with others. Amen

**Hymn:** *God We Praise You for the Morning, v. 1-4* 415

### Children's Time

**Hymn:** *Lead On, O Cloud of Presence* 421

### Offering Invitation

### Offertory

**Offertory Hymn:** *Spirit, Open My Heart*

*Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.*

*As You love, may I love, in receiving and in giving. Spirit, open my heart.*

**Offertory Dedication:** (together) God of abundance, receive these gifts with thanks from Your people, we pray. May they and we help Your love and grace flow like rivers in deserts of need. Amen.

### Centering Silence

### Scripture Readings

### Old Testament:

Exodus 16: 2-15

Bread and Quail to feed the people

**Anthem:** *O God of All Creation* Choir

### Gospel:

Matthew 20: 1-16

Daily wages for the labourers: what's fair

**Hymn:** *For the Fruit of All Creation* 227

### Meditation

### Prayers of the People

**Closing Hymn:** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* 651

### Parting Words: (responsive)

One: We are called to join the adventure of living a passionate life.

**All: So may we be carried past the boundaries and near horizons of our life's small dreams.**

### Words of Blessing followed by Musical Postlude

