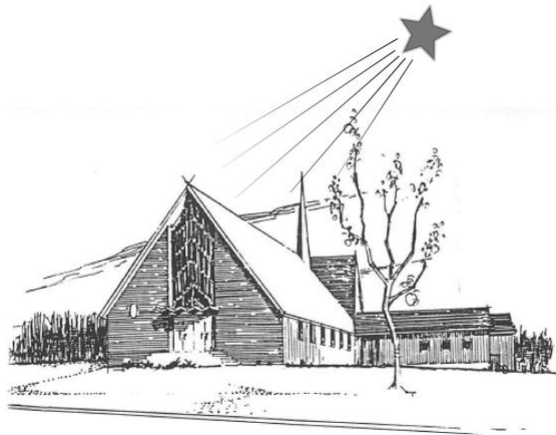


## St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith  
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9  
December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017/New Year's Eve



A very Happy and Healthy  
New Year, 2018, to all.

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



## St. James United Church

December 31, 2017/First Sunday after Christmas/New Year's Eve

Minister:	Rev. Brian Colbourne
Minister of Visitation:	Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Minister of Youth/Christian Education:	Susan Sheppard, DLM
Organist:	David Buley, PhD
Choir:	Senior
Choir Director:	Emma Clark

**Please remain seated comfortably until invited to stand.**

**Please silence your cell phone during the Service.**

**The bulletin may be accessed at [stjamesuc.org/bulletins](http://stjamesuc.org/bulletins);  
password: StJamesUC**

### Musical Prelude

#### Welcome and Sharing the Peace:

One: When Jesus was born, the angels sang of peace and goodwill to the shepherds. May the New Year be filled with the peace of Christ that overcomes all fear. May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.



### Announcements: Life & Work of St. James

**Congregational Introit:** *Arise, Your Light Is Come*

79

### Lighting the Community Candle

#### Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: As we begin today's service, we realize that we have come to an ending,

**All: We have come to the end of one year. Yet we are about to embark on another.**

One: That's God's call to us today and every day of our lives to serve and worship, in every ending and every beginning.

**All: So let us worship God.**

**Opening Prayer:** (together) God, You who are the very symbol of new beginnings, wrap us in Your acceptance as we come to this time of worship. Open to us the wonder of Your loving mercy, Your promise, and Your word, that we may truly become Your faithful children, through Jesus, our loving Christ, we pray. Amen.

**Hymn:** *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* 58

### Children's Time

**Anthem** Choir

**Offertory Invitation:** As we prepare ourselves to follow Christ into the new year, may our love for Christ be made manifest in our gifts. The offering will now be received.

### Offering

**Offertory Hymn:** *We Give Thee But Thine Own, v.1* 543  
*We give Thee but Thine own, what e'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O God, from Thee.*

**Offertory Prayer:** (together) God of mystery, it is a miracle that You can use the finances we offer to participate in Your holy work. Strengthen our worship, expand our outreach, and grow our knowledge and service of You with these offerings. Let Your will be done through us and this precious church of Yours. Amen.

### Scripture Readings

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Luke 2: 22-40

### Meditation

**Hymn:** *In the Bleak Midwinter* 55

### Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

**Closing Hymn:** *I Am the Light of the World* 87

**Blessing and Sending Forth:** (responsive)

One: Do you hear the cries of the world?

**All: We go to travel the Way of Jesus, welcoming diversity and differences, recognizing common need and uncommon grace, our path of becoming in trust.**

One: Do you hear the cries in our hearts?

**All: We go, trusting in the Spirit's companionship, listening for the guidance of God's fond whispers, strengthened by Jesus' touch.**

One: Do you hear the cries of joyful celebration?

**All: We go, trusting in the Light of the world.**

**Musical Postlude**

**Ushering this morning is provided by:**

**Usher in Charge:** Eric King **Greeters:** Jim Von Riesen, Clyde Flight

**Ushers:** Don Blackmore, Melvin Burt, Aubrey Hill

*Life and Works, December 31, 2017*

**We welcome** as our supply Organist today, David Buley, PhD: Associate Professor of Music Education, MUN

**We offer our congratulations** to Emma Clark and Louis House who were married at St. James last Thursday.

**We acknowledge the following white lights to the Memory Tree** from Robin Bartlett and Paul Walsh in loving memory of:

Friend Dr. Mary-Anne Marshall

Jim Walsh

Audrey (Bartlett) Forsey-Brown

Alexandra Yates Pellet

**Please be reminded** that the financial year-end for St. James is today!

**The office will be closed** tomorrow, January 1.

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

**Minute for Mission:** June 10, 2017 was the 92<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the United Church of Canada. In the beginning, some Presbyterian churches, along with the Methodist and Congregational churches in Canada, came together in Mutual Street Arena in Toronto. M&S has always been at the core of the denomination. It has had different names, but the function has remained the same- to seek justice, love kindness, walk humbly with God and to answer the call to mend the world. M&S has come a long way in understanding our place in the world and how to make a difference- from the Women's Missionary Society and Home & Global Mission Boards to the Missionary & Maintenance Fund, which we now call M&S. With the evolution we have also transformed how we live out our mission in the church, from sending missionaries to being in partnerships to a more holistic view of M&S. We no longer think that God's church has a mission; rather God's mission has a church. We sing thanksgiving for your support of M&S ministry and programs with people on the margins in Canada and around the world. Together we have done far more than we can ever do alone. Thank you so much. In all our M&S givings, with a willing heart, we sing thanksgiving to God!