

St James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith

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



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.

January 30, 2022, Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft
Reader: Linda Babstock; Organist: Bob Rose
Music Leadership: Glenda Winsor

We Come to Worship

MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME: *We extend greetings in Innu-aimun, Spanish and Tagalog.*

LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE

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

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(inspired by Psalm 138)*

One: We gather today with thankful hearts,

All: singing praise for God's steadfast love.

One: We pray together with trusting hearts,

All: calling on Christ who never fails to answer.

One: We worship now with open hearts,

All: ready to respond to the Spirit's call in our lives.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: "This Day God Gives Me" *Voices United 410*

1. This day God gives me strength of high heaven,
sun and moon shining, flame in my hearth,
flashing of lightning, wind in its swiftness,
deeps of the ocean, firmness of earth.
2. This day God sends me strength to sustain me,
might to uphold me, wisdom as guide.
Your eyes are watchful, your ears are listening,
your lips are speaking, Friend at my side.
3. God's way is my way, God's shield is round me,
God's host defends me, saving from ill.
Angels of heaven, drive from me always
all that would harm me, stand by me still.
4. Rising, I thank you, mighty and strong One,
King of creation, giver of rest,
firmly confessing Threeness of Persons,
Oneness if Godhead, Trinity blest.

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)*

**Holy One, we come together with thanks,
for you have called us to share your abundant love each day,
offering all that we are, all that we do, and all that we have
to make ever more present your beloved community in our world.
Receive then the gifts that have been so freely given,
gifts of self, of substance and of service,
offered for the benefit of all of your creation.
We pray in the name of the one who calls us to follow. Amen.**

SOLO: "Here I am Lord" (Dan Schutte)

We Listen

TIME OF CENTERING

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

READINGS: Luke 5:1-11 and 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

READING: "Light a Fire Against the Night" from *The Undertaking of Billy Buffone* by Rev. David Giuliano, United Church moderator (2006-2009)

MESSAGE: "Responding to the Call"

HYMN: "Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore" *Voices United 563*

1. Jesus, you have come to the lakeshore
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
you only ask me to follow humbly.
2. You know so well my possessions; my boat carries no gold
and no weapons; -you will find there my nets and labour. **R**
3. You need my hands, full of caring through my labours to
give others rest, and constant love that keep on loving. **R**
4. You, who have fished other oceans, ever longed for by souls
who are waiting, my loving friend, as thus you call me. **R**

**R: O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling, have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
By your side I will seek other seas.**

We Respond

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

We Leave to Serve

HYMN: "Arise, Your Light Is Come" *Voices United 79*

1. Arise, your light is come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God,
which shines on you today.
2. Arise, your light is come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.
3. Arise, your light is come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the broken-hearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.
4. Arise, your light is come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing;
God's power will make us strong.

BENEDICTION

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

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