



St. James United Church



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

Celebration of Worship for April 27, 2025



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.

In loving memory of
Mother, Sadie M. Butt and Aunt, Mildred Legrow
from Glenda Winsor and Gloria Le Feuvre and families.

April 27, 2025, Second Sunday of Easter

Leading Worship and Music: Rev. James Ravenscroft,
Paul Walsh, Amy Dalziel and New Found Sound A Capella Choir
Ushers: Harvey and Paul Diamond, Jean Thompson,
Marilyn Adams, and Susan Pike

*Please rise in body or in spirit where there is an *.*
Print in bold indicates that the portion is read or sung by everyone.

We Come to Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME; ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

We offer greetings in Inuktitut, French and Sinhalese, and give thanks for the land as we commit to being a just and loving community for everyone.

CALL TO WORSHIP

A week has passed but the good news hasn't changed:

Jesus Christ is raised from the dead!

The good news hasn't changed but it changes us:

We are empowered to walk in the light of Christ's love.

So let us worship the One who triumphed over death,

who showed us the power of compassion, mercy and peace.

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

OPENING PRAYER (*in unison*)

Living God, **we give thanks for your abiding presence,**
accompanying us in Christ even if we often do not know it.

Open the eyes of our hearts to his encouraging presence,
exchanging our fears for the strength to follow his way.

In his name, we pray. Amen.

*** SHARING THE PEACE OF EASTER:** *We greet one another with signs of Christ's peace with a wave, bow, prayerful wish for blessing.*

ANTHEM: Ride the Chariot

We Share

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

OFFERING: *There are many ways to financially support St. James. You can place your contribution in the plate, scan the QR code on the left, donate via PAR, website (www.stjamesuc.org), e-transfer (email treasurer@stjamesuc.org), or mail to the church office. In whatever way you support St. James, the community is grateful. Tax receipts available by request.*



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 the theme of the day in an age appropriate format.

HYMN: "Come, Children, Join to Sing" (*Voices United* 345)

READINGS: *At end of each reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*
Acts 4:32-35 and Luke 24:13-35

*** HYMN:** "Christ Within Us Hidden" (*More Voices* 162)

READING: *At end of the reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*
From Pope Francis, *The Church of Mercy: A Vision for the Church*

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

ANTHEM: One More Song

We Respond

CONFESSION OF FAITH (based on bible verses)

...As both many and one, let us offer words used by our ancestors, expressed in these passages from scripture:

With the people of Israel we proclaim:

Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

With Peter we proclaim to Jesus: “You have the words of eternal life. We believe you are the Holy One of God.”

With Cleopas we proclaim that Jesus is made known to us in the scriptures and in the breaking of the bread.

And with John we uphold this truth:

“God is love. Those who live in love, live in God and God lives in them. We love because God loved.”

May these ancient words bring wisdom to our hearts.

PRAYERS OF CONCERN & SUNG PRAYER OF JESUS (VU 960)

We Leave to Serve

* **HYMN:** “Christ Is Alive” (*Voices United* 158)

* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH:**

Risen with Christ: **we know the reassurance of God’s presence.**

Risen with Christ: **we accept the challenge to walk God’s way.**

Risen with Christ: **we are proof God’s life will never die.**

Go forth in joy, in the blessing of God: Abba, Christ and Spirit!

Go, for Christ is Risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

POSTLUDE

St. James United Church

Chair of the Church Board:	Pamela Norman
Minister:	Rev. James Ravenscroft
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: 1-709-722-1881, x200; Email: info@stjamesuc.org;
Emergency Cellphone: 1-709-351-0983; Website: www.stjamesuc.org



@StJamesUCNL



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WiFi: StJamesGuest WiFi Password: StJamesUC

We accept the following donation to the Maintenance Fund:

* In loving memory of parents, Chesley & Mary Granter and Leah & Louis Bursey, Daughter Kimberley Renee and Brother Gordon Bursey from Doug and Joan Bursey and Family.

Extra Butterfly Donations:

- In celebration of our new grandson Marshall Sweers; Lesya, Tetiana, Gala, Hanna and so many newcomers who are improving their English and/or getting jobs or better jobs! from Robin Bartlett
- In celebration of Retirement from Sylvia Rees

Tune into VOWR: This Sunday's service will be rebroadcast on VOWR this evening, Sunday, April 27 at 7:00 pm. We welcome all those worshipping in person, watching via livestream, and those listening.

Wild Light Gathering for April: Today, Sunday, April 27 at 3:00 pm. We will gather for a Spring focused meditation Walk around Kent's Pond. Meet at the far end of the parking lot of the Confederation Building.

Easter Photography: You may have noticed that on the Easter weekend we had someone taking photos. We apologize for not letting you know ahead of time. We should have done so. Our failure to do so left some of you feeling uncomfortable. We apologize for that as well. The photographer is a professional who attends St. James and wanted to share her gift with us. We took her up on her offer so that we could create an historical record of the services. In the future we would like her to take photographs for use on our website and other promotional materials. The church board (council) is creating a policy about the use of photography, especially regarding concerns about privacy.

