

St. James United Church

September 16, 2018/Creation Time 2/Communion

Minister:	Rev. Brian Colbourne
Minister of Visitation:	Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Minister of Youth/Christian Education:	Susan Sheppard, DLM
Organist:	Paul Rodermond
Choirs:	UCW, AOTS
Choirs Director:	Doreen Brown
Usher in Charge:	Robin Bartlett
Greeters/Ushers:	Paul Walsh, Clyde & Brenda Flight, Michelle & Wayne Skinner

St. James United Church is a safe place for all people to worship, regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background or sexual orientation.

Musical Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: *Let Us Worship* Choirs

Lighting the Candle: We hear Jesus calling, “*Follow Me!*” We light the candle to remind us that we are community and we follow Christ together, and His light will guide us on our journey.

Hymn: *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing* 559

Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: God calls us from wherever we live and work and play.

All: Here we are, Lord!

One: God shares with us love, grace and forgiveness.

All: Here we are, Lord!

One: Here we are, Lord. We gather in worship.

Opening Prayer: (together) Gentle God, You have called us to this place, You have called us to be a community of faith. In our struggles, hold us together; in our celebrating, be our joy; in our serving, may we do so abundantly. In the name of Jesus, we make this prayer. Amen.

Chorus: *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* 400

*Lord, listen to Your children praying,
Lord, send Your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to Your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!*

Children's Time, Birthdays and Anniversaries

Hymn: *I Danced in the Morning* 352

Offertory Invitation

Offering

Offertory Chorus: *Spirit, Open My Heart* MV79

*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 Prayer: (together) We are grateful to be Your people O God, to be called to be generous, to be in ministry in Your world. Bless our gifts, our giving, and our hopes for the world in which Your Will be done. Amen.

Scripture Readings

James 3: 1-12

Mark 8: 27-38

Meditation: 'Taking up the Cross to follow'

Anthem: *The Lord's My Shepherd* Choirs

Invitation to Confession: In order to fully and freely be drawn into worship, we confess to God all that we know we have done that falls short of the glory of God.

Prayer of Confession: (together) In our hearts this day, O God, we bring to You the ways in which we miss the mark. We remember the times when we tried to get it right, but our hearts were not in it. We remember the times when we did the exact opposite of what You were calling us to do. Forgive us, heal us, and return us once again to Your Way. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Communion Hymn: *As We Gather at Your Table* 457

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Please see projected liturgy

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Communion will be served by Intinction today.

Prayer after Communion: (together) Holy God, we have been fed by Your gifts of loaf and cup, of word and song, the gifts of one another's company and Your presence. May Your song be our song, and Your story weave with ours. O God of mystery, increase our holiness, we gratefully pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Closing Hymn: *O Lord My God, How Great Thou Art* 238

Sending Forth: Go. Pray. Serve. Be persistent in the things of God. And let us remember, God's blessing goes with us. Amen.

Musical Postlude

Minute for Mission: Our gifts for M&S support the Near East Council of Churches (NECC) in caring for children in the midst of the shattered infrastructure of the Gaza Strip. Clinics in Shijaia, DarraJ and Rafah estimate anemia and malnutrition affect some 10,000 children from new born to age 6. If treated, 60% of these children will fully recover. Parents and children are welcome at the clinics; the NECC runs outreach programs for families who need service but cannot get to clinics. In addition to the children treated as noted, about 22,000 well baby checks are carried out annually. Children with more complex diagnoses are referred for advanced services. Living in the Gaza Strip is harsh; The NECC reports a shortfall of about 40% in essential drugs needed for mother and child health services. The exposure to health risks continues to increase (spread of communicable diseases, food insecurity, psychosocial issues) as the economic impact of the ongoing blockade and other factors means families have less capacity to contribute to medical costs. M&S makes it possible for the NECC to address the challenges of providing medical care to children in the Gaza Strip.

St. James United Church Life and Work, September 16, 2018

We gratefully acknowledge a donation to the General Operating Fund in loving memory of Ross Pilgrim from Trevor & Janet Bartlett.

Financial Update:

To meet our budget, we need average weekly givings of \$4,115. (This includes the weekly PAR contributions.) Giving's for: August 26: \$2,511 September 2: \$3,351 September 9: \$4,302

Tickets for our Diamond Anniversary Celebrations are available for purchase or reservation from our Church Office. This milestone event will take place on Saturday, November 17 at 6 for 6:30pm in the Auditorium. Cost is \$25 per ticket.

Tomorrow, Monday, September 17 Susan's weekly *Sewing Studio* opens: 3-5pm.

Weekly Senior Choir practice in the Sanctuary on Tuesdays at 7:30pm. New members are most welcome!

The St John's English Country Dancers began their Fall Session in our Fellowship Room last Tuesday at 7:30pm. There is still time to join! New members 16 years and older are welcomed. Cost is \$10 to register, then \$7 weekly. If interested to join, please contact Gail Bartholomew, 745-3881.

Two options for Grief and Bereavement Sessions:

* in the Cafeteria Conference Room, L.A. Miller Centre on Tuesday, September 18, 7-9pm. Rev. Dr. Peter Barnes at 777-2167, peter.barnes@easternhealth.ca or Mag Snook at 777-8972, margaret.snook@easternhealth.ca

* at the Health Sciences Centre, Thursday, September 20, 1L30 – 3:30pm for 8 weeks. Eastern Health's Pastoral Care & Ethics Department Pastoral Care Office at 777-6959 or Scott Parsons at 777-7611.

Wednesday, September 19: Our AOTS meetings resume at 5 for 5:30pm. New members are always welcome!

Thursday, September 20: Weekly session of *Not a Bible Study* continues in the Youth Room at 7pm.

Saturday, September 22, our first monthly congregational board game night will be held from 6:30-8:30 in the Auditorium! All ages are welcome! There will be coffee, tea, snacks and board games for everyone to enjoy!

Next Sunday, September 23: The second annual Diversity Fair after the 11am service, from 12-2! St. James is a diverse community that welcomes all, and promotes inclusion of all persons in our community as an acknowledgement that every individual is equal and important to our mission. If you are willing to lend your time and talent for this event, please let SuAn know and we'll be in touch.

Presenting groups include:

Seniors NL,
CCA - Community Centre Alliance,
PFLAG - Parents of Trans and Gender Diverse,
Association for New Canadians and many more!!

Naming Contest: As part of the ongoing administrative renewal of the UCC, our Province has been named Region 16. You are invited to participate in a naming contest for our region. Your suggestion must be no longer than 44 characters, and the winner gets a prize! Please see the notice boards for more details, or bring or send your suggestion to SuAn (info@stjamesuc.org, subject Naming Contest) and she will submit them all before the deadline of October 26.

Mercy Centre for Ecology and Justice is sponsoring:

*Inter-denominational bonfire on Middle Cove Beach, September 21 at 7pm; *Reflection on Water event scheduled for Bowring Park, September 30 at 2pm.

You are invited to take time during the Season of Creation (September 1 – October 4) to become more aware of the beauty and importance of the natural world in our lives as well as for the obligation we have to preserve it.

VOWR presents Kevin Collins *'The Moment Is Mine'*, at Wesley United Church on September 27 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$20 and can be obtained by contacting Radio Station VOWR at 579-9233; Fred's Records, 198 Duckworth Street; Outfitters Army Navy Store, 1091 Topsail Road; or O'Brien's Music, 278 Water Street.

The United Community of Faith Joint Service of Worship: will be held at Cowan Heights UC on October 21 at 7pm. The committee is extending an invitation to all choir members to participate in a combined choir for this service. Members and friends of all congregations are extended a warm welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served following worship.

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