

## 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.

**Pride Sunday** (Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)  
**July 17, 2022**

**President:** James Ravenscroft  
**Music Director:** Amy Dalziel  
**Ushers:** Gloria LeFevre, Jean Thompson,  
and Marilyn Adams

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### We Come to Worship

#### **MUSICAL PRELUDE**

#### **WELCOME AND LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE**

*We extend greetings in Inuktitut, Korean and Yoruba as we gather as a community, lighting the candle as a sign of Christ's presence with us.*

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

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

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather on this Pride Sunday to affirm everyone's worth,

**All: to celebrate the gift of life in all its diversity and colour.**

One: We pause in gratitude to God in whom everything is valued,

**All: in whom everyone discovers their true identity in love.**

One: We worship together as one family in Christ,

**All: to affirm the healing power of truly inclusive community.**

**HYMN:** "Let Us Build a House" *More Voices* 1 (v. 1, 2, 4 and 5)

## OPENING PRAYER

**Source of Life and Gift of Grace,**

**you have called us into being,**

**and delight in the amazing diversity of your works,**

**even as we likewise struggle to accept our differences.**

**Open our hearts that we too may voice gratitude and praise**

**for the breadth of your creation,**

**for the beauty, wisdom, identities and practices**

**we see expressed in our own and each other's lives,**

**and in that openness discover anew the power of your love.**

**We pray in the name of your Word enfleshed among us. Amen.**

## We Share

**OUR LIFE AND WORK:** *We acknowledge the connection between work and worship, announcing what is going on in our congregation.*

**OFFERTORY:** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings" *VU* 541

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures high and low, give thanks to God in love made known, Creator, Word and Spirit one.**

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

*We dedicate our offerings to the work of God's love, justice, and peace. Donors will receive a tax receipt at the end of the year.*

## We Listen

## LEARNING TOGETHER

*We explore themes of the day in a manner that is accessible to all ages.*

## SOLO

## PRAYER FOR GRACE

*We open our hearts in preparation to hear the readings of the day.*

**READINGS:** Genesis 18:1-10a; Luke 10:38-42;

**VIDEO:** "In the Name" by Pádraig Ó Tuama  
*(used with permission)*

## **MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

**MESSAGE:** "The Power of Welcome"

### **We Respond**

**HYMN:** "All the Colours of the Rainbow" (*words: Carl P. Daw*)  
*Tune: Abbot's Leigh*

**All the colours of the rainbow live unseen in daily light,  
but their splendour finds expression  
when released to human sight;  
so the church reveals most beauty  
where diversity is real:  
breadth of race and class and gender,  
room for doubt and space to heal.**

**All the body's parts are wanted,  
nor can one despise the rest;  
head and hand must work together,  
as must eye and ear and chest,  
so the church needs all its members  
for a range of ministries:  
varied gifts with one great mission,  
"Do this for the least of these."**

**Every language gains more music  
when the words for peace appear:  
Pax, Salaam, Eirini, Heiwa,  
Pace, Santi, Frieden, Mir.  
Though our tongues make sounds that vary  
all bespeak a common home:  
longing for the end of conflict  
and a new life in God's Shalom.**

**Teach us God, our need of others;  
through them help us fully live.  
Wean us from our selfish habits;  
let us listen, learn, forgive.  
May we see your longed for image  
in each human heart and face,  
and behold how those around us  
can be channels of your grace.**

## **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

*(adapted from the Lord's prayer for Transgender Awareness)*

**Our Mother and Father, our Beloved Parent, in whom we move and breathe and have our being, the hallowing of your name shines forth in the diversity of your children. May your peace and love, justice and equality, inclusion and belonging reign here on earth as in heaven. Grant that the varied needs of all your people might be truly met, and they may find a loving community to belong to and call their own. Forgive us for the ways we have failed others, as we forgive those who might have failed us. Lead us away from the temptation to be complacent in the face of injustice. But instead, give us courage to stand up and stand with all your beloved children. For your love and justice is to be made manifest now and forever.**

**Amen.**

### We Leave in Hope

**HYMN:** "O for a World"   Voices United 697

### **BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**

One: Blessed by God who calls us to go beyond labels and love without borders, go now to share God's hope for the Earth;

**All: together we will journey towards God's vision of peace and justice, in our community and throughout the world.**

### **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
Music Director:	Amy Dalziel
Associate Music Director:	Alba Chen
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Office Administrator:	Stephanie Harnum
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor