

# St. James United Church

March 24, 2019/Third Sunday in Lent

Minister: Rev. Brian Colbourne  
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM  
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown  
Music: St. James Guitar Group  
Usher in Charge: Trevor Bartlett  
Greeters: Jean White, Laura Keough  
Ushers: Janet Bartlett, Joy Bartlett,  
Allison Bartlett, Kate Bartlett, Jennifer Bartlett

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

**MUSICAL PRELUDE:** Selection by the Guitar Group

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LIGHTING THE CANDLE:** Today we light the Christ candle as we continue to look ahead through the shadowed days of a Lenten journey, and the anticipation of the joyous hallelujahs of Easter morning.

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** (responsive)

One: A sacred day. A sacred time. A sacred place.

**All: We come to settle into this sacred time of worship.**

One: A holy word. A holy people. God, most holy.

**All: We come to open our hearts and minds to holy things.**

One: We gather to worship.

**OPENING PRAYER:** (together) Ever-welcoming God, You assure us that there is a place for all in Your loving embrace. Remind us again that Your way is full of compassion and love. Open our hearts to the ever-present opportunities to bring hope and comfort to Your people. We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

**HYMN:** *Joyful, Joyful We Adore You* 232

## CHILDRENS' TIME, BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

**HYMN:** *Morning Has Broken* 409

## OFFERTORY INVITATION

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** *Take Time to Be Holy*

*Take time to be holy, speak oft with Your Lord;  
abide in Him always, and feed on His word.  
Make friends of God's children; help those who are weak,  
forgetting in nothing His blessing to seek.*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER:** (together) These gifts we bring, our best, ourselves, we offer now, asking Your blessing on all that we give and all that we do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**ANTHEM:** *Precious Memories*

Guitar Group

**SCRIPTURE:** Isaiah 55: 1-9  
Luke 13: 1-9

**MEDITATION:** "The Year for Figs"

**SOLO:**

Rev. Brian Colbourne

**HYMN:** *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

375

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER**

**CLOSING HYMN:** *Shall We Gather at the River*

710

**COMMISSIONING:** We will soon leave this sanctuary; however, our worship together continues. We take with us the words of scripture and the joyful music we have shared. We give God praise for the blessings we discover as we aim to follow the way of Jesus.

**BENEDICTION**

*(Let us share the peace of Christ with each other as we leave.)*

**MUSICAL POSTLUDE:** *Life is Like a Mountain Railroad.*

**Minute for Mission:** Our gifts for M&S give children in war-torn countries a chance to be children in places like Palestine with the help of Defence for Children International. On a mural in Aida Refugee Camp inside Bethlehem are the words of Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The article states the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities, and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts. The refugee camp is less than 1 km in size and holds more than 5,500 Palestinian refugees. Just around the corner from the mural is a playing field covered by netting used to protect children from tear gas canisters, rubber bullet capsules and other debris that Israeli Defence Force soldiers use during their weekly raids on the camp. Children have been reprimanded for playing a game called "Palestinians & Settlers." similar to North American "Cowboys and Indians." The difference is that the game doesn't end with capture; once captured, the "Palestinian" is punched and kicked by the "Settlers." This is a disturbing normalization of the occupation. According

to the Director of the Accountability, Programme of Defence for Children International, Palestine (DCI-P), 150 to 200 Palestinian children are arrested and persecuted in the Israeli military system each year. Each child is exposed to torture, solitary confinement, physical assault and interrogation to ensure confession to a crime (whether committed or not). DCI-P reports information gathered from its legal team to UN committees and special rapporteurs. M & S supports children's rights in Palestine.

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**If you would like to participate in any of the following activities on a Sunday, please fill out the information below and return it to the office.**

I can help with the following on some Sunday:

<input type="checkbox"/> Testing the sound system	<input type="checkbox"/> Coffee Hour	<input type="checkbox"/> Communion
<input type="checkbox"/> Ushering	<input type="checkbox"/> Music Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/> Scripture Reading

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student and/or Visitor contact information**

If you would like to be on our Email list for weekly Congregational notices regarding upcoming events, please share your contact information below and return it to an usher.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

*St. James United Church Life and Work, March 24, 2019*

**We offer our condolences** to Heather & Chris Whelan on the passing of Heather's mother, Marjorie Hiscock, on March 14. Her funeral took place from Memorial United Church in Clarendville on March 17.

