

# St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith  
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9  
February 7, 2021



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](http://stjamesuc.org/bulletins)  
password: StJamesUC

## St. James United Church

February 7, 2021/Fifth after Epiphany

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.

**We Gather as God's People**

**MUSICAL PRELUDE  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY/FIRST PEOPLES  
WELCOME**

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK

### LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:

Jesus Christ is the light of the world; the light of love.  
This candle represents that light and reminds us that  
Jesus' light of love burns within each one of us.

"This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine."

### CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: In the prayers and the praise, in the words and the wonder:

**All: we are given enough joy to live each day.**

One: In the justice for the oppressed, in the unexpected generosity for the lost:

**All: we are given enough compassion to use in service each day.**

One: In the promises made to all, in the mercy offered to each:

**All: we are given enough grace to share each day.**

One: In the caring we give to those in need:

**All: we are given enough love to share each day.**

### OPENING PRAYER:

O God ... Surprise us and stir our hearts to seek your own heart. Prepare us, dress us, supply us for our journeys of faith. In your own way and of your own choosing, speak to each of us, that we might be a people who venture out in faith, living the love shown to us in Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

**HYMN:** *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* VU 220

### **We Respond to God's Love**

### OFFERING INVITATION:

**OFFERTORY PRAYER:** (in unison)

**We offer our gifts in gratitude, Holy One, for all your blessings in our lives. Use them to touch the lives of all who stand on the edge of hope, of peace, of community that they might step into these promises of yours with confidence. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

**HYMN:** *God, We Pray at This Beginning* VU 443

### SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

***Sydney Marie Pardy***

child of Lesley Marie Fanning & Adam David Pardy

***Madelyn Mae Deir***

child of Denelle Stone & Christopher Deir

### PURPOSE AND PRESENTATION

### PARENTS' VOWS

### COMMISSIONING:

One: You are a blessed people.

**All: We will go to be a blessing in the world.**

One: You are the face of Jesus.

All: **We will go to be love and compassion to all.**

One: You are the family of God.

All: **We will go to serve our sisters and brothers  
wherever we may find them.**

**CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT:** (in unison)

**We have heard the will of the parents. We receive this child in Christ's name as we ourselves have been received. We all belong to the one household of faith in Jesus Christ. We will support these parents and their child through prayer and provide a community of faith in which they are welcome to belong. May we serve God's world together. AMEN**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (A NEW CREED)**

**LIGHTING OF THE BAPTISM CANDLE**

**THE ACT OF BAPTISM**

**PRESENTATION OF BAPTISM CANDLE AND CERTIFICATE**

**ANTHEM/SOLO/SPECIAL MUSIC**

**We Listen for God's Word**

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING:** Isaiah 40:21-31

**RESPONSIVE PSALM:** Psalm 147 see insert

**HYMN:** *Give to Us Laughter* VU 624

**GOSPEL READING:** Mark 1:29-39

**MEDITATION:** Katie Vardy

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE:**

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

**We Are Sent Forth to Live our Faith**

**HYMN:** *I Feel the Winds of God* see insert  
(Masks on please)

**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**

**Responsive Psalm 147 (VU 869)**

How good it is to sing praises to God,  
**how pleasant to laud the Most High.**

You are building Jerusalem, O God,  
and gathering the scattered exiles of Israel.

**You are healing the broken-hearted,  
and binding up their wounds.**

You count the number of the stars,

and call them all by their names.

**Great are you, O God, and mighty your power;  
yes, and your wisdom is infinite.**

You raise up the lowly,

**and bring down the wicked to dust. R**

Sing to God in thanksgiving;

make music on the harp to our God,

**who covers the sky with clouds, who prepares rain for  
the earth, who makes the hills green with grass.**

You give the cattle their food,

and the young ravens when they cry.

**You set no store by the power of a horse,  
nor by the strength of a warrior's thighs.**

But your delight is in those who revere you,

**in those who rely on your mercy. R**

Hallelujah, O Jerusalem!

**Zion, praise you God.**

For God has strengthened the bars of your gates,

and blessed your children within you.

