

# COCHRANE STREET UNITED CHURCH

(in Partnership with St. James United Church)



**April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**

Presider: Rev. James ravencroft

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Eric Hillier

Minister of Music: Patricia Young

Director of Music: Tristan Cleveland-Thompson

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# GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

## PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please see the email of each congregation for detailed announcements.*

#### \* **INTROIT:** "Come All You People" (**MV #2**)

Come all you people, come and praise your maker. (x3)

Come now and worship the Lord.

#### \* **ACKNOWLEDGING CHRIST CANDLE & PASSING THE PEACE:**

The light of Christ is with us. **Here. Now. In this place.**

In Christ, although we are many, we are one.

**Let our hospitality towards each other reflect God's love.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

#### \* **REFLECTIVE MUSIC:** "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters" (**VU #442, vs 1**)

1. Wash, O God, our sons and daughters,  
    where your cleansing waters flow.  
    Number them among your people;  
    bless as Christ blessed long ago.  
    Weave them garments bright and sparkling;  
    compass them with love and light.  
    Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit,  
    holy dove and heart's delight.

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Come, O Easter people, sharing together in God's love.

**We come from many places, joined as siblings in Christ.**

Come, O Easter people, renewed in the promise of resurrection.

**We come with diverse experiences, each of us a gift in Christ.**

Come, O Easter people, to honour the one who renews our hearts.

**We come to give praise, each of us reborn in the grace of Christ.**

#### **PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

**O Resurrecting God,**

**you sent Christ into the world**

**to gather the nations together  
that we might all live through him.  
May we abide in his risen life,  
bearing the fruit of love for one another  
and knowing the fullness of resurrection joy.  
We pray in the grace of your Spirit. Amen.**

**\* HYMN: “The Day of Resurrection” (VU #164)**

## **CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

### **Statement of Purpose and Presentation of Families**

*We welcome Tenika Brooking and Krista and Sheldon Smith  
as they present Everleigh Brooking and Christopher Smith to  
be baptized.*

### **Profession of Faith**

#### **Promise of the People**

Let us pledge our support and care for those being baptized:

**As a baptized and baptizing people, we commit our- selves to  
support and uphold you as we worship God,  
love and serve others, seek justice and resist evil. May God  
grant us all the grace to live out our baptism.**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Act of Baptism**

#### **Baptismal Song** *(after the first baptism we will sing:)*

In God’s circle of love, we hold on to each other; I can see God’s love  
through you. In God’s circle of love, we learn to love each other; Each of  
us is special, in God’s circle of love.

Oh children did you know that you are very special?

You’re so special to us all

Oh come if you will to our circle of love.

Each of us is special, in God’s circle of love.

In God’s circle of love, we hold on to each other; I can see God’s love  
through you. In God’s circle of love, we learn to love each other; Each of  
us is special, in God’s circle of love.

## **Blessing, Laying on of Hands, Lighting of Baptismal Candles**

\* **HYMN:** “Child of Blessing, Child of Promise” (**VU #444**)

## **LEARNING TOGETHER – PRESENTATION OF STOLE**

## **OFFERING INVITATION AND VOLUNTARY**

\* **OFFERTORY HYMN:** “Hallelujah, Hallelujah” (**VU #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 give thanks, Holy God, for the movement of your Spirit, calling us to extend your love in our community and world, to share your compassion and care with everyone we meet. Accept not only these gifts but our hearts and mind, that through the inspiration of your Living Word, we may be joined to you and to one another. Amen.**

## **GOD’S WORD FOR US TODAY**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Acts 8:26-40

The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

READER: Jalna McMaster

\* **RESPONSIVE PSALM:** Psalm 22:19-31 (**Parts 2–4, VU p. 745**)

READER: Heather McMaster

**SCRIPTURE READING:** John 15:1-8

The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

READER: Heather McMaster

**POETIC READING:** Excerpt from *Praises of the Cross*, by Abba Giyorgis of Segla (16<sup>th</sup> c. Ethiopian monk). Trans. Getatchew Haile

**ANTHEM:** Psalm 150, *by Bob Chilcott*

## **SERMON**

**\*HYMN:** "Let Us Build a House" (*MV #1*, vs 1, 2, 4-5)

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**SUNG LORD'S PRAYER** (*Voices United*, p. 960)

### **GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE**

**\* HYMN:** "We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection" (*VU #586*)

## **PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE**

**Holy God, dreamer of dreams, we offer Cochrane Street United Church and St. James United Church to you. We are your people, this is your church. We come to you seeking your guidance, your purpose, your vision. Align our will with yours, so that we will be willing to do whatever it takes to carry out your plan. We ask you to break through in new ways in our church. Show us the great ministry you have in store for us. Help us dream your dreams. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, giving us the vision, boldness, and confidence to do all that you call us to do. Amen.**

## **\* COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

**Risen with Christ, we trust in the gift of the Spirit's peace.  
Risen with Christ, we accept the call to embody his way.  
Risen with Christ, we are proof that God's life will never die.  
So go in joy! Christ is Risen! Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

**\* SUNG BENEDICTION:** "May the God of Peace" (*MV #224*)

**May the God of peace and of all good,  
May the god of peace and of all good be always with you. Amen! May  
God's peace be with you. Amen!**

## **POSTLUDE**

***Please take your bulletins with you when you leave the pew.***

Tuesday, APRIL 23  
Sunday, APRIL 28

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**  
CSUC Council Meeting, 7PM (ZOOM )  
CSUC – Bert Riggs

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** If you wish to have an announcement included in the bulletin, please have it into the office by Thursday at noon.

