

St. James United Church

March 17, 2019/Lent 2/Communion

Minister:	Rev. Brian Colbourne
Minister of Youth/Christian Education:	Susan Sheppard, DLM
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Organist/Choir Director:	Paul Rodermond
Choir:	Senior
Soloist:	Alison Pettten
Usher in Charge:	Trevor Bartlett
Greeters:	Joy Bartlett, Mary Daya
Ushers:	Janet Bartlett, Gloria Le Feuvre Bill Legge

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CANDLE: We are all beloved children of the light of Christ. The spectrum of light, reflected in God's love, dances as a rainbow of promise and diversity. Those who love, live as children of the light.

CHOIR INTROIT: *As the Sun With Longer Journey*

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: We are the body of Christ! Baptized in one Spirit, we are members of one body.

All: **Many and varied in gender, color, sexuality, age, class, and ability, we are members of Christ's beautiful body.**

One: None of us can say to another, *"I have no need of you"*.

All: **For only together can we find wholeness.**

One: None of us can say to another: *"I will not care for you"*.

All: **For we are all connected. If one suffers, we all suffer. If one rejoices, we all rejoice!**

One: Thanks be to God who, in Christ, has made us one.

All: **Let us worship God!**

OPENING PRAYER: (together) Holy God, gather us in oneness of spirit and purpose.

We pray that Your reconciling presence may

heal past hurts and move us to new ways of being together. Renew our commitment to make this a household of faith for all people –

that all who worship and minister here may know the grace and challenge of faith. In our life together, grant us minds and hearts eager to learn, reluctant to judge, and responsive to the leading of Your loving Spirit. We ask this in Christ's name, Amen.

HYMN: *Come In, Come In and Sit Down* 395

CHILDRENS' TIME, BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

HYMN: *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* 684

OFFERTORY INVITATION OFFERING

OFFERTORY CHORUS: *Spirit, Open My Heart* (chorus) 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) Blessed Healer, You transform lives. The hungry are fed, the lonely are befriended, and the broken are restored to wholeness. May these gifts be part of the transformation. We offer them with humility and hope. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 27 754
SCRIPTURE: Luke 13: 31-35

MEDITATION

SOLO: *Jerusalem* Alison Petten

INVITATION TO CONFESSION: Let us confess to God all that we know we have done that falls short of the glory of God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (together) Holy One, You have created all things, proclaiming all that You have made as being good. We bear Your divine image, the reflection of Your creativity and diversity. Sadly, we have denied the goodness of Your creation. We have often wounded and rejected ourselves and each other. Forgive us merciful God. Give us the courage to embrace all that You have made. Teach us to be better at following the example of Jesus Christ, through the power of Your Holy Spirit. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

A NEW CREED 918

HYMN: *Bread of Life, Feed My Soul* MV194

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
(Please see projected liturgy.)

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & POURING OF THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: (together) God of great mystery, we have shared in Your feast, but not only with those in this church this morning; we have also shared this Holy Communion with sisters and brothers around the world. A range of languages and smiles have praised You, O God, from all over the earth. Unite us to one another. Recommit us to Your cause. O God, may Your kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

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SENDING FORTH: (together) Let us go from this place as a new creation, crafted by the word, conformed to the shape of Jesus Christ, so that all who meet us may know Him in us, and come to love Him through us. Amen.

BENEDICTION

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

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

St. James United Church Life and Work, March 17, 2019

We offer our condolences to Gerry & Kim Mayo and family on the passing of Gerry's father, Gerald Harvey Mayo, on March 7. His funeral took place from St. Mark's Anglican Church last Monday, March 11.

We offer our condolences to the Rev. Ettie Gordon-Murray and family on the passing of Ettie's mother, Margaret Gordon, on March 7. Her funeral took place from George Street United Church last Wednesday, March 13.

Financial Update: To meet our budget, we need average weekly givings of \$3,961. (This includes the weekly PAR contributions.)

Givings for: February 24: \$3,541

March 3: \$3,460

March 10: \$4,135

Today: immediately after the 11am Service, PIE DAY, hosted by the St. James Diversity Committee. Public-Intentional-Explicit; this event draws awareness to our commitment towards becoming an affirming congregation. For a small donation, come enjoy a slice of pie, tea or coffee in celebration of our commitment to becoming a more diverse, inclusive congregation.

***This evening:** Youth Group upstairs in the Youth Room at 7pm.

Tomorrow, Monday, March 18:

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

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

* **The regular monthly meeting of the UCW** at 7:30pm in the church auditorium. This replaces last week's postponed meeting. All are welcome. Please bring items for grab bags. If any congregational member would like to donate items for the grab bags, thank you! Please give them to a UCW member.
***Yarn Gatherers**, every third Monday of the month, is now taking a break from scheduled meetings.

Tuesday, March 19: Book Group (every 2 weeks) cafe style discussion of *The Great Spiritual Migration* by Brian McLaren in the Youth Centre at 7pm-9.

Wednesday, March 20: 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"*

***The regular monthly dinner meeting of the men's club** in the auditorium at 5:00 for 5:30. Guest speaker will be Dr. Suzanne Brake, Seniors' Advocate. Other members of the congregation interested in hearing Dr. Brake's presentation are welcome to join the group at 6:15 that evening. Please indicate your intention to attend by calling the church office or by notifying one of the club members.

***Spring Equinox Service** at The Mercy Centre at 7:30pm; all welcome.

Thursday, March 21: Not a Bible Study at 7:30pm in the Youth Centre.

Saturday, March 23:

* **Burry Heights Camp and Retreat Centre's AGM** at 10am at the Burry Heights Camp Site on Salmonier Line. All are welcome.

***Ukelele:** in the Youth Centre at 1pm for 1:30 start. susan@stjames.org

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."

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 person growth of the mind, body and spirit. Through practical sessions with experienced leaders, it will help 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, 722-1881, ext. 200.

Minute for Mission: Our gifts for ministries like River Bend Integrated Community Ministries support programs of healing and reconciliation. The core of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, is home to many Indigenous people. Each year, River Bend holds a program called the 10 x 10 project - an art project where people living in the core are invited to paint on a 10 x 10 canvas that will be displayed in an art show to all the communities in Saskatoon. Last year, 80 canvases were handed out; 73 returned for the show. Minister and Coordinator Jane Jupe says she has grown so much in her interactions with artists. *"I have come to realize how important it is-; it builds community between artists, and helps people heal."* One artist created a beautiful image from beads of an Indigenous girl without facial features. She

explained how important it was to share her story of sexual assault, saying that it happens to many young Indigenous girls. We are called to love our neighbours! Your gifts for M & S offer moments of healing every day at River Bend Integrated Community Ministry.

THE END