

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9
October 25, 2020



The Church is a fellowship of believers who have responded to God's call through Jesus Christ. As members of a Christian community initiated by Christ to proclaim God's love for the whole creation, we are called to:

- (1) Believe in God and God's love made visible in Jesus Christ;
- (2) To participate in a spiritual journey, intentionally proclaiming, celebrating and deepening spiritual consciousness;
- (3) To be good stewards of all that we possess and to care for the Earth which is God's creation;
- (4) To develop meaningful and caring relationships with others as well as with God;
- (5) To empower individuals and groups, in response to the call of Christ, to increase their awareness of the oppressive forces around them, and with God's help, to seek justice for all people.

Administration/Office:

Church Email:

Church Web Site:

Facebook:

Twitter:

Instagram:

Emergency Pager:

NL Conference:

U.C. of Canada:

722-1881, ext. 200

info@stjamesuc.org

www.stjamesuc.org

St. James United Church

StJamesUnited

St.JamesUC

727-4067

www.newlabconf.com

www.united-church.ca



The bulletin may be accessed at stjamesuc.org/bulletins
password: StJamesUC

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of

Jacob Parsons

from

wife Effie and sons Donald and Derek

St. James United Church

October 25, 2020/Peace Sunday

Minister:

Rev. Jim Von Riesen

Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown

Music Director: Amy Dalziel

Associate Music Director: Branden Olsen

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 & WORK

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE: (One) We light this candle to remind us that the Spirit of the eternal God moves around, among and within us, drawing us into Christian Community.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: When we stand at the edge of fear and worry,

All: God invites us to step into the waters of faith and trust.

One: When we stand at the edge of the world's pain and need,

All: Jesus invites us to step into the land of humble service.

One: When we stand at the edge of our hunger and thirst,

All: The Spirit invites us to feast and drink from the bounty of grace.

(Adapted from a liturgy written by the Rev. Thom M. Shuman, minister at Galloway Presbyterian Church, Columbus, Ohio and Associate Member, Iona Community.)

PRAYER OF APPROACH: Eternal, loving Spirit, we gather as a community of people who journey together on the way. In our living, we seek to follow Jesus' example and teaching. As we worship this morning, we pray that we might be open to Your presence around, among and within us. Amen.

HYMN: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*

VU 232

We Respond to God's Love

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY PRAYER: (together) As we offer our gifts, remind us that they will be used to heal the broken, feed the hungry, free the oppressed and encourage the discouraged, both in our own communities and in the larger world community. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ANTHEM/SOLO/SPECIAL MUSIC

We Listen for God's Word

EPISTLE: 2 Timothy 1: 3-7

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 146

VU 868

One: Praise God, O my soul. As long as I live, I will praise God.

All: Yes, as long as I have life, I will sing praises to God.

One: Put not your trust in princes, nor in any mortal, for in them there is no help.

All: When they breathe their last they return to dust; then their plans come to nothing.

One: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

All: whose hope is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

One: the One who keeps faith for ever,

All: Who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.

One: God sets prisoners free, restores sight to the blind.

All: God straightens those who are bent; loves those who are just.

One: God cares for the stranger in the land, and sustains the widow and orphan;

All: But the way of the wicked God turns to ruin.

One: God shall reign forever, O Zion,

All: your God for all generations.

HYMN: *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

VU 684

GOSPEL READING: Mark 12: 28-34

MEDITATION: What a Wonderful World

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

We Are Sent Forth to Live our Faith

HYMN: *May the God of Hope*

VU 424

COMMISSIONING

BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: May God's Sheltering Wings

MV 214

*May God's sheltering wings, God's gathering wings, protect you,
May God's nurturing arms, God's cradling arms, sustain you
And hold you in God's love, and hold you in God's love.*

ORGAN POSTLUDE



Eligibility to vote at a congregational meeting

In years past, only full members of the congregation were eligible to vote on matters concerning the congregation. Adherents were permitted to vote on selective topics. Reference: The United Church Manual 2016 Section 3.7 page 56. This has been a matter of discussion many times over the years.

Changes were made at General Council in August, 2019 which came in effect January 1, 2020. In the 2019 Manual, all references to conditions of when an Adherent can vote have been removed. Reference: The United Church Manual 2019 Section B.3.7 page 60.

The Manual reference to adherents: Many people establish long-standing, committed relationships with congregations without formally becoming "full members". These people are often valued participants in the life of congregations as "adherents."

St James has a number of long-term Adherents who are very active in the work of the church and contribute regularly. They have chosen St James as their "home" church in St John's, and have always been welcome to join a meeting as an observer concerned about the activities of our church. They can now be given the opportunity to have input into the matters of our congregation.

Regulations dictate that members must agree adherents may vote at the meeting. Therefore, at the beginning of each Congregational Meeting, the members in attendance will be asked to enable adherents to vote.

Should you have comments or wish to discuss further, please contact me, or any member of your Council.

Marilyn Adams
Chair

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 or [Facebook.com/TopsailUnitedChurch](https://www.facebook.com/TopsailUnitedChurch) to learn more and register to bid.

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

Merry Makers Market: Starting October 24-25, spend your weekends in Quidi Vidi enjoying fine craft. New vendors every weekend until Christmas. Free admission. Supported by Craft Council of Newfoundland & Labrador.

- 10am-4pm Saturdays & Sundays
- 10 Maple View Place
- Quidi Vidi Village Plantation

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

Friendly Reminder: The deadline for the Memorial Hymn Sing dedication requests is fast approaching. You can drop them in the mail slot in the church or email your hymn sing selection to info@stjamesuc.org (Subject: Hymn Sing).