

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.

October 16, 2022, Diversity Fair Sunday

(19th Sunday after Pentecost/ Latin American Heritage Month)

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft

Leading Music: Amy Dalziel and St. James Guitar Group

Ushering: Aubrey and Ruby Hill, Marilyn Adams,
Jean Thompson and Susan Pike

We Come to Worship

WELCOME AND LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE

We extend greetings in various languages as we gather as a community.

INTROIT: "Morning Has Broken"

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF KINSHIP

We give thanks for Indigenous peoples and commit to inclusion.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Like the threads of a tapestry woven together
to form an intricate pattern,

**All: each of us, unique and beautiful,
come together into community.**

One: God weaves us with ties stronger than any human affinity,

All: uniting us in grace as one body in Christ.

One: It is the spirit of God's love that weaves through our lives,

All: Guiding us in wisdom and binding us together in faith.

OPENING PRAYER *(in unison)*

**Creative and creating God, you have fashioned
a world of such diversity and vibrancy,
inviting us therefore to embrace life in all its fullness.
We give thanks for this gift even as we struggle at times
to see your presence in strangers as well as in friends.
Open our hearts that we may care for foreigners as family, through your Spirit
breaking down the walls that divide us
and celebrating communities of true welcome for all.
We pray in the name of Jesus our elder brother. Amen.**

HYMN: "I Love to Tell the Story" *(see insert)*

We Share

OUR LIFE AND WORK: *We share what is going on in our community.*

OFFERTORY: "Take Time to Be Holy" VU 672

Take time to be holy, speak oft with your Lord;

Abide in him always and feed on his word.

Make friends with God's children, help those who are weak,

Forgetting in nothing his blessing to seek.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

We Listen

LEARNING TOGETHER

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

HYMN: "Precious Memories" *(see insert)*

CENTERING PRAYER

We quiet our minds in preparation to hear the readings of the day.

READINGS: Jeremiah 31:27-34; Luke 18:1-8;

Anecdote about a desert father cited by Marcel Driot
in *The Desert, An Anthology for Lent* by John Moses

ANTHEM: "Because He Lives"

MESSAGE: "Doing Church"

We Respond

HYMN: "It's No Secret" (*see insert*)

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.

We Leave to Serve

HYMN "On the Wings of a Dove" (*see insert*)

BENEDICTION

One: As we go forth from here:

**All: may we be strong in spirit, courageous in will,
and gentle of heart.**

One: Each day may our actions be:

All: rooted in wisdom, nurtured by hope and open to love.

One: May we meet others as we would wish to be met:

**All: with a heart of compassion, in a spirit of healing,
and grounded in joy.**

POSTLUDE: "When the Saints Go Marching In"

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
Guest Wifi: St James Guest	Password: StJamesUC

Creative Corner:

A place where you can write a note, draw, or anything you wish!