**We gratefully acknowledge a donation** to the Memorial Fund in loving memory of Muriel Baker from the St. James UCW.

**We gratefully acknowledge a donation** to the Memorial Fund in loving memory of Jean Brown from the St. James UCW.

<p><b>Financial Update:</b> To meet our budget, we need average weekly givings of \$3,961. (This includes the weekly PAR contributions.)</p> <p>Givings for: March 3:     \$3,460                            March 10:    \$4,135                            March 17:     \$3,190</p>
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**St. James Diversity Committee** sincerely thanks all those who helped make our first PIE Day celebration such a great success. Thank you for all the donations of delicious pies. Thank you for coming out and

participating. And thank you for your generosity – we raised \$260 to help move the work of becoming a fully affirming congregation forward. The Committee would especially like to thank Robin Bartlett for co-ordinating the donations along with the publicity of the event. Are you interested in joining our Committee? If you'd like to be part of the team bringing diversity and inclusion forward at St. James, we'd love to have you. Please let Katie Vardy know! Katie can be reached at 765-5133 or by e-mail at [katelyn\\_1997@hotmail.com](mailto:katelyn_1997@hotmail.com)

**This afternoon:** A Covenanting Service for Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald and Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray will be held at 1:30pm at Gower Street United Church. There will be Special Music, and guest preacher will be Karl Wells. Please plan to attend this important service for our Rev. Pamela and Rev. Ettie in the life and work of Gower Street UC .

**Tomorrow, Monday, March 25:**

\***Our Lenten Offering Folders** will be available from the office all week;

\***Sewing Studio**, 3-6pm in the Fellowship Room. New people welcome;

\***Writers' Circle every** second and fourth Monday of the month, 7-9pm in the Fellowship Room, open to anyone wishing to discover or exercise their creative writing skills as well as folks needing direction, proofreading or editing of their work, with assistance from experienced leaders.

**Wednesday, March 27:**

\***Weekly lunch time Communion Service** every Wednesday during Lent at 12.15 in the Youth Centre followed by a brown bag lunch. Why not make this weekly practice part of your Lenten Spiritual Journey?

\***Zatoun Olive Oil:** Fair Trade Extra Virgin Olive Oil on sale from the office during Lent at \$20 a bottle. "*Zatoun is Palestine in a bottle*" Only 3 bottles left!

\***Lay Visitation Program:** As a part of our ongoing Visitation Outreach Program, we will be having another orientation session for anyone who would like to be a part of this Outreach Program, and did not get the opportunity to attend the first session. This second orientation session will take place on Wednesday March 27th at 7pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. If you plan to attend, please let Rev. Brian know, or call SuAn at the church office.

**Thursday, March 28:** \*Last day for submitting requested *Visitor* articles.

\*Not a Bible Study at 7:30pm in the Youth Centre.

**Saturday, March 23: Ukelele:** in the Youth Centre at 1pm for 1:30 start.

**UCW Spring Tea & Variety Stalls: Saturday, April 13, 2-4 pm;** cost: \$7.00.

Tickets are available from UCW members and at the door. Donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support! If you require additional information, please contact Sheilah Beckett 722-7621, or Barbara Butt 576-1344.

*"Come let us have some tea and continue to talk about happy things."*

**The AOTS Fish Dinner** is scheduled for Friday, April 26 at 6pm. Ticket price is \$20, available from any member of the men's club or from Aubrey Hill, 726-8306.

***Learn, Laugh and Leave Relaxed Retreat, Friday, May 10 evening and all day Saturday, May 11.*** Our CE Committee is offering an integrative, interactive approach to personal growth of the mind, body and spirit. Themes of *Spirituality, Personal Growth, and Practices to Find Peace* are highlighted in the

practical sessions with experienced leaders, helping you to renourish your soul, plant the seeds for optimal benefit for yourself and others, rediscover the best in you and find emotional and spiritual health. Cost: \$125.00. Gift certificate for Easter/Mother's Day available, as well as all information from St. James office, [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org), 722-1881, ext. 200.

**Spirit of Newfoundland's Dinner Theatre** "*Stand By Your Nan,*" Thursday, March 28 at the Masonic Temple. Doors open 6:30pm, dinner starts 7pm, show starts 8pm. Tickets are \$85 each, with a tax receipt for \$35; call Wesley UC at 579-3682, Marvin Barnes at 579-7900 or VOWR at 579-9233.

**Next Sunday, March 31** at 3pm, the Kirk invites you to join with its members as they will sing various old time hymns to glorify God as they also reflect on who wrote them and how they came to be w

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