Regional Council Meeting in Corner Brook: Next weekend (May 2-4), representatives of United Church congregations from across the province will be in Corner Brook for our annual meeting as First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council. Among other issues and ideas being discussed, we will be voting on a proposal that we become an Affirming Region. Please pray for a good meeting and that all the delegates will be open to the Spirit in their deliberations. Rev. James is the chair of the region's Affirm Committee so please pray for him and

the rest of the committee members. While he is away at the meeting with Michelle Skinner, one of our regional reps, members of our UCW will be leading the service.

Easter Season Bible Study: Following up from our Lenten Bible Study, we will meet at 12:45 pm each Sunday during the Easter Season, beginning on April 27. The focus is on Resurrection and the Early Church. Bible reading for that Sunday will be Luke 24:1-53.

Centering Prayer: Each week on Thursdays at 12:15PM, Rev. James will be leading centering prayer. He will do so via Zoom. Centering prayer is a prayer of quiet and stillness. He will explain it more as part of the group practice.

Follow this link to take part:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82667792442?pwd=AMc6XzwxdKVpDcpiGlbRQoUHnXbhw0.1>

Meeting ID: 826 6779 2442

Passcode: 401894

First United Church Concert: A Concert featuring the very talented Peter and Ronalda MacDonald accompanied by Brian Way on piano will be held at First United Church, 221 Park Avenue, Mount Pearl on Friday, May 2nd at 7:30 pm. They will be performing a variety of their favourite hits. Tickets cost just \$25 and are available at the church office Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between 10 am and 2 pm. Payment by cash or cheque. For more information, please call the church office at 709-368-2194.

Gower Street United Game Night: Gower's centennial celebration events will kick off on May 6th at 6:30 p.m. with an all-ages game night hosted by the Gower UCW. Join us for an evening of food, fun and fellowship as we play trivia, bingo and other delightful games. This event is free to attend.

Financial Update from January 1 to March 31, 2025 compared to 2024.

Revenue	2025	2024
Envelopes	46,030	36,496
Rentals	17,764	11,299
Other	<u>10,215</u>	<u>12,151</u>
Total	74,009	59,946
Expenses		
Repairs	2,360	1,429
Heat/Lights	17,092	19,049
Salaries	40,316	43,809
Other	<u>32,130</u>	<u>37,326</u>
Total	91,898	101,612
Net Loss	- 17,889	-41,666

You can see that we have increased our envelope giving from last year by \$10,000 and also our rentals have increased by \$6,500.

Our expenses are down from last year by \$10,000 mainly due to our insurance going down by \$3,000, heat and lights down by \$2,000 and our salaries down by \$3,000.

As of March 1, 2025 we presently have a deficit of \$20,736.

Finance Committee

Lost and Found: If any of these items belong to you, please contact the office or come by and pick them up during office hours within the next two weeks. After two weeks, they will no longer be here. Thank you!

Everest 2016 Toque

Tortoise Shell reading glasses

Grey and Black Shawl

Miller Thompson Coffee Mug

FFTL Blue Water Bottle

Women's Black Leather Gloves

Red Supplement King Water Bottle

Brita Water Bottle

Aqua and Teal Starbucks Cup

Memorial Hymn Sing: Sunday, May 25, 2025

Each year, we take time to remember our loved ones through the fellowship of song. By selecting a hymn in dedication to your loved ones, you are contributing to the life and work of our church, supporting and enhancing the various programs and activities that make St. James United Church the faith community that we love. St. James Guitar Group and our Music Director, Amy Dalziel, will provide the music.

Simply print and complete the form below or write out your requests on a sheet of paper with the required information. Drop them off with your cash or cheque payment (payable to “St. James United Church”) at the office, in the secure drop-box to the right of the office entrance, or by e-mailing them to info@stjamesuc.org. Payments can also be made by e-transfer to treasurer@stjamesuc.org.

Please ensure to note “Hymn Sing” on your envelope or in the subject line online.

Submission deadline: Monday, May 12, 2025

Hymn Selections from which to choose:

- 1. All the Way My Saviour Leads Me**
- 2. How Great Thou Art**
- 3. I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I Am Lord)**
- 4. In the Bulb There Is a Flower**
- 5. In the Garden**
- 6. Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore**
- 7. Morning Has Broken**
- 8. Precious Memories**
- 9. What a Friend We Have in Jesus**
- 10. Will Your Anchor Hold**

Name(s) of Contributor: _____

Envelope No. OR Address: _____

Donation: _____

Hymn Choice: _____

In memory of: _____

To contribute more “in memoriums”, please use a separate sheet for each, clearly attributing the contributor’s name to loved one’s name & selected hymn no.; amount; & envelope no. or address.