

St. James United Church

A Community of Friends in Faith

330 Elizabeth Ave, St. John's, NL, A1B 1T9

Celebration of Worship for November 12, 2023



The people of St. James United Church are eternal seekers who value diversity within our congregation, 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.

November 12, 2023, Peace Sunday

Leading Worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft
Leading Music: Amy Daziel and the Guitar Group
Ushering: Kim and Gerry Mayo, Marilyn Adams
and Jean Thompson

We Come to Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME; ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

We share greetings in Innu-aimun, Yoruba and Korean as we gather with thanks for the land and commit to be a fully inclusive community.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(adapted from a prayer written by Micol I. Cottrell, **Gathering** Pentecost 2 2013, p 34, Used with permission.)*

One: There was a dream.

**All: Wolves and sheep together, nations at peace,
weapons of war turned into tools of harvest.**

One: There was a dream.

**All: The vulnerable supported, injustice overcome,
the aching and broken made whole.**

One: And this dream of God became flesh.

**All: On the tongues of prophets, in the hopes of the people,
in the community gathered in prayer.**

OPENING PRAYER

One: O God of Shalom.

**All: when will the day of peace come,
when predators and prey will be at peace with each other,
when swords are used for planting
and spears for harvest?**

**As we gather in worship, we pray that this day will come,
that the long night of war may finally give way
to the dawning of your love and justice in our world.**

Shine your peace upon us and reveal your path.

We pray in the name of the Prince of Peace.

Amen.

* **HYMN:** "O Day of Peace" (*Voices United 682*)

We Share

A MINUTE FOR DIVERSITY; OUR LIFE AND WORK

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. In whatever way you give, the community is grateful.*

* **PRESENTATION HYMN:** “Because He Lives” (*see insert*)

We Listen

PRAYER OF OPENNESS AND THANKSGIVING

LEARNING TOGETHER

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

HYMN: “Here I Am Lord” (*Voices United 509*)

READINGS FROM THE BIBLE AND AROUND THE WORLD:

A reading from Isaiah 2:1-4, Israelite, 8th century BCE

A reflection from Warren Mundine, Aboriginal Australian, 2013

Song: “God on the Mountain”

A reading from John 14:25-27, Judean, 1st century CE

Excerpt from *One by One* by Daisaku Ikeda, Japanese, 2004

Quote from Tennessee Williams, American, mid 20th century

Song: “Wings of a Dove”

From *Mighty Be Our Powers* by Leymah Gbowee, Liberian, 2013

Translated portion of a speech by Berta Cáceres, Honduran, 2015

A reading from Colossians 3:12-15, Jewish Diaspora, 1st century

TIME OF SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN: “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” (*Voices United 684*)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND COMMITMENT

THE PRAYER OF JESUS (*Voices United p. 921*)

SHARING OF PEACE

We commit to the prayers we have made with a sign of peace.

We Leave to Serve

HYMN: "Let There Be Light" (*Voices United 679*)

BENEDICTION (*adapted from a prayer written by Micol I. Cottrell, Gathering Pentecost 2 2013, p 34, Used with permission.*)

One: There was a dream.

**All: Wolves and sheep together, nations at peace,
weapons of war turned into tools of harvest.**

One: And this dream of God becomes flesh.

**All: In you and me as we go out in the Spirit's power,
as we follow God's way of peace,
as we live the love of Jesus. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9

Lead Minister:	Rev. James Ravenscroft
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Music Director:	Amy Dalziel
Assistant Music Director:	Bob Rose
Office Administrator:	Stephanie Harnum
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor

Office: 722-1881, x200; Email: info@stjamesuc.org;
Emergency Cellphone: 727-4067; Website: www.stjamesuc.org;

 @StJamesUCNL

 @StJamesUnited;

 @stjamesuc

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Life and Work - November 12, 2023

We are very sad to announce to the Congregation that Mr. Dave Hapgood had passed away on Wednesday, November 8. His Funeral was held at St. James United Church on Saturday, November 11 @ 2PM. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Susan and her family at this difficult time.

We will remember and cherish all the great memories we had over the many years he was a member of St. James United

We accept the following donations to the Memorial Fund:

* In memory of Ruth Goff from the St James UCW

* In memory of my husband, Wilf Snelgrove from Wife Sylvia, Daughters Erna and Lynne and Families.

Support the People Impacted by the Conflict in Palestine and Israel: Mission and Service partners are currently responding to those who are impacted by the conflict in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. Partners are prepared to expand their activity into Gaza when a humanitarian corridor is opened, allowing for safe access to provide relief. Currently, there is an urgent need for food as well as non-food items such as medicines, psychosocial support, and shelter. You can support the people impacted by the conflict in Palestine and Israel through your donations and advocacy.

MOU Congregational Meeting: A reminder that there is a meeting of the Congregation *today*, immediately following this morning's worship. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and vote on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between St. James United Church and Cochrane Street United Church.

Office Closure: The Church office will be closed on Tuesday, November 14th to observe the Remembrance Day Holiday.

Thank you from St. James UCW: We really appreciate all who supported our Fall Sale and Morning Coffee on November 4. Thank you to our members, the congregation, friends and church staff who helped in many ways to make it a success.

Our November meeting is on Monday, November 13th at 2PM.

St. James Bethlehem Market: Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 2nd from 11AM-3PM. St. James United Church will be hosting a Bethlehem Market this year, including an opportunity for local crafters and other vendors to sell their wares. If you know someone who would like to rent a table to sell their wares, please contact the St. James church office at 722-1881 ext. 200 or by email at info@stjamesuc.org. The cost is \$25 per table. The number of tables are limited so don't delay.

AOTS: The regular monthly meeting of the Men's club will be held on Nov 15 with dinner served at 1:00 pm. New members are always welcome.

Flipper Dinner - Wesley Church: Wesley United Church will be holding a Flipper Dinner (with dessert, tea & coffee), on November 16th at 6:00 pm. Eat in and take outs available. Take outs to be picked up between 5:00 pm and 5:30 pm. Tickets are \$30. Call Phoebe Sheppard at 726-1689, Marvin Barnes at 579-7900 or the Church office at 579-3682

Topsail United Church Coffee Group will be hosting a Fall Afternoon Tea on Saturday November 18 from 2 until 4 P.M. Cost \$ 15. To reserve Tickets please call the church office at 834-4567. Entertainment by Avalonia. All are Welcome.

Memorial United Church - Portugal Cove-St. Phillips Fall Fair: November 18, 2023 from 10:30AM to Noon. Admission: \$8/ Children \$4. Tea, Coffee, Breads, Muffins, Tea Buns, Baked Goods, Christmas Books, Craft Tables, and Items on tickets. Tickets available at the door. For more information, please contact (709) 895- 6525

Gower's Seniors Christmas Gala will be taking place on November 28th, 2023. Join us for Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings and entertainment by the Walsh Family. *Ticket Sales Start on November 7, 2023.* Purchase tickets via Gower Office (99 Queens Rd. 709-753-7286), office Hours Wednesday - Thursday, 11:00 A.m. - 4:00 P.M. Payment (cash, cheque or e-transfer) due on ticket distribution. Everyone welcome!