

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.

March 12, 2023: The Third Sunday in Lent

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft
Leading Music: Bob Rose and Senior Choir
Ushers: Clifford and Carol Smith, Susan Pike

We Come to Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE

We offer greetings in Inuktitut, Twi and German as we gather as a spiritual community and light a candle as a sign of Christ's presence with us.

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.

INTROIT: “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” by K. Medina
(VU 400)

WORDS TO CENTRE US: “The River” by Kathleen Jessie Raine
Each week we listen to a work of poetry/fiction followed by silent reflection.

CENTRING HYMN: “Come and Journey with a Saviour” (*seated*)

**Come and journey, journey inward,
come and seek Christ deep within,
where he meets us in our living,
in our striving and our sin.**

***Refrain: Come and journey, come and journey
with a Saviour who has come.***

***We are all God's sons and daughters;
in the Spirit we are one.***

**Come and journey, journey outward,
where the cross calls us to care,
where injustice and where hunger
and the poor call us to share.**

Refrain

(used with permission)

OPENING PRAYER

We Share

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

A MINUTE FOR AFFIRM

OFFERTORY: “Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery” (VU 121, 3rd Sun.)

Living water of salvation, be the fountain of each soul; spring-ing up in new creation (flow in us and make us whole. x2)

PRAYERS OF COMMITMENT AND CONCERN

We name concerns for our community and world and commit to respond.

THE PRAYER OF JESUS (*based on the spoken language of Jesus*)

Name of names, our small identity unravels in you; you give it back as a lesson. Help us let go, clear the space inside, so your Name comes to live. Let your counsel rule our lives, clearing our intention for co-creation. Help us love beyond our ideals with acts of compassion for all. Give us the food we need to grow each day; untangle the knots within so we can mend our hearts' ties with others. Don't let surface things delude us, but free us from what holds us back. From you is born all will, from age to age renewed. Amen.

We Listen and Respond

LEARNING TOGETHER

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

HYMN: “As the Deer Pants for the Water” (*Voices United p.766*)

READINGS: Exodus 17:1-7 and John 4:4-29

ANTHEM: “All Who Are Thirsty” (*More Voices 4*)

MESSAGE: “Living Water”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *Beginning and ending with “Take, O Take Me as I Am” (MV 85), we name the ways we have hurt others.*

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

We Leave to Serve

HYMN: “Amazing Grace” (*Voices United 266, v 1-4*)

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH:

One: As we go from here in this time of self reflection,

All: may we be blessed in also knowing Jesus more deeply.

One: May we follow along the path he has walked before us,

All: arriving at Easter in a spirit of renewed hope 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



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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 - March 12, 2023

Sunday Evening In-Person EvenTide Worship Service: Each Sunday evening at 7pm we have our EvenTide services. This week it is "The Sunday Table with Rev. James." This is an informal worship service where we reflect on the Bible readings, have discussions, and pray together while sharing food. All are welcome!

UCW: The UCW will be meeting on March 13th at 2PM.

Celebrate the Spring Equinox: On Saturday, March 18 at 2 pm, Wild Light Spiritual Oasis (St. James Forest Church) is hosting a time of prayer and meditation in honour of the Spring Equinox. We will gather outside for at least part of the celebration so be sure to dress for the weather. It is also recommended that you bring something to sit on. We will meet at Susan's. Email info@stjamesuc.org for directions.

Book Fair: Calling all book lovers! St. James United Church is having a book fair on Sunday, March 19 from 2-6 and Monday, March 20 from 10-5. We will be accepting donations of new and gently used books from now until March 14. They can be dropped off at the church office during business hours. Admission will be \$2 and only cash will be accepted. Volunteers are needed for setup on Saturday, March 18 and for the 2 days of the book fair. Please contact Jennifer @ 237-7011 or jadams@nl.rogers.com if you are able to help. We thank you in advance for your support and hope to see you at the fair!

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.

Sewing Studio: on Mondays in Fellowship Room 7-9 pm. or at Memorial United, Portugal Cove 1-3pm. All sewers, knitters, needleworkers and crafters welcome.

UCW Spring Tea:

**St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue**

Spring Tea & Bake Stall



Sponsored by the UCW
St. James Auditorium



Saturday, April 1, 2023

Time: 2 – 4 pm Cost: \$8.00

Co-Conveners: Barbara Butt: (709) 687-1041
Sheilah Beckett: (709) 726-7421

Tickets: May be purchased at the door or from UCW members.

Donations: Donations of baked goods would be most appreciated.

We also ask if everyone can please bring their own shopping bag

Reducing Paper Use for Lent: Traditionally during Lent people will give something up. This year at St. James, we are doing this collectively by reducing our paper use during worship on Sunday

mornings. We are using the overhead slides more thoroughly. We encourage people who like to use bulletins to share and for those who wish, the bulletin can be accessed through your smartphone.