

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of  
**Ray Sulley,**  
a beloved husband, father and Poppy.  
*"Love you forever Ray."*

## St. James United Church

December 16, 2018, third Sunday in Advent, Joy/White Gift

Minister:	Rev. Brian Colbourne
Minister of Youth/Christian Education:	Susan Sheppard, DLM
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Organist:	Paul Rodermond
Choir:	Youth
Choir Director:	Doreen Brown
Usher in Charge:	Clyde Flight
Greeters/Ushers:	Peter & Shirley Barbour, Ron & Lorraine Robbins, Brenda Kelleher-Flight

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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

### Lighting the Community Candle

**Introit:** *Sing for Joy* Choir

**Call to Worship:** (responsive)

**One:** Come, people of God, come and worship on this third Sunday of Advent.

**All:** **We come, seeking God's grace to make us whole. We continue our journey toward Christmas, joyous and excited, ready to welcome the Christ child.**

**One:** Come to trust, listen, believe and imagine what is possible because God is with us.

**Opening Prayer: (together)** This Advent season is the reminder of Your coming among us, O God. To us, You are a mystery, and yet You also come to us often in the midst of ordinary life. And so, we enter into this time of worship with confidence and hope, knowing that You are always ready to meet us and bless us with love. Amen.

**Hymn:** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* vs.1, 2

**Lighting the Third Advent Candle:** (*The first two candles are lit.*)

One: Today we light the Advent candle of Joy.

*(The third candle is lit.)*

**All: We welcome the spark that dances with the Holy Spirit,  
the spark that fires and inspires our souls, the spark of  
creativity and wonder.**

One: Come, Holy Stranger, evangelist of joy on this Advent journey:  
welcome us as we welcome You.

**All: We receive the light of joy.**

**Hymn:** *Hope is a Star*, v. 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.*

**Children's Time, Birthdays and Anniversaries**

**Hymn:** *Away in a Manger* 69

**Offertory Invitation**

**Offering**

**Offertory Song:** *In the Bleak Midwinter*, v.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 I can I give him - give my heart.*

**Offertory Prayer: (together)** God, You hold the whole world in Your embrace. Through these gifts, may hearts be warmed, hands be held, and care extended around the world.

**Choir:** *Ding Dong: Merrily  
When Will the Little King Come?*

**Scripture:** Isaiah 12: 2-6  
Luke 3: 7-18

**Solo:** *Gésu Bambino* Gina Gibbons

**Meditation:** 'What Shall We Do?'

**Hymn:** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* 60

**Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer**

**Choir:** *Christmas Angel* (with duet by Sophie and Sarah O'Neill)  
*The Very First Christmas Morn*

**Closing Hymn:** *Joy to the World*

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**Blessing and Sending Forth:** Enter this Advent week with joy. May your waiting be rich and the presence of our God be full and near to you. Bring God's joy to the world like one candle overcoming the shadows of darkness.

### **Benediction followed by Musical Postlude**

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

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**Minute for Mission:** Our gifts to M&S support the work of community ministries like Our Place Society in Victoria, B.C. Our Place serves Victoria's most vulnerable people who are addicted and homeless, the working poor, those who are mentally and physically challenged and impoverished elderly people. This inner city centre relates to the people who use it as family members, not clients, with an emphasis on creating a compassionate, caring community. Our Place serves over 1800 meals a day, provides hot showers, clothing, health care and an overdose prevention site. It also cares for people's spiritual needs as these people experience a lot of grief and death. In 2007, Our Place hired a First Nations spiritual leader who can better connect the centre with the 30% of its members who identify as indigenous. This man connects with the Indigenous population through hosting healing circles and smudges, through drumming and song, and through his warm, caring presence. *"With the smudges"*, he says, *"people feel lighter because they know they are cherished, cared for and prayed for in that moment"*. With your support of M&S, Our Place Society is able to focus on creating sacred and healing community.

