

Meeting our New Minister:

Now that (Rev.) James has settled into St. John's, he is looking forward to meeting members of our congregation. There are a couple of options for this:

1. A Virtual Mug-Up: Beginning October 6, James is scheduling Zoom meeting on Wednesdays at 10:30 am and again on Thursdays at 7:00 pm. If you are interested in having a virtual chat, connect with Tracy via email (info@stjamesuc.org), or call the office (722-1881) for Zoom invitation details.

2. A Masked Face-to-Face: Alternatively, James is open to come see you for a visit (while maintaining proper health protocols). To arrange a visit, email him at james@stjamesuc.org or give him a call at 351-0983.

The St. James Visitor:

Notice to All Zone Captains: Your mail is ready to be picked up at the church office.

Calling on all members for "OPEN SUBMISSION" of your work.

Do you have a story to tell?

A poem that you have written?

Artwork that you have been working on?

How has your faith helped you through these unrepresented times?

Do you have an announcement that you would like to include for our members?

Submissions will be accepted by the *Administration & Communications Committee*.

Email submission to St. James Office at info@stjamesuc.org with the subject "Visitor Submission" or drop by the office with your suk
Office Hours: 10am - 2pm Monday - Friday.

Please note: This is a file of submissions we are building for future issues of the "St. James Visitor."

*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.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: We gather in the presence of the Holy.

All: God is around us and within us.

One: So, we open our hearts.

All: We open our hearts to Love.

One: Let us give thanks.

All: It is good to give thanks and praise.

One: Holy One, God of Gracious Love,
we give thanks for your abundant blessing!
We live in a world touched by your hand.
Wherever we turn, there are treasures to behold
– vast fields and mountains, lakes and rivers, plants and animals
– each adapted to its corner of creation.
In this part of your world, the air grows colder
and we wait for a time of withdrawal and reflection.
The creatures around us respond to this invitation
– birds migrate to warmer lands, bears prepare to hibernate,
leaves turn colour and begin to fall.
We too prepare as farmers bring in crops
and many of us move indoors for study and contemplation.
You made us self-reflective creatures,
able to ponder our place and consider our impact on one another.
And so, we turn inward once again,
take time to give thanks
and to ponder the connections between us,
to consider our connection with all of creation
with whom we join in praise:

All: O Holy, holy, holy, God,

O God of time and space.

All earth and sea and sky above

bear witness to your grace.

Hosanna in the highest heaven,

creation sings your praise.

And blessed is the One who comes

and bears your name always!

(More Voices 203)

God of Liberating Grace,
in this spirit of gratitude we pray as a worldwide community,
committed to share your love for all creation
as lived out in the vision of Jesus.
His witness calls to us over the ages,
inviting us to stand with the vulnerable, overcome divisions
and seek the peace that you alone can give.
Trusting that he is with us even now,
we remember how on the night before his death,
he gathered with his disciples.
While at table, he took bread, blessed and broke it.
He gave it to them saying, "Take, eat, this is my body."
In the same way he took the cup and gave it to them saying
"Take, drink, this cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Do this whenever you come together in remembrance of me."

**All: Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!**

(More Voices 204)

God of Abiding Peace,
we give thanks for Jesus' commitment to your vision,
even to death,
and for his risen presence with us as we live into your reign.
May the same Spirit that he breathed upon his disciples
be present now, shared with us and these gifts,
that the meal which we share be our communion in him,
our communion with one another,
our communion with all the world.
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour are yours, now and forever.

**All: Amen, amen, O Holy One!
Hosanna and Amen!
Amen, amen, O Holy One!
Hosanna and Amen!**

(More Voices 205)

Life and Work – October 3, 2021

We gratefully accept the following donations to the General Fund:

- *In memory of Albert Styles from Aubrey and Ruby Hill.
- *In memory of Albert Styles from Vera Marshall.
- *In memory of Albert Styles from Menetha and Sid Dyke.
- *In memory of Albert Styles from Shirley Burse.

We gratefully accept the following donation to the Memorial Fund:

- *In memory of Albert Styles from Betty Patey.

We gratefully accept the following donation to the Choir Fund:

- *In loving memory of Father and Grandfather Al Penney forever
loved and missed from Linda, Tim, Zoiey, and Lyndon.

We gratefully accept the following donation to the Cemetery Fund:

- *In loving memory of mother Mildred Blackwood and brother
Walter Blackwood Jr. from Lorna Jamieson.

Worship Notes:

This Sunday we celebrate World Communion Sunday. Be assured that you can share in communion whether you are in the sanctuary or joining at 11:00 am online. This is possible for two reasons.

First, we understand the gathering at the table to be in time as well as in place, and so a virtual gathering across multiple devices is equally the whole church as people who are in the sanctuary.

Second, while we need for a minister to preside at the table (either an ordained minister, or a diaconal or designated lay minister given permission to officiate the sacraments), we understand their role at the table to be one of connecting the congregation to the wider church. Authority to bless the elements of bread and wine belongs to the whole community and not just the minister.

So, if you are at home, be sure to have some bread and wine/juice so that when everyone in the sanctuary takes part in communion, you can as well. The one restriction is that you need to be online at the same time as the worship service if you wish to share.