**God has established peace within your borders,  
and filled you with the finest wheat. R**

You send your word to the earth, O God;

your command runs swiftly.

**You give snow like wool,  
and sprinkle hoar-frost like ashes.**

You scatter hailstones like bread-crumbs;

you send the cold, and the waters stand frozen.

**You utter your word and the ice melts;  
you blow with your wind and water flow.**

You make known your word to Jacob,

your statutes and decrees to Israel.

**You have not done this for any other nation,  
nor have you taught them your laws. R**

### **I Feel the Winds of God (VU 625)**

I feel the winds of God today;

today my sail I lift,

though heavy oft with drenching spray

and torn with many a rift;

if hope but light the water's crest,

and Christ my bark will use,

I'll seek the seas at his behest,

and brave another cruise.

It is the wind of God that dries

my vain regretful tears,

until with braver thoughts shall rise

the purer, brighter years;

if cast on shores of selfish ease

or pleasure I should be,  
O let me feel your freshening breeze,  
and I'll put back to sea.

If ever I forget your love  
and how that love was shown,  
lift high the blood-red flag above;  
it bears your name alone.

Great pilot of my onward way,  
you will not let me drift;  
I feel the winds of God today,  
today my sail I lift.

## Life and Work-February 07, 2021

### CPR Training for AED Machine

We will be holding a retraining session for our current registered users for CPR/AED here at St. James on **Saturday, February 20th @ 9:00 am – 12:00 noon**. If you are interested in participating in a NEW Training session and becoming an attendant for St. James can you please contact Susan Pike by email [susanpike@warp.nfld.net](mailto:susanpike@warp.nfld.net) or **576-0703** by February 13th to ensure we have space for all participants. Training is certified by The Heart and Stroke Foundation.

### REMINDER from the Re-Opening Team

Registration is required for attendance at Worship Services. We appreciate that this is a bit of a nuisance, it is in place for our protection and safety. Further, it is a requirement under Government and United Church COVID protocols.

Since the new year, we have been experiencing an increasing number of "drop-ins" at Sunday worship, to the extent in the last 3 weeks, the number of non registered in attendance was just shy of the number those who pre-registered. There is significant preparation required in order to protect our safety each week - number of bulletins, adequate staffing, seat allocation for social distancing, etc. We ask that you make every effort to remember to register as we do not want to turn anyone away if we can avoid it. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

**Lenten folders** are now available to those who wish to have one. They can be picked up from the ushers at Sunday worship or from the Church Office during regular business hours: Monday - Friday noon to 4:00pm

**Registration:** This is a reminder that registration is mandatory.

Please call **Jennifer** at **700-6064** between the hours of **11:00 am** and **4 pm** for a personal response, or leave a message with your name, number, and time of your call. Jennifer will accept your registration and answer any of your questions regarding the process. We have set up this line for registration purposes only. There is no need to call the church office to register. Deadline for registration is 4 pm on the prior Friday.

### Cowan Heights United Church

You are invited to join Cowan Heights United Church for a special service of worship on Ash Wednesday, **February 17, at 7:30 p.m.** After a tumultuous year, we will reflect upon the fragility of life and look towards our Lenten journey to the cross. We will receive the imposition of ashes (in a safe way to comply with Covid-19 protocols) and share together at the communion table as we are strengthened and sustained for the difficult journey to Golgotha. Pre-registration is required, please call **(709) 745-2871** or visit <https://reopen.church/r/mJ5WOU PH> to register.

**Members of the Association of Chartered Professional Accountants of Newfoundland and Labrador** are once again offering free income tax services to senior citizens and low income residents of the St. John's, Mt. Pearl, and surrounding areas.

For more information or to arrange for an appointment, please call the Association of Chartered Professional Accountants of Newfoundland and Labrador at **753-3090 ext. 201**.

**The Jimmy Pratt Memorial Outreach Center** is seeking volunteers to add to our existing teams for Monday and Friday of each week.

Each team of volunteers require a maximum of four volunteers in the kitchen, and two additional volunteers at the distribution doors.

For more information please call:

**George 709-685-0066**

***georgeparsons@bellaliant.net***