

# St. James United Church

October 18, 2020/ World Food Day

Minister: Rev. Marion Davis  
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM  
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown  
Music Director: Amy Dalziel  
Assoc. Music Director: Branden Olsen  
Soloist: Glenda Winsor

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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

## Acknowledgement of Country/First Peoples

## Welcome

## Congregational Life and Work

## Lighting the Christ Candle

**One:** We light this candle to remind us of the presence of Christ. The light from this one candle shines equally for each one of us; the light from this one candle shines equally for the world.

## Call to Worship:

**One:** The flaming leaves of autumn are like the fire of God's spirit.

**All:** **The bounty of the gardens is like the fullness of God's love.**

**One:** We are called to share the blessings of the land with the world.

**All:** **Let us worship God.**

## Opening Prayer:

**One:** Thank you, Creator;

**All:** **you give us food to survive.**

**One:** Your life-power is in the food,

**All:** **and we are thankful.**

**One:** Give us strength to hunt, fish, or grow food.

If we cannot get food in these ways, may we be grateful to all who have gathered your precious gifts.

**All:** **We thank you for the times that food brings us together.**

**We pray that mother earth will always be respected so that food will not be scarce.**

**One:** We pray for life that dies to feed others – may it be honoured in our prayers. We are grateful for the gifts of food that you give us. Amen

**Hymn:** *For the Fruit of All Creation*

VU 227

## Offertory Invitation

## Offertory Prayer:

**One:** Creator,

**All:** **Conspire with us to create a world where all have access to nutritious and sustainable food sources, where none live with scarcity or food insecurity.**

**One:** Redeemer,

**All:** **Save us from oppressive and unjust systems. Mobilize us to be a part of a world response that works in partnership with those of good will to foster equitable resource sharing.**

One: Sustainer,

**All: Cultivate our resilience and expand our imaginations, so that we might continually find new ways to answer the call to end hunger—until all may flourish. Amen.**

**Epistle:** Thessalonians 1:1-10

**Responsive Reading:** Psalm 99 VU 819

One: You reign, O God, and the peoples tremble. You sit enthroned upon the cherubim, and the earth is quaking.

**All: You, O God, are great in Zion; you are exalted over all the nations.**

One: Let them praise your great and awesome name: holy are you and mighty, a ruler who delights in justice.

**All: You have determined what is fair; you have done in Jacob what is just and right.**

One: Moses and Aaron were among your priests and Miriam was among those who called on your name; They called to you and you answered.

**All: In the pillar of cloud you spoke to them. They kept your teaching and the law that you gave them.**

One: O God, our God, you answered them;

**All: To them you were a forgiving God, though you punished their offences.**

One: Proclaim the greatness of God and worship on God's holy hill

**All: for God our God is the Holy One.**

**Hymn:** *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* VU 326

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 22:15-22

**Reflection on the Word:** "All for Thee"

### Musical Interlude

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

**Hymn:** *Take My Life and Let it Be* VU 506

### Commissioning and Benediction

**Sung Amen:** *Amen, Amen, Amen* VU 967

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**Mission & Service**—funded global partner the Cuban Council of Churches has united two goals in a pilot project: encouraging sustainable farming and creating churches that are more inclusive of people with disabilities. 20 families in 4 provinces in Cuba receive farming support & pastoral care. Farmers diversify their skills, gain more autonomy, and improve their families' resilience. Ernesto González, the project coordinator, is an agronomist who lives with partial paralysis. He offers support to farmers who may have visual impairments, intellectual disabilities, damaged hands, or other challenges, explaining that the project meets a need for inclusion while supporting economic improvement. An important part of the project includes participants giving back to their communities and to other people living with disabilities. This way, strengthening family economies also involves building a social economy. One man who has an intellectual disability works with his parents to produce a variety of vegetable crops, they share some of their produce with a seniors' home. Other families raise sheep, goats, or pigs. "Our emphasis is to support these people first with what they want to do," says Ernesto. If you have not given, please join me in making Mission & Service giving a regular part of your life of faith.

# Life and Work – October 18, 2020

## We gratefully acknowledge the following donations:

\* to the Memorial Fund in loving memory of Ethel Pitt from Vera Marshall

\*to the General Fund in memory of my beloved husband, Jonathan E. Richards who died on Sept 26, 2018 from Olga R.R. Broomfield-Richards

\*to the General Fund in loving memory of Phil Saunders from Peter and Shirley Barbour

**We extend virtual hugs** and very happy birthday greetings to our Shirley Bursey who celebrated 92 years on earth on October 13. Shirley is one of the founding members of St. James.

**We are very pleased** to offer congratulations to our Music Director Amy who was engaged to her partner Josh on Friday, October 9! Enjoy the wonder and happiness of your future together!

**We are also very pleased** to have Jake Thompson on board at St. James as our IT person. Jake will be helping with all matters IT related, including the sound system and the live streaming of the Sunday services.

**Book Study:** *The Birth of Jesus for Progressive Christians*, beginning the week of November 15 and running through the week of December 13. This 5-week program will use the book *The Birth of Jesus for Progressive Christians* by Donald Schmidt, available from Woodlake Publishing at a cost of \$12 (paperback) and \$7.50 (e-book). Depending on registration there is the possibility of a morning and evening group. If you are interested, but not yet registered, please email Susan Sheppard, [susan@stjamesuc.org](mailto:susan@stjamesuc.org)

**For the time being**, office hours are virtual, Monday – Thursday, 9:30am-1pm, available via phone message or email. If you feel you need to access the building or meet with SuAn personally, please leave details in your message or email to arrange an appointment.

## Church Council News

The St. James Mission Articulation Plan (MAP) has been approved by the Region.

To continue the process of hiring a new full time minister, a congregational meeting will be held on Saturday, October 31st at 10:30AM. The purpose of the meeting is to:

- obtain formal approval on the MAP document from the congregation,
- provide an overview of "Church Hub"
- form a Search Committee

*Registration is required to attend the meeting. Please call 700-6064 by 4:00 PM on Oct. 30th to reserve a seat.*

If anyone in the congregation is interested in serving on the Search Committee, please contact Trevor Bartlett at 709-728-5260 or by email [trevorbartlett@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:trevorbartlett@nf.sympatico.ca)

## St. James' Services go digital:

Contemporary Worship Service and Sunday Morning Worship

Please access our website ([www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org) and click on the top right button - 'Digital Worship') or our Facebook page

(St. James United Church click on 'Videos' in the left side menu).

**Topsail United Church's** popular annual online auction is taking place from October 12-28; they encourage bidding and sharing. Please visit [topsailunitedchurch.nf.net](http://topsailunitedchurch.nf.net) or [Facebook.com/TopsailUnitedChurch](https://www.facebook.com/TopsailUnitedChurch) to learn

more and register to bid.

**The Community Sector** Council NL has many free online training opportunities happening every month, including some for professional development.

Visit [www.communitysector.nl.ca](http://www.communitysector.nl.ca) and click on techKNOWtutors for the full list of upcoming training events in October. Join them on Thursday, October 29 for a virtual trivia night.