

All: God calls us to remember to whom we belong.

One: Live lovingly!

All: God calls us to reach out to those who are forgotten.

One: Blessed by God and empowered by the Spirit,
let's go out to be the living and loving Body of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God. 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



@stjamesuc

WiFi: StJamesGuest WiFi Password: StJamesUC

Creativity Corner: A place to draw a picture, write a note, or whatever you wish!!

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.

July 16, 2023, Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft
Leading Music: Amy Dalziel and Glen Warren
Ushers:
Communion Server: Gloria LeFeuvre

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

We Come to Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE

We share greetings in Mi'kmawí'simk, Cantonese and Arabic as we gather, lighting the candle as a sign of Christ's presence with us.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

SHARING OF PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP *(inspired by Psalm 119:105-112)*

One: Come let us worship the God of faithful promises!

All: We praise the God of constant grace and mercy.

One: Come let us honour the Christ whose word brings us life!

All: We sing to the Christ who guides us in wisdom and love.

One: Come let us open our hearts to the Spirit of joy!

All: We trust in the Spirit who encourages us in God's way.

* **HYMN:** "Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet" (VU 245)

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

**O Blessed and Ever-Blessing God,
as we worship in the life of your Spirit,
open our hearts to sing your praise,
our minds to be attentive to your wisdom,
and our spirits to rest in your love.**

**Bless us with your grace that wherever we are
our lives may be a parable of your goodness,
a reflection of your blessing to all.**

**We pray in the name of Jesus, your Blessing to the world.
Amen.**

One: Living God, share your Spirit with us and through these gifts.
May all who share this bread and cup be the body of Christ: your
light, life and love in the world. Holy One we give you praise.

**All: Creator God, we praise you through Your Word made
flesh, in the power of your Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

PRAYER OF JESUS *(in unison)*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our
trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever
and ever. Amen.**

SHARING IN COMMUNION

*Everyone is welcome to share communion – all ages, beliefs, identities
and life experiences. Come to the front to receive the bread and juice (in
a small glass). Please consume both 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.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(in unison)*

**We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at
your table through the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen
our faith, increase our love and send us forth united in
courage and peace, rejoicing always in your Spirit. Amen.**

We Leave to Serve

* **HYMN:** "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" (*Voices United* 481)

* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH *(adapted from a prayer by
David Sparks)*

One: Live wholeheartedly!

All: God calls us to make every minute count.

One: Live with generosity!

All: God calls us to give of ourselves beyond our limits.

One: Live faithfully!

All: God calls us to remember to whom we belong.

One: Live lovingly!

We Share

LIFE AND WORK: *We highlight activities in the congregation & beyond.*

A MINUTE FOR MISSION

We consider ways to help others through the Mission and Service Fund.

OFFERING: *There are many ways to share your financial gifts with St. James United Church. There are plates as you enter the church in which to place your offering, you may contribute by pre-authorized remittance (PAR), via e-transfer (email treasurer@stjamesuc.org), sent through the website (www.stjamesuc.org), mailed to the church office or dropped into our secure mailbox. However you give, the congregation is grateful.*

* **PRESENTATION HYMN:** "This Is the Day" (*More Voices 122*)

This is the day that God has made; we will rejoice and be glad!

This is the day that God has made; we will rejoice and be glad!

Singing hallelu (x3) We will rejoice and be glad!

* **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

We Listen

LEARNING TOGETHER

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

* **HYMN:** "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God" (*Voices United 356*)

PRAYER FOR GRACE

SOLO: "Beautiful City"
(*Godspell*)

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

We Respond

* **HYMN:** "One Bread, One Body" (*Voices United 467*)

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

One: In his welcome to everyone at table with him, Jesus made it known that all people are worthy, acceptable, and loved by God.

All: We share this meal knowing that God's grace renews us.

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THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: God be with you. **All: And also with you.**
One: Open your hearts. **All: We open them to God.**
One: Let us give thanks. **All: It is good to give God praise.**

One: It is good to praise you, faithful God, for all your works show forth your goodness and love. In the beginning your Word spoke light into being: night withdrew, creation dawned, and in time life appeared, a sign of your desire to share your living and saving presence. With thanks for this gift, especially animating us with your breath and speech, we join creation in singing your praise:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy God, Source of life and love. All creation shines with your presence. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest.

One: Holy God, how wonderful your grace, restoring the beauty of your image when sin marred creation. As a mother gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own and filled them with longing for a peace that would never fail. Across generations they hungered for the bread of freedom and from them you gave us Jesus, the one in whom ancient hungers were satisfied.

For him we thank you, remembering how on the night before he died, he shared a meal with those he loved. While at table, he took bread, blessed and broke it, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you." When supper was ended, he took a cup of wine, again giving thanks to you and shared it with his friends, saying: "Take, drink. This is the cup of blessing, sign of the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you do this, remember me."

All: Remembering his life and teaching, recalling his death and resurrection, proclaiming his promise of abiding presence, we share this meal together. Come, Christ Jesus!

One: Loving God, we rejoice in you as we remember Jesus, your Son. Death could not bind him, for you raised him up in holiness, exalted him over all creation, and promised that he would return.

All: When he comes may he find us ever watchful in prayer, strong in love and faithful to you in service.

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