

# 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.

## **August 28, 2022, Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft

Leading Music: Amy Dalziel and Glen Warren

Ushering: Marilyn Adams, Susan Pike, and Jean Thompson

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### **We Come to Worship**

#### **MUSICAL PRELUDE**

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

*We extend greetings in Inuttitlut, Spanish and Tagalog as we gather as a baptized community and light the candle as a sign of Christ's presence.*

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP**

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

**HYMN:** "Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love" VU 574

### **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(inspired by Psalm 81:1, 10-16)*

One: Sing aloud to God our strength!

All: **We sing the story of our faith,  
of God rescuing us from captivity.**

One: Sing aloud of God's compassionate providence!

All: **We sing of water in the desert,  
and of finest wheat to satisfy our hearts.**

One: Sing aloud of God's sorrow at our wandering!

All: **We sing of God's renewing grace,  
of God ever willing to call us back in love.**

### **OPENING PRAYER** *(in unison)*

**Holy Love, your Spirit sings within our hearts,  
sounding into our lives and calling us to yourself.**

**We are grateful for this call, on many mornings  
other voices drowning out the echo of your grace,  
urging us to care only about ourselves, to serve other gods,  
leaving us feeling trapped and overwhelmed.**

**But you speak once again, calling us to your healing care,  
inviting us to come near, to rest, to be set free in our hearts.**

**May we attend to your song, embraced in your love once more.**

**We pray in the name of Jesus who goes before 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 and justice. Tax receipts issued at year-end if donor's name and address are provided.*

### **We Listen**

### **LEARNING TOGETHER**

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

**SOLO:** Glen Warren

## PRAYER FOR GRACE

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

**READINGS:** Jer. 2:4-13; Luke 14:1-14; From Brian D. McLaren's *Do I Stay Christian? A Guide for the Doubters, the Disappointed, and the Disillusioned* (New York: St. Martin's Essentials, 2022).

## MUSICAL INTERLUDE

**MESSAGE:** "Disruptive Collaboration"

### We Respond

**HYMN:** "We Are Pilgrims" *Voices United* 595

## 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 also are called to do something about.*

**THE PRAYER OF JESUS** *(please pray in your first language)*

**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:** "God, As We Rise to Leave" *Voices United* 417

## BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

One: We are blessed by the One who leads us with wisdom, feeds us in grace, calls us to share our hearts and our lives,

**All: And so we go to share God's justice and compassion for all; together we will journey towards God's reign of love.**

## 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	Bob Rose
Office Administrator	Stephanie Harnum
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor