

# St. James United Church

*A Community of Friends in Faith*



**September 26, 2021: Third Sunday in Creation**  
(18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

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## St. James United Church

330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's NL, A1B 1T9

Office: 722-1881 ext. 200  
Website: [www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)

Email: [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org)  
Emergency Pager: 727-4067



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@StJamesUnited



@st.jamesuc

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of wife and mother  
**Josephine Olive Howell**  
from her loving husband Walter Howell and family.

## September 26, 2021 – Third Sunday of Creation

Leading worship today: Rev. James Ravenscroft  
Organist: Bob Rose  
Soloists/Readers: Glenda Winsor and Jean Rose

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### We Come to Worship

**MUSICAL PRELUDE:** Hymn Melody “Arioso” by J.S. Bach

### WELCOME

*We extend greetings in Mi'kmaq, French, and English.*

### LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE

*We light the candle as a sign of Christ's spirit both with and within us.*

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF KINSHIP

*We commit to be an inclusive community for all.*

### HONOURING NATIONAL TRUTH & RECONCILIATION DAY

*We take time to remember those who attended Indian Residential Schools, especially children who died, many of whom were never returned home.*

### A TIME OF LAMENT (based on Psalm 13)

One: In these troubled times, we join with all burdened by injustice. We especially join our hearts to Indigenous peoples, with the survivors of the Indian Residential School system, whose pain echoes the words of the psalmist:

**All: Long enough, God -- you've ignored us long enough.**

One: For too long we have carried this ton of trouble, for generations lived with a stomach full of pain.

**All: Arrogant enemies have looked down their noses,  
laughing at the humiliation they have caused.**

One: And yet, you are the Creator of all things, and so we trust, confident that you are faithful, ever present to heal, ready with grace, patient in love.

**All: In these times, may all God's children – Indigenous, settler, newcomer –  
walk together, knowing that as we name truth, we will be made whole.**

**DUET:** “Pie Jesu” by Andrew Lloyd Webber

**OPENING PRAYER:** (in unison)

**God of compassion and love, as we gather for worship today,  
we pause to remember and honour Indigenous children who attended residential  
schools in our nation. We wear orange and pray for survivors of these schools, as  
well as their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, who are still struggling**

**with the impact of their experiences. As we light this candle, we seek to shine a light on injustice, and pledge to walk in a spirit of truth, healing, and reconciliation. May we remember why we wear orange and act on it every day. Amen.**

## **We Share**

### **OUR LIFE AND WORK**

*We acknowledge the connection between our work and our worship as we take time to announce what is going on in our congregation and community.*

### **RECOGNITION OF OFFERINGS**

*We acknowledge the ways people contribute to the community of faith and wider community, especially by way of supporting St. James UC financially.*

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)**

**Gracious Spirit, we pause in gratitude for this amazing world, created as a gift to be shared with every nation and people; we also lament, knowing that we have not always done so. And so we share our gifts, praying that they be used in service of others, in the furthering of your justice, for the healing of the world. We pray in the name of Jesus who came to restore all of creation in your grace. Amen.**

**HYMN:** "Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works" VU 308

Many and great, O God, are your works,  
Maker of earth and sky.  
Your hands have set the heavens with stars,  
your fingers spread the mountains and plains.  
Lo, at your word the waters were formed:  
deep seas obey your voice.

Grant unto us communion with you,  
O star-abiding one.  
Come unto us and dwell with us,  
with you are found the gifts of life.  
Bless us with life that has no end,  
eternal life with you.

## **We Listen**

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

*We prepare to hear readings from the Bible and other sources of wisdom, lighting candles as a sign that it is God's Wisdom that we seek in our hearts.*

**READINGS:** Genesis 2:18-22  
Mark 9:30-37

The Ten Green Commandments of Laudato Si' by Joshtrom Kureethadam

**DUET:** "For Beauty of Prairies"

**MESSAGE:** "Let Go and Listen"

## We Respond

**HYMN:** “All Things Bright and Beautiful” *Voices United* 291 v.1-3 and 5

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful:  
in love, God made them all.

v1 Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colours,  
God made their tiny wings: [Refrain]

v2 The purple-headed mountain,  
the river running by,  
the sunset, and the morning  
that brightens up the sky: [Refrain]

v3 The cold wind in the winter,  
the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden,  
God made them every one. [Refrain]

v5 God gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God our maker,  
who has made all things well. [Refrain]

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*We take time to pray for the needs of our global and local communities, knowing that what we pray for we in turn are called to do something about.*

## THE PRAYER OF JESUS

*Please pray in your first language.*

*A traditional version in English follows:*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## We Leave to Serve

**HYMN:** “For the Healing of the Nations” *Voices United* 678

For the healing of the nations,  
God, we pray with one accord;  
for a just and equal sharing

of the things that earth affords.  
To a life of love in action  
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom,  
from despair your world release;  
that, redeemed from war and hatred,  
all may come and go in peace.  
Show us how through care and goodness  
fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,  
let it from the earth be banned;  
pride of status, race or schooling,  
dogmas that obscure your plan.  
In our common quest for justice  
may we hallow life's brief span.

