

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. We are committed to being an Affirming Ministry. We realize that this is a learning and growing experience and ask for God's guidance as we travel this road.

April 2, 2023, Palm and Passion Sunday

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft
Leading Music: Bob Rose and Andie Winsor
Ushers: Guy and Julie Hollett, Marilyn Adams,
Jean Thompson and Susan Pike

We Come to Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE

We offer greetings in Inuktitut, Sinhalese and Shona as we gather as a spiritual community, lighting a candle as a sign of Christ's presence.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

We give thanks for the land, for the Indigenous peoples who continue to steward it and commit to be an inclusive community for all people.

OUR LIFE AND WORK

We acknowledge the connection between our work and our worship.

OFFERTORY: “Tree of Life & Awesome Mystery” (VU 121, v. 4)
Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit, come inflame our hearts anew.
We may all your joy inherit (if we bear the cross with you x2).

We Listen

RECALLING JESUS’ COMING TO JERUSALEM:

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” (*Voices United 123*)

READING: John 12:12-18

PALM PROCESSION: “All Glory Laud and Honour” (VU 122)

After the reading, we join in the hymn while everyone processes through the church in memory of Jesus’ own arrival to Jerusalem.

OPENING PRAYER

MESSAGE: “From Palms to Passion”

READING: Selected verses of John 13, 14 and 15

HYMN: “Go to Dark Gethsemane” (*Voices United 133*)

THE PASSION OF JESUS

We listen to portions of the passion narrative interspersed with the song “Jesus, Remember Me” as found in Voices United 148:

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. (x2)

John 18:3-8

John 18:15-18, 25b-27

John 18:28a, 33-36, 19:1-3

John 19:16c-18, 23-24, 28-30

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN: “O Sacred Head Sore Wounded” (*Voices United 145*)

CONCLUDING READING: Selected verses of John 19

SOLO: “Nachtwanderer” (Fanny Mendelssohn)

This is a song about the night. It is plaintive but is open to hope.

We Respond

ACT OF CONFESSION

In recognition of our own sharing in what happened to Jesus, everyone is invited to come and lay palm fronds or other branches at the foot of the cross. During this we will sing “Take, O Take Me As I Am” (MV 85).

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

We Leave to Serve

HYMN: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" (*Voices United 135*)

BENEDICTION

One: Now into Holy Week we go,

All: to follow along the path Jesus walked before us.

One: May we be blessed in knowing him more deeply,

All: and so come to Easter with renewed love and joy.

POSTLUDE

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 |
| Technology Support: | Jake Thompson |
| Office Administrator: | Stephanie Harnum |
| Church Custodian: | Bruce Winsor |

Office: 722-1881, x200; Email: info@stjamesuc.org;
Emergency Cellphone: 351-0983; Website: www.stjamesuc.org



@StJamesUCNL



@StJamesUnited



@stjamesuc

WiFi: StJamesGuest WiFi Password: StJamesUC

All worship services at St. James are Live Streamed via video for our online congregation. By participating in this service, you acknowledge that you may be visible on live broadcast or archived video. If you are uncomfortable about the possibility of appearing on video, please speak to an usher who can seat you in an area not visible on camera. You may also speak to Rev. James after the service if you have concerns. All music and lyrics, not in the public domain, are reproduced / broadcast under ONE LICENSE. License #: #A-700000.

Life and Work - April 2, 2023

We accept the following donation to the Memorial Fund:

* In loving memory of my dear sister, Georgina Penney Ash, forever with the Lord, from Edna Bemmister.

Office Closure: The office at St. James UC will be closed on Friday, April 7th to observe the Good Friday Holiday.

Sewing Studio: For those of you who come to Sewing Studio on Monday's, we are now taking a two-week Easter break. Following the break, we will return on April 17th for 6 weeks on the following schedule. St. James 1-3 and Memorial United 7-9. All sewers, knitters, needleworkers and crafters welcome.

Reflective Wednesdays at Noon: Each Wednesday throughout Lent, (Rev.) James will lead an informal communion service and bible study focused on the readings for the upcoming Sunday in

the Fellowship Room. Communion is at noon, followed by the discussion. Bring a bag lunch if you wish.