### *St. James United Church Life and Work, December 16, 2018*

**We offer our condolences** to the following people:

- \*the family and friends of Joan King, who passed away on December 10. Her funeral service took place from Barrett's Chapel last Friday;
- \*June Jones and her family on the recent passing of June's brother Wayne;
- \*Sarah Norman and her family on the recent passing of Sarah's grand-mother.

**We gratefully acknowledge a donation to the General Fund** from the wonderful ladies of the St. James UCW.

**We gratefully acknowledge the following donations to Bridges To Hope:**

- \*from Scott & Brenda McClellan;
- \*in loving memory of Nicole Fortier's Food Bank from Calvin Mercer, Lyn Boundridge and Hope Mercer.

**We gratefully acknowledge the following donations to the Memorial Fund** in loving memory of Jean Brown from:

Jack & Florence Head;	Bill and Cindy Pike;
Bill and Barbara Butt;	Betty Patey;
Phil Saunders;	Jean & George White;
Dot & David Hapgood.	

**We gratefully acknowledge the following donations to the General Fund** in loving memory of Jean Brown from:

Kevin & Heather Way;                      Kim & Kevin Glover;  
Maxine & Tom Rose;                      Grace & Clayton Rogers;  
Glenda & William Butt.

**We gratefully acknowledge the following donations to the AOTS Men's Choir** in loving memory of Jean Brown from Lorne Brown.

**Financial Update:** To meet our budget, we need average weekly givings of \$4,115. (This includes the weekly PAR contributions.)

Givings for:    November 25: \$6,700  
                      December 2: \$4,249  
                      December 9: \$4,945

**Today after the 11am White Gift Worship Service:** Please join us for Coffee Hour and the Youth Ministries' Cookie Sale.

Your White Gift will be donated to Stella's Circle and Street Reach.

**Every Sunday:** St. James' Anniversary Calendars are available for purchase at \$20 each. They are also available during the week from the church office.

**This evening at 7 pm** in the Sanctuary: a Christmas Festival of Carols and Choirs including a congregational carol sing alongside performances by the Senior Choir, St. James Jazz Trio, Project Grace and more. Entrance: freewill offering.

**Monday, December 17:** Loose Threads Sewing Studio, 3-6pm.

**Next Friday, December 21:** Winter Solstice Worship and Bonfire at Susan's house (call for directions) at 7pm. Please bring a mug, a flashlight and if needed a camp chair. Dress warmly!

**Guy Matthews Medical Assistance Fund:** Rev. Guy Matthews a minister and friend to most of us underwent Heart Transplant Surgery in Ottawa in late September. Guy is doing very well, but a fundraising appeal has been established to help the Matthews family deal with the financial stress associated with this surgery. Your donation clearly marked "Guy Matthews Assistance Fund" can be made in several ways:

\*Send / drop off donation to St. James Church office at 330 Elizabeth Ave, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9.

\*Drop your donation in the collection plate at a regular Sunday service.

\*Email money transfer to [guymatthewsmedicalfund@outlook.com](mailto:guymatthewsmedicalfund@outlook.com)

\*Online through the Guy Matthews Medical Assistance Fund Go Fund Me website [www.gofundme.com/guy-matthews-medical-assistance](http://www.gofundme.com/guy-matthews-medical-assistance) Google "go fund me" and then search for "Guy Matthews." More Information regarding this fund raising can be found on the St. James United website [www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org) or by contacting Stephen Pike, [stephen.pike@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:stephen.pike@nf.sympatico.ca) 765-2438

**WaterWerks Communications** are collecting diapers for their Annual Christmas DiaperDrop again this year. All donations can be dropped off at 96 LeMarchant Road or passed along to Sarah (in Sunday School). [diaperdrop.ca](http://diaperdrop.ca)

**Please remember** to NOT keep anything visible in your car when parking in the parking lot.

**Christmas 2018 Memory Tree deadline is tomorrow!** Please ensure that the office receives the wording for your contribution.

<b><u>Memory Tree Form</u></b>
Name of person donating: _____
In Memory of: _____
Env #: _____ Address if no Env. #: _____

**THE END**