



St. James United Church



Belong • Grow • Serve

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

Celebration of Worship for June 29, 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 a cherished Mother
Ethel Butler
From Randy and Grace Butler
“Mom’s love, humor and zest for life will never be forgotten”

June 29, 2025, Recognizing Memorial Day

Leading Worship & Music: Rev. James Ravenscroft, Sarah Norman,
Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose, Jason Locke, Islington United Church Choir
Ushers: Wisdom O Edionhon, Damien Betts,
Marilyn Adams, Jean Thompson 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

WELCOME; ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

We greet each other in Inuktitut, French & Isoko as we acknowledge the land and local Indigenous peoples and commit to full inclusion for all.

*** SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

We extend welcome with a wave, a bow, a wish for God’s blessings.

CHORUS: “Peace, Shalom, Salaam”

We Remember

CALL TO WORSHIP

As we come together today, we pause in remembrance,
and bring to mind all of those lost to us in the Great War.

As we remember today, we pause with concern,
and grieve for a world that seems poised to repeat the past.

As we grieve together today, we pause in hope,
and pray for a future that reflects God’s Reign of peace.

OPENING PRAYER

Holy One, we come together in prayer today,
grieving for those whose lives were lost so long ago,
and grieving still because we do not seem to learn.
You may call us to peace, and yet we follow the drums of war.
Forgive us. And send your Spirit upon our grieving hearts, that in
your healing grace we may finally reach for a future
where all are cared for, where gifts are freely shared,
and the peace of your Reign embraces all of creation.
We pray in the name of Jesus, your Prince of Peace. Amen.

HYMN: "God as with Silent Hearts" (*Voices United 527*)

We Share with Love

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

OFFERTORY: *There are many ways to give to St. James. You can place an offering in the plate, scan the QR code on the left, contribute via PAR, website (www.stjamesuc.org), e-transfer (email treasurer@stjamesuc.org), mail to the church office or drop in our secure mailbox. In whatever way you choose to give, the community is grateful.*



* **HYMN:** "Spirit of Life" (*Voices United 381*)

Spirit of Life, come unto me. Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion. Blow in the wind, rise in the sea; move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice. Roots hold me close; wings set me free; Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

* **PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

We Listen and Respond

LEARNING TOGETHER

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

* **HYMN:** "O God of Every Nation" (*Voices United 677*)

READINGS: *At the end of each reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*
James 3:13-18 and Luke 9:18-25

HYMN: "Take My life and let it Be" (*Voices United* 506)

READING: *At the end of the reading please say, "Thanks be to God"*
Muriel Rukeyser, "Poem" (Published in *The Speed of Darkness*, 1968)

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

A PAUSE FOR THOUGHT: *We pause for a time of quiet reflection.*

ANTHEM: "I Believe" (Mark Miller)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for the needs of our global and local communities.

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

We Leave to Serve

* **PROVINCIAL ANTHEM:** "Ode to Newfoundland"

**When sunrays crown thy pine-clad hills
and summer spreads her hand.
When silvern voices tune thy rills
we love thee smiling land.
We love thee, we love thee,
we love thee smiling land.**

**As loved our fathers, so we love
where once they stood, we stand.
Their prayer we raise to heav'n above,
God guard thee Newfoundland.
God guard thee, God guard thee
God guard thee Newfoundland.**

* **BENEDICTION:** "Blessing for Peace" by John O'Donohue

SENDING FORTH

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

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[@StJamesUCNL](#) [@stjamesuc](#)

Life and Work – June 29, 2025

Rev. James on holiday: Rev James will be on holiday from July 1 to July 18. In that time, Rev. Robert Tuck will be leading worship on July 6 and July 13. Rev. Kathy Brett will cover any pastoral emergencies from July 1 to July 14 with Rev. Bill Mercer covering for July 15 to 18. Please contact the office for their respective phone numbers and emails.

Office Closure: The church office will be closed next week on Tuesday, July 1st for the Canada Day holiday. The office will reopen on Wednesday morning as usual.

Summer Pause: Now that the warm weather has arrived we are on a break from a number of worship services and programs. There will not be Taize, Tapestry, InsideOUT, Pub Theology and Bible Study for July and August, each starting up again in September. The Silent Vigil for Peace and Justice will only be paused while Rev. James is away, scheduled to begin again at 5:30 pm on August 9. Wild Light Spiritual Oasis continues through the summer. The next gathering will be on July 27 at 3 pm, beginning in the Fluvarium parking lot.

Pride Worship Service, Parade and Festival: It is time to show our pride on July 20. There are a number of ways to do so this year.

1. Pride Worship Services 10 am at Gower Street United Church and 11 am at St. James United Church.
2. Pride Parade: The parade begins at 12 noon. Join our contingent from St. James as part of a larger joint parade entry of United Churches in Metro St. John's. Participants begin gathering at 10:30 am on New Gower Street out front of the City Hall, or watch along the route.
3. Pride in the Park: After the parade, there is a festival in the park. Come to Bannerman park for the festivities. Drop by our table where we will be promoting Affirming United Churches as well as InsideOUT. Contact Rev. James if you would like to help with the table.

2025 Memorial Services:

The dates for the Memorial Services are as follows:

Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Hamilton Avenue Extension

Monday, July 7, 2025 at 7 P.M.

General Protestant Cemetery, Topsail Road

Monday, July 21, 2025 at 7 P.M.

Memorial Gardens Cemetery, 25 Beaumont Hamel Way

Monday, July 28, 2025 at 7 P.M.

Please note:

In the event of inclement weather, the services will move ahead to 7 P.M. the next evening.