

# St. James United Church

Community of Friends in Faith  
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9  
March 14, 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:	722-1881, ext. 200
Church Email:	info@stjamesuc.org
Church Web Site:	www.stjamesuc.org
Facebook:	St. James United Church
Twitter:	StJamesUnited
Instagram:	St.JamesUC
Emergency Pager:	727-4067
NL Conference:	www.newlabconf.com
U.C. of Canada:	www.united-church.ca



The bulletin may be accessed at [stjamesuc.org/bulletins](http://stjamesuc.org/bulletins)  
password: StJamesUC

## St. James United Church

March 14, 2021/Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

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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.

# We Gather as God's People

## MUSICAL PRELUDE

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY/FIRST PEOPLES

## WELCOME

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & WORK

## P.I.E DAY – PUBLIC, INTENTIONAL, EXPLICIT, VIDEO WITH MODERATOR RICHARD BOTT

### CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: On this fourth Sunday of Lent, In this time of uncertainty in our lives,

**All: we come seeking God.**

One: Quieting our minds, opening our hearts, and waiting for the divine mystery to make itself known,

**All: we come to worship God.**

*Gathering Lent/Easter 2021 p33*

### PRAYER OF APPROACH:

Most Holy God, we rejoice in the awareness of your presence. As you enter our lives, renew and refresh us; grant that we may live with love in the example of Jesus, the Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit, through whom we pray. Amen

*Celebrate God's Presence, p152*

**HYMN:** *Bless Now, O God, the Journey* VU 633

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

God of righteousness and hope, we seek your healing and forgiveness. Often our lives are filled with so many activities and commitments that, in our busyness, we neglect your call to prayer, meditation, and self-examination. Help us, God, to set priorities on your way of faithfulness, justice, and love. We pray in the name of the Lenten Christ. Amen

Laura J. Turnbull, *Worship for All Seasons*, Volume 2 p21.

Moment of Reflection.....

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

Friends, no matter the time or place, God is there. No matter what we have done, God forgives. No matter our reluctance to accept God, God accepts us. With that assurance, let us receive forgiveness, and live in fullness and hope. Thanks be to God!

## MUSICAL INTERLUDE

## We Listen to and for God's Word

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Eternal God, in the reading of the Scripture, may your Word be heard; in the meditation of our hearts, may your Word be known; and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your Word be shown. Amen

*Celebrate God's Presence p44*

**FIRST READING:** Numbers 21:4-9

**GOSPEL READING:** John 3:14-21

**REFLECTION ON THE WORD:** “All About Love”

## **MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

### **We Respond to God’s Love**

#### **OFFERING INVITATION:**

We have gathered our gifts together and have donated online, by PAR, by letter drop, as well as in the offering plate and now we dedicate them to God in gratitude and praise.

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

We bring our gifts to you, O God. Here is the work of our hands, and here is the love of our hearts. Accept what we offer and use them, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Celebrate God’s Presence p50*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**HYMN:**                    *Amazing Grace*                    VU 366

#### **COMMISSIONING:**

Leave this time of worship knowing that there is nowhere you can go where God is not and nowhere too far to find your way home.

Kate Crawford in *Gathering* Lent/Easter 2018, p35

#### **BENEDICTION:**

The grace of Christ attend you; the love of God surround you; the Holy Spirit keep you this day and always.

## **ORGAN POSTLUDE**

### **Life and Work – March 14, 2021**

#### **Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday March 21 at 2pm.**

Pre- Registration is required. Please call the registration line at 700-6064 Monday - Friday 11am - 4pm commencing Thursday, March 11 up to and including Wednesday, March 17.

#### **We would like to acknowledge the following donations to the General Fund:**

\*In memory of Dorothy Vincent, a former member of St James United Church congregation from Bill Vincent

\*In loving memory of mother, Margaret Quick Babstock March 2, 1919 - June 2, 1999 from her family.

#### **We would like to acknowledge the following donation to the Memorial Fund:**

\*To honour my parents, William and Ruby Vallis from daughter Betty Sherstan, Quesnel, BC.

#### **March 14 is National Affirming P.I.E. Day** which means

“Public. Intentional, Explicit.” These are the standards to which we hold ourselves when we become affirming, welcoming, or inclusive communities. March 14 is a chance to celebrate the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ and Two Spirit people in faith communities across Canada and beyond. You will find the video with Moderator Richard Bott online at [united-church.ca](http://united-church.ca)