HOLY WEEK AREA CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

You are invited to join together with members of the United Church from across the Northeast Avalon for our Holy Week services. They are as follows:

- **Holy Monday at 7:30 pm:** George Street United Church; Rev. Kathy Brett preaching
- **Holy Tuesday at 7:30 pm:** Gower Street United Church; Rev. Peggy Johnson preaching
- **Spy Wednesday at 7:30 pm:** Wesley United Church; Rev. James Ravenscroft preaching
- **Maundy Thursday at 7:30 pm:** Cowan Heights United Church; Rev. Robert Cooke preaching
- **Good Friday at 12 noon:** Cowan Heights United Church (as led by Cochrane Street United Church). 7 preachers for the 7 Final Words of Jesus (including Rev. James for Word #6.)
- **Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday) at 7:30 pm:** St. James United Church; Rev. John Maich preaching


Pub Theology Delayed by a Week: With the first week of April being Holy Week, our monthly Pub Theology gathering will be delayed by a week to April 12. At that time we will gather at Guv'nors at 7:30 pm.

Passion as well as Palms: This Sunday is the start of Holy Week. Traditionally marked by commemorating Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem as people waved palm branches, this year we will also follow the long-standing practice of including readings from the gospel passages which speak of Jesus' passion, that is his arrest, suffering and death. We are doing this with the knowledge that not everyone can make it to the joint Good Friday service at Cowan Heights.

Good Friday Neighborhood Walk: Weather and walking conditions being agreeable, we will have our annual Good Friday Neighborhood walk at 10am on April 7th.

Join us: You are invited to come to church early on Easter Sunday and join the Men's club for breakfast. We will begin breakfast service around 9:30 and conclude just before the church service. Free will offering appreciated.

AOTS: Fish & Brewis Dinner: We will be having our Spring Fish Diner again this year on Friday, April 28, 2023 at 6:00 PM. The cost will be \$25.00. Tickets are available from any member of the Men's Club or Aubrey Hill - 709-726-8306



St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue

AOTS Men's Service Club
Fish Dinner
Friday, April 28, 2023
Time: 6:00 PM Cost: \$25.00

A Petition to Help Kids in Our Neighbourhood: Did you know that there are **29 students** living in the area of Terra Nova Road/ Valleyview Apartments/Crosbie Road/Portia Place that are **being denied access to education?** They attend St. Andrews Elementary School but are not given a bus because they are included in the 'family responsibility zone'. Few of these families, many of whom are newcomers to Canada, have vehicles. These children have no other choice

but to make a **3 km** round trip twice a day along busy roads. In the winter it is **very dangerous** because few of the sidewalks are passable. Parents must walk with their young children to school. It is not uncommon for a parent to accompany their school aged child while also pushing a stroller or holding a toddler's hand. **Without safe transportation, many of these children miss school.** A group of parents have been trying to get their children bussed to school but have been ignored by the School District for two years. **These families need our help to amplify their voices. Please sign the petition asking the school district to finally help these families. The petition is available to sign at the church.**

Bridges to Hope is looking for a volunteer bread maker: for Wednesday mornings from 9:00am - 1:00pm, commencing at the end of April. If you, or someone you know, is interested in volunteering your time and talents please contact Jody Williams by phone - 709-722-9225; or by email - j.williams@bridgestohope.ca

Gower Street United Ukrainian Easter Egg Painting Workshop: All ages are welcome on Friday, April 7th, at 9:00 a.m. for a Ukrainian Easter Egg painting workshop with Valerie Seredynska. Registration is required so we can ensure we have enough supplies for all. To register, email: youthminister@gowerunited.com or call (709) 753-7286, leave a message or speak to SuAn.



A important reminder that as of April 1st, 10 digit dialing will become active in NL. Meaning 709 will need to be entered for all calls even local calls. This will not affect 3 digit calls such as 911, but if you are trying to reach direct emergency numbers you will need to dial 709 then the other 7 digits (beginning April 1st).

For the months of April and May if you do not enter 709 you'll hear a reminder recording then your call will automatically transfer. After May 31st your call will not be connected. <https://dial10.ca/en-CA/709-879-area/default.htm>