You, Creator God, have written  
your great name on humankind;  
for our growing in your likeness  
bring the life of Christ to mind,  
that by our response and service  
earth its destiny may find.

**BENEDICTION** (Adapted from "Gaelic Blessing" by John Rutter)

The blessing of the running wave to you.

The blessing of the flowing air to you.

The blessing of the quiet earth to you.

The blessing of the shining stars to you.

The blessing of God: Abba, Christ, and Spirit to you and all creation, this day and  
evermore. **Amen.**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE:** March from "Water Music" by G.F. Handel

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## St. James United Church

Lead Minister:

James Ravenscroft, OM

Youth/Christian Education Minister:

Susan Sheppard, DLM

Minister Emeritus:

Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown

Music Director:

Amy Dalziel

Office Administrator:

Tracy Bishop

Church Custodian:

Bruce Winsor

## **Life and Work – September 26, 2021**

We offer our condolences to Vicki Styles and her family on the passing of her husband **Albert MacLean Styles**, who passed on September 18, 2021.

Visitation took place on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at Barrett's Funeral Home.

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### **We gratefully accept the following donation to the Choir Fund:**

\*In loving memory of beloved husband Johnathan Richards from his loving wife  
Dr. Olga Broomfield-Richards

### **We gratefully accept these donations to the General Fund:**

\*In loving memory of Albert Styles from Ruby Hiscock  
\*In loving memory of Albert Styles from Jack and Florence Head  
\*In loving memory of Albert Styles from Gilbert and Lillian Thomas

### **We gratefully accept the following donation to the Bethany Danielle Pike Memorial Camp Fund:**

\*In loving memory of Albert Styles from Dave and Dot Hapgood

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**NOTE: St. James United Church office will be closed on Thursday, September 30th, 2021 to observe the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.**

### **UNITED COMMUNITY OF FAITH CHURCH PICNIC**

**PLEASE NOTE: This event is canceled.**

With the number of Covid cases on the rise and the Delta variant being so easily contracted, the decision was made to cancel this year's UCOF Picnic.

**What's In a Name?** Since the arrival of our minister, a few people have been asking what he prefers to be called. The answer is invariably James.

Simply going by his first name rather than adding a Rev. before it has been his preference in every United Church congregation he has served, and that includes for children, teens, and young adults.

Now he will respond to Rev. James (if you are more comfortable with that), Jamie (if you are an older member of his family) or even Jim (and then he will correct you), but be assured that his preference is for young and old alike to call him James. As he puts it "My parents paid good money to have me christened as James so I had better use that name."

**First Light - St. John's Friendship Center and Rev. James Ravenscroft have provided some resources for ways we can help our Indigenous Community. Please take some time to read about how you can offer your support.**

Thursday, September 30th, 2021 is named the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the day is meant to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools where tens of thousands of First Nations children were taken from their families and forced to attend classes that separated them from their culture.

As a result, the day has been created so we can reflect on the atrocities this nation committed against its original inhabitants. Unlike most holidays, this is not seen as a day for celebration but rather one for reflection.

**First Light Website:** <https://firstlightnl.ca/>

**Rev. James Ravenscroft:** Call to Action is posted to St. James United website for you to view.

**Calling all members of St. James, We want to hear from you!**

The "St. James Visitor" would like to include content from our members, so we are putting the call out for submissions, and we want to hear from you.

What stories do you have to tell us? How has your faith helped you through these "unprecedented times", or anytime for that matter? Have you written a short story? A poem? You can submit your work/thoughts/ideas to the *Administration & Communications Committee*, and we will get in touch with you regarding your entry for any future issue of the "St. James Visitor". Email your submission to St. James Office at [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org) with the subject "Visitor Submission"

**Please note:** This is a file of submissions we are building for future issues of the "St. James Visitor," so please don't feel discouraged if you don't see yours in the upcoming 2021 Thanksgiving issue.

\*All entries will be reviewed and edited for grammar and spelling.

\*Submit only your own work.

\*By submitting, you agree to allow St. James to publish your work.

\*All copyright remains with the author.