**PASTORAL COVERAGE FOR CSUC:** Rev. Peggy Johnson is covering all pastoral emergencies and funerals. She can be reached at (709) 685-9223 or by email at [peggyjoanjohnson@hotmail.com](mailto:peggyjoanjohnson@hotmail.com). If Rev. Peggy is not available, please contact Paula Reynolds at [pt2reynolds@gmail.com](mailto:pt2reynolds@gmail.com).

**NEXT MEETING OF CSUC CHURCH COUNCIL** is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 7PM. If anyone has a matter they wish to bring to the attention of Council, please contact Tim Reynolds at [pt2reynolds@gmail.com](mailto:pt2reynolds@gmail.com).

**BRIDGES TO HOPE ITEM OF THE MONTH:** For each month of 2024, Bridges To Hope will be suggesting a much needed food item for members of our partner congregations to consider for donation. **APRIL'S** suggested item is canned fruit. Of course, other non-perishable items are always welcome.

**RECYCLABLES:** Drop off your recyclables at any Green Depot and use the Cochrane Street Code (our phone number) 7223023. Your empty containers will support the ministries of our congregation! Don't forget to drop off your eligible tetra or gable containers and glass containers (including beer & wine bottles) for a refund. Thank you in advance for your help.

**ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH – AWAY FOR SCHOOL:** Rev. James will be away in Toronto from May 4 through to May 17. Rev. Rebecca will be covering pastoral emergencies while he is away.

**SJUC– Recorded Services:** Please access our website [www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org) and click on 'Digital Worship' and then click on 'Live' to view the most up to date worship or visit our Facebook page (St. James United Church) click 'Videos' in the left side menu.

**SJUC – Eventide Worship:** Every Sunday at 7PM we have our Eventide Worship service. This Sunday is Celtic Vespers. Celtic Vespers is a new take on an old service. One of several daily "offices" developed in the early years of Christianity, vespers is a service of readings, prayers and candle-

lighting as evening begins. This version celebrates Celtic spirituality through the music traditions of Ireland, Scotland and Newfoundland.

**ST. JAMES – AOTS FISH & BREWIS DINNER:** Tickets are available from any member of the AOTS Men's Club or Aubrey Hill - 709-726-8306. Join us Friday, **April 26**, 2024 at 6pm. Cost \$25.

**United Church of Canada E-ssentials – Remit 1 Vote Results:**

Remit 1: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization has passed. All 16 voting regional councils, the National Indigenous Council, and just over 80% of pastoral charges in The United Church of Canada voted in this process.

*National Indigenous Council and Regional Councils: **Yes: 17;No:0***

*Pastoral charges: **Yes: 1482; No: 93***

The decision on enacting the remit will take place at the Annual Meeting of General Council, on October 19, 2024. Once enacted, the change will be included in the next edition of *The Manual*. (The process for remits is outlined in the United Church Manual, in section F, on pages 108-111.). On the General Council 44 website, you can find more detailed information about the remit result, as well as a statement from the National Indigenous Council (<https://generalcouncil44.ca/news/>) in response to the vote results.

**St. James United Church - Life and Work – April 21, 2024**

**We accept the following donation to the Memorial Fund:**

\* In memory of Joanne Hapgood, BN,RN, March 3, 1959 - April 19, 2013. Ever remembered. Love Susan, Stephen, Rebecca Pike and Kyle Winter

**We accept the following donation to the UCW:**

\* In memory of Sister, Olive Maize (nee Snelgrove) from Effie Parsons

**Away for School:** Rev. James will be away in Toronto from May 4 through to May 17. Rev. Rebecca will be covering pastoral emergencies while he is away.

**Are you interested in learning about the United Church?** Join a Zoom group to learn more about how our church is organized and what we believe about everything from climate to euthanasia and beyond. Contact Rev. James ([james@stjamesuc.org](mailto:james@stjamesuc.org)) for more information.

**Were you baptized as an infant** and now would like to be confirmed as a full member of the church (or perhaps you had your child baptized as an infant and it is time for them to be confirmed and become a full member? We are trying to gauge interest in a confirmation course. Contact Rev. James ([james@stjamesuc.org](mailto:james@stjamesuc.org)) to let him know.

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

St. James United Church,  
330 Elizabeth Avenue



AOTS Men's Service Club



**Fish & Brewis Dinner**

Friday, April 26, 2024  
Time: 6pm Cost: \$25.00

### **Want to donate online this morning?**

Scan this QR code with your phone and it will take you to our website. Then click "Donate". Thank you for your support.



stjamesuc.org