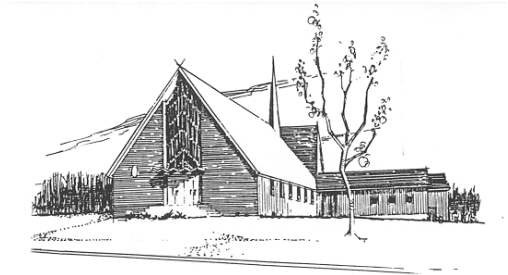


St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9
December 17, 2017



Happy 3rd week of Advent!



Administration/Office:
Church Email:
Church Web Site:
Facebook:
Twitter:
Emergency Pager:
NL Conference:
U.C. of Canada:



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St. James United Church
StJamesUnited
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www.newlabconf.com
www.united-church.ca

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of

Ray Sulley

from his family: "Love you forever."

It is also dedicated in loving memory of

Boyd & Minnie Tremblett

with love from Janice, Jennifer and Claire.

St. James United Church

December 17, 2017/Third Sunday in Advent, Joy
White Gift/Youth Choir Christmas

Minister:	Rev. Brian Colbourne
Minister of Visitation:	Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Minister of Youth/Christian Education:	Susan Sheppard, DLM
Organist:	Paul Rodermond
Choir:	Youth
Choir Director:	Doreen Brown
Soloist:	Gina Gibbons

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

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Sharing the Peace

Announcements; Life & Work of St. James

Introit: *A Christmas Gloria*

Choir

Lighting the Community Candle

Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: The joy of the Lord is all around us,

All: often in the midst of unexpected places.

One: And in this time of stress and expectations, we may be surprised,

All: as the true wonder of this season is revealed to us.

One: The joy of the Lord is all around us.



Opening Prayer: (together) God of light and love, this morning we rejoice and celebrate in Your reign and seek to participate in it through our acts of faithful living. We celebrate justice and righteousness, and with joy we accept Your

Christmas presence as we strive to give You our presence. We pray that You might bless us with a daring and joyful faith. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Opening hymn: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, v.1, 3, 5 1

Children's Time

Lighting the third Advent Candle:

(The first two candles are lit.)

One: On the first Sunday of Advent we lit a candle for Hope. Our second candle was lit for Peace.

(The third candle is lit.)

Today we light a candle for Joy. This is the Joy we search for:

All: **the Joy that comes when we go out of our way to help others; the Joy that overcomes fear and repression; the Joy that Jesus brought to the downtrodden and despised;**

One: the Joy that chuckles out from a young baby;

All: **the Joy of compassionate friendship; the Joy of a Christian faith that is central to all we do and are.**

Hymn: *Joy is a Song*, verse 3 7

Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn, telling the world that the Saviour is born.

When God is a child there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong.

And none shall be afraid.

Solo: *Away in a Manger* Gina Gibbons

Offertory Invitation

Offering

Offertory Hymn: *In the Bleak Midwinter*, verse 4 55

What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what can I give Him – give my heart.

Offertory Prayer: (together) Love takes many forms, O God, and peace is more than the absence of war. Compassion can be shared in a bowl of soup, and justice

must be shared by all. Let these gifts we bring be all these things and more, because we have given them into Your care and use. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Choir: *Do You Hear What I Hear?*
Lullaby of the Angels
The Drummer Boy

Scripture Readings

Old Testament: Isaiah 61: 1-4 and 8-9

Gospel: John 1: 1-9

Reflection

Hymn: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* 64

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Choir: *Angels Rejoicing*
The Colours of Christmas

Hymn: *Angels We Have Heard on High* 38

Blessing and Sending Forth

Choral Benediction: *A Christmas Serenade* Choir

Ushering this week is provided by:

Usher in Charge: Bill Butt

Greeters: Clyde Flight & Brenda Kelleher-Flight

Ushers: Bruce Hunt, Don Blackmore, Gilbert Thomas



Accessibility at St. James United Church

Hearing Devices

Wheelchairs

Enlarged Bulletins

If you wish to use one of the above services that we offer, please speak with one of our ushers and they will be happy to assist you.

Point worth Pondering

By cooling the air and the ground around them, the shade from trees helps cool the earth's temperature