

# 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.

## **April 23, 2023, Third Sunday of Easter/Earth Day**

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft  
Leading Music: Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose and Senior Choir  
Ushers: Shirley McNeil, Marilyn Adams, Jean Thompson,  
and Susan Pike

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*Please rise in body or in spirit where there is an \**

## We Come to Worship

### PRELUDE

**INTROIT:** "O for a Thousand Tongues" (Tune: Lyngham)

**WELCOME:** *We extend greetings in Inuktitut, Urdu and Ukrainian.*

\* **HYMN:** "The Day of Resurrection" (*Voices United 164*)

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

**LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE** (*based on Psalm 116*)

One: Come! Lift your voices to God!

**All: We will sing praises to God as long as we live!**

One: Call on God who bends low to hear us.

**All: We lift our voices to God who saves us from death.**

One: Call on God's name, all you God's people.

**All: We call on God who raises us into new life.**

One: Come! Let God's saving name be praised in God's house.

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

**We praise your name, Saving God,**

**for in Christ you have raised us to new life,**

**and called us into the promise of your Reign,**

**a kin-dom of love and renewing grace for all creation.**

**Be with us as we worship, your Spirit lifting our hearts**

**and reorienting our lives in faithfulness and in joy.**

**In the name of your Risen One, we pray. Amen.**

**CELEBRATING EASTER JOY**

*We take time to share jokes, riddles and other expressions of joy.*

\* **PASSING THE PEACE OF EASTER**

*We greet one another with signs of Christ's peace, conscious of the need to be respectful each other's health and comfort in this time.*

## We Share

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

**A MINUTE FOR THE EARTH**

\* **OFFERTORY:** "Hallelujah, Hallelujah" (*Voices United 179, v 4*)

**Hallelujah, hallelujah, give thanks to the risen Christ;  
hallelujah, hallelujah! Give praise to God's name.  
Come let us praise the living God,  
joyfully sing to our Saviour;  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, give thanks to the risen Christ;  
hallelujah, hallelujah! Give praise to God's name.**

**\* PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

**We Listen**

**LEARNING TOGETHER**

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

**HYMN:** "Praise Our Maker" (*Voices United 316*)

**READINGS:** John 21:1-14; 1 Peter 1:17-23; "Earth Day on the Bay"

**ANTHEM:** "Now the Green Blade Rises"

**MESSAGE:** "Fishing from the Other Side"

**We Respond**

**HYMN:** "It's A Song of Praise to the Maker" (*More Voices 30*)

**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.*

**SUNG PRAYER OF JESUS (Lord's Prayer):** (*VU 960*)

**We Leave to Serve**

**\* HYMN:** "This Is God's Wondrous World" (*Voices United 296*)

**\* BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH:**

From this Easter celebration we go:

**Blessed by God who raises us to new life;  
in the company of the Risen One who walks with us still;  
in the power of the Spirit who renews us in grace. Amen.**

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

Office: 722-1881, x200; Email: [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org);  
Emergency Cellphone: 351-0983; Website: [www.stjamesuc.org](http://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 23, 2023

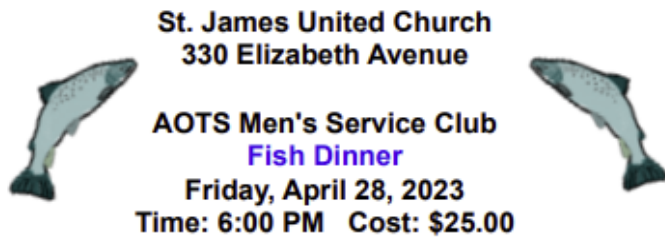
**We gratefully accept the following donation to the General Fund:**

\* A donation of \$4,000 was given from the UCW from the proceeds of their Spring Tea and Bake Stall.

**Summer Edition of The Visitor:** The Summer edition of The Visitor needs you. Please send any stories, poems, or reflections about the church, faith, or the community at large, so we can showcase this congregation. Send all to the following email: [gparren98@yahoo.com](mailto:gparren98@yahoo.com) with "Summer Newsletter" in the subject line. Entries **must** be in by **Monday, May 1**. Maximum 300 words and entries may be edited for clarity or space.

**Reflective Wednesdays at Noon:** Each Wednesday throughout Easter, (Rev.) James will continue leading an informal communion service and bible study focused on the readings for the upcoming Sunday in the Fellowship Room.

**AOTS: Fish & Brewis Dinner:** Tickets are available from any member of the Men's Club or Aubrey Hill - 709-726-8306



### Spring Clean-up, Sunday, April 30

It's spring! Crocuses and robins are back. But these are not the only things that are back! Our **St. James' Social Outreach and Environmental Action Committee** and our church Councillors invite you to join them to cleaning up the church grounds and surrounding neighbourhood, next **Sunday, April 30 at 12:30 pm** for a couple of hours, *weather permitting*. Bring a couple of garbage bags, preferably clear ones according to the city's regulations. Dress appropriately and bring gloves, a pick-up tool, a drink, snacks/ lunch, etc. Call Robin: (709) 682-3927.

**Sewing Studio:** On Mondays, St. James 1pm-3pm and Memorial United 7pm-9pm. All sewers, knitters, needleworkers and crafters welcome.

**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.