

# St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith



## January 2, 2022, Epiphany Sunday

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The people of St. James United Church are eternal seekers who value diversity within our congregation, our city and all of society. We affirm each person's uniqueness and believe that all persons deserve to be valued, treated with equity and respected. We are all children of God, walking many paths of spirituality.

Further, we proudly and publicly declare our commitment to practice radical hospitality and strive in every way to provide a safe and supportive place for all persons to participate in the worship and work of our church.

Guided by the teachings of Jesus, we embrace all persons, regardless of creed, race, age, ability, economic status, cultural and ethnic background, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation or any other difference that has led to marginalization or oppression.

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of  
**Neil Wayne Kelloway (January 19, 1959 - May 23, 2020)**

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of  
**David and Ray Banister**  
From Adam & Karen Ryan

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of  
**Edgar David Adams**  
Love Marina & Family

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of  
**Ceanne Butt, R.N. (January 23, 1953 – December 27, 2009)**  
from sisters-in-law Glenda Winsor, Gloria Le Feuvre, and families

## **January 2, 2022, Epiphany Sunday**

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft  
Organist: Bob Rose  
Music Leadership: SJUC Guitar Group

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### **We Come to Worship**

#### **MUSICAL PRELUDE**

#### **WELCOME**

*We extend greetings in Mi'kmawi'simk, Spanish, Bangla and English.*

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP**

*We take time to give thanks for the land and the Indigenous peoples who continue to steward it; we also commit to be an inclusive community for all.*

#### **LIGHTING OF CHRISTMAS CANDLE** *(based on Isaiah 60:1-9)*

One: As we begin a new year, we light our Christmas candle, seeking the light of God's wisdom and peace.

*(pause in silence)*

Two: *Rise and shine! The morning is here! God's glory has risen as nations come, kings coming to the brightness of the dawn.*

**All: People, lift up your eyes and look on the horizon! Sons and daughters have come home, bringing the abundance of the nations, camels laden with gifts of frankincense and gold!**

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

**HYMN:** "Joy to the World" *Voices United 59*

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:  
let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns:  
let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground:  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the earth with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

## **CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

### **Statement of Purpose and Presentation of the Family**

*We welcome Ashlea & Darrell Kelloway as they present Ava for baptism.*

### **Profession of Faith and Family Promises**

*Ashlea & Darrell affirm their belief and commit to raising Ava in faith.*

### **Congregational Commitment**

**One:** Do you, promise to love and support this child and her family in their journey of faith, together serving God's world and extending Christ's love?

**All:** **We do with God's help.**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Act of Baptism**

*We give thanks for water, sign of new life. Ava is then welcomed into the universal church of Christ through the sign of poured water.*

### **Blessing, Laying on of Hands & Lighting of Baptismal Candle followed by Blessing of Family**

**Welcome by Congregation** (*congregation responds to bold text*):

Sharing in the joy of Ava's family, we welcome her into the Body of Christ, each of us children of God, Mother and Father of us all.

**All: As sisters and brothers we welcome Ava into the household of faith: in the name of Christ, we welcome you.**

*(The congregation may applaud as a sign of welcome.)*

**HYMN:** "Away in a Manger" *Voices United 69*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay  
close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

**We Share**

**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*)

**Gift of Grace, as we celebrate in this Christmastide, we do so inspired by the witness of Jesus, praised by angels, heralded by magi, affirmed in baptism by John. Each revelation of your love in him, invites us to be expressions of your love as well. May all that we do and share, be offered in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**We Listen**

**TIME OF CENTERING**

*We listen to a singing bowl, preparing our hearts to receive the day's readings.*

**READINGS:** Matthew 2:1-12; Luke 2:45-52; Luke 3:21-22

**MESSAGE:** "Epiphanies"

**ANTHEM:** "Mary's Little Boy Child"

## We Respond

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*We 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** (The Lord's Prayer)

**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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## We Leave to Serve

**HYMN:** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" *Voices United* 48

Hark! the herald angels sing ,  
"Glory to the newborn King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

### **Refrain:**

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail the incarnate deity.  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel! **R**

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth. **R**

## **BENEDICTION**

## **MUSICAL POSTLUDE**

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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
Acting Music Director:	Bob Rose
Associate Music Director:	Alba Chen
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Office Administrator:	Tracy Bishop
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor