

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.

May 7, 2023, Fifth Sunday of Easter

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft
Leading Music: Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose and Senior Choir
Ushers: Brenda and Clyde Flight, Jean Thompson,
Michelle Skinner and Susan Pike

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

We Come to Worship

PRELUDE

INTROIT: "Welcome to Another Day" (*Voices United 408*)

WELCOME: *We share greetings in M'ikmawi'simk, Greek and Arabic.*

* **HYMN:** "Now the Green Blade Rises" (*Voices United 186*)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

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

LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE (*based on Psalm 31*)

One: Sing to God in whom we find refuge!

All: We sing with trust in the one who sets us free!

One: Sing to Christ, who hears the cry of your heart!

All: We turn to the one who walked this way before us!

One: Sing to the Spirit who lifts us up and calls us to serve!

All: We rejoice in the one who shines upon us with love!

One: We sing to God who fills the world with life and grace!

OPENING PRAYER (*in unison*)

**We sing to you, O God, with grateful hearts,
for you are both the source of all life and peace,
and the home into which these gifts find full meaning.
We rejoice in your love and pray that our hearts be open
to the blessing of this worship, a time to draw closer to you.
We pray in the name of the One who lives your way. 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.*

*** 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

A MINUTE FOR MAP

We pause to complete a questionnaire as part of giving input to our MAP.

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

READINGS: John 14:1-14; 1 Peter 2:2-10;

ANTHEM: "O Tase and See" (*Ralph Vaughan Williams*)

MESSAGE: "Abundant Life, Part II"

We Respond

HYMN: "I Come with Joy" (*Voices United 477*)

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

One: We gather at this table in the name of Christ
who calls us in love and lifts us up in reconciling grace.

All: We gather in his memory, knowing he is with us still.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen, indeed!

One: Open your hearts.

All: We open them to God.

One: Let us give thanks.

All: It is right to give God praise.

It is right to praise you, Living God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us your holy breath, calling us to be your children. And though at times we forgot that call and wandered away from you, you remained steadfast. Again and again you restored your people, calling them to be a source of blessing to the nations. Grateful for this abiding love we join your angels and saints in a song of praise:

Holy God of Power of Might! Hallelujah!
Heav'n and earth shine with your light! Hallelujah!
Loud Hosannas now we sing! Hallelujah!
Blessings to our Risen King! Hallelujah!

(Words: Oliver Dingwell, 2022; Music: Lyra Davidica, 1708)

We praise and thank you Redeeming God, for your Son, Jesus Christ. You affirmed him as your beloved child and through his death, and resurrection, gave birth to your Church. Called to embody his love in the world, we remember how on the night before Jesus died, he took bread and after giving you thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you." In the same way, he took the cup, saying: "Take, drink. This is a sign of the new covenant in my life-blood. Whenever you eat and drink, remember me."

We do remember, Sustaining God, grateful that on this day we live into the promise of your Reign, celebrating the in-breaking of your life and love through the resurrection of Christ. Let us proclaim then the mystery of our faith:

All: Dying, Christ destroyed our death! Hallelujah!
Rising, Christ restores our life! Hallelujah!
We believe and we proclaim, Hallelujah!
Jesus Christ will come again! Hallelujah!

(Words: Oliver Dingwell, 2022; Music: Lyra Davidica, 1708)

We pray, Gracious God, that you open our eyes to the presence of your Spirit, here with us and within these gifts of bread and wine. May all who share this living bread and saving cup be renewed in your grace and affirmed in your love, sharing what it means to be your children, a source of blessing to the nations. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, Holy God, now and forever.

All: "Amen, Amen." Hear our prayer, Hallelujah!
As the bread and cup we share! Hallelujah!
At this table, Christ we meet, Hallelujah!
Present here with wounded feet, Hallelujah!

(Words: Oliver Dingwell, 2022; Music: Lyra Davidica, 1708)

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

SHARING IN COMMUNION

One: This is the bread of life, Christ shared in hope for the world.

This the fruit of the vine, Christ shared in a spirit of peace & joy.

This is the banquet of blessing, Christ inviting everyone in love.

All: Thanks be to God.

Everyone is welcome to share communion – all ages, beliefs, identities and life experiences. There is a centre station to receive the bread and two side stations to receive juice in small glasses. Please consume the bread and juice before returning to your pew. Please let us know if you need the gluten free option. If you're unable to come forward, someone will bring communion to you once everyone has received. During communion the choir will sing "Let us Talents and Tongues Employ" (VU 468)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(in unison)*

God of blessing, here at this table we have tasted your gift of new life, been strengthened in nourishing grace. Send us then to proclaim your resurrection in how we live, feeding others as we have been fed, loving others as we have been loved, for the sake of Jesus, the Risen One. Amen.

We Leave to Serve

* **HYMN:** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" *(Voices United 333)*

* **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

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 - May 7, 2023

Rev. James Away on Study Break: Rev James will be away at school to pursue his Doctorate of Ministry from May 29 to June 12, 2023. Susan Sheppard and Rev. Rebecca Pike will be taking care of any emergencies while he is away.

Men's Club: The Men's Club would like to thank all those who supported them for the Fish & Brewis Dinner. A special thanks to the non club members who helped with serving and cleanup. Our dinner was a great success and hope to continue the same in the Fall.

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.

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

Stewardship Committee's *Swing into Spring Dessert Party Fundraiser!* -- Friday, May 12 at 7 pm.

Let's swing into Spring together at our dessert party with delectable desserts, the mystery wine pull and a door prize draw!

Tickets are on sale at the office \$10/ person. Only 120 in total! So don't wait! Call the church office at: 709-722-1881 or Robin Bartlett at (709) 682-3927 or by email at: robinbartlett1224@gmail.com Treat yourself to a mystery bottle of wine! Numbered corks will be sold at the party for \$15.

- We gratefully request **donations of desserts** including diabetic and gluten-free ones. Please *contact Robin or e-mail Karen Brown at tomkarenbrown@yahoo.com.*
- To **donate bottles of wine**, please call or text *Paul Walsh at (709) 690-2767 or jpaulwalsh1209@yahoo.com.*
- To **volunteer to decorate and to prepare desserts to serve** on Friday, May 12, please contact Robin. Thank you so much! We look forward to seeing you!

Mother's Day Coming Up: Next Sunday is Mother's Day, a time to celebrate the many "moms" in our lives. Because we don't want to keep anyone from spending time with their loved ones, we will have only a scaled back fellowship time after worship (just coffee or tea for those who aren't rushing off). We will also not be having our regular "The Sunday Table" EvenTide service that week.

Rock Yourself on the Ocean: Coastal Sounds CBS Community Choir under the Direction of Dr. David Buley, presents ROCK YOURSELF ON THE OCEAN, a Concert of Music Celebrating Newfoundland and Labrador, with Special Guests, The Celtic Fiddlers, on Sunday May 7 at 3 P.M. at Worsley Park Club House in CBS, Tickets \$20 and are available at www.Eventbrite.com Limited Seating, Worsley Park is located at the intersection of Chamberlains Road and CBS Highway.

Teachers on Wheels Volunteer Tutor Recruitment Training Workshop, Saturday, May 13: *Are you interested in helping others to improve their literacy or in helping non-English speaking immigrants to learn English (ESL)?* Then please volunteer for Teachers on Wheels! Due to increasing demand, we need more volunteer tutors! If you can speak, read and write English, you can be a tutor. The next tutor training workshop is Saturday, May 13 from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. For more information and to register, please contact Tom Dawe, Executive Director at 738-3975 or by email at: teachersonwheels@nl.rogers.com . Also view: www.teachersonwheels.ca . Thank you. -- Robin Bartlett, Chairperson, Teachers on Wheels

Memorial Hymn Sing: Sunday, June 4, 2023
Submission Deadline: Friday, May 26, 2023

All dedications will be acknowledged in Memorial Hymn Sing bulletin.

For a paper copy of the Memorial Hymn Sing Form call the office at 709-722-1881 or email us at: info@stjamesuc.org.

Payments can be made via cash/cheque (cheques can be made payable to St. James United). You can place your form and payment in the secure drop-box to the right of the office entrance or drop it to the office during office hours. You can also email your form to info@stjamesuc.org.

Electronic payments can be made by e-transfer to treasurer@stjamesuc.org or click the "Donate" button on the website. **Please note "Hymn Sing" with your payment** A tax receipt will be issued.

Hymn Selections from which to choose:

1. *Amazing Grace*
2. *Deep in our Hearts*
3. *Here I Am Lord*
4. *In the Garden*
5. *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*
6. *Morning Has Broken*
7. *Precious Memories*
8. *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*
9. *Will You Walk with Me*
10. *Will Your Anchor Hold*

Please note that we are not including "Jesus You Have Come to the Lakeshore" in this year's list of hymns. We have a policy in the United Church not to include in public worship songs that were written by composers found to be guilty of sexual abuse, especially of minors. Regrettably that is the case of Fr. Cesareo Gabarain. We apologize for this, but the spiritual and emotional well-being of everyone who is present at worship must be our primary concern.

Financial Update - Below is a financial update to where we are at the end of March 2023 vs where we should be Budget wise.

Revenue:		Budget:
Envelopes	\$39,971	\$47,000
Special Envelopes	2,976	2,125
Rentals	5,053	5,500
Other	<u>6,275</u>	<u>11,250</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$54,275</u>	<u>\$65,875</u>
Expenses:		
Heat	\$17,400	\$8,750
Lights	1,687	1,500
Insurance	16,343	14,000
Church	9,937	10,625
Assessments/Donation	4,035	4,035
Committees	166	1,200
Salaries/Allowances	<u>48,890</u>	<u>43,842</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$98,458</u>	<u>\$83,952</u>
Net Loss	<u>\$44,183</u>	<u>\$18,077</u>