

St. James United Church:

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.

Islington United Church:

We are a community that doesn't think the same, vote the same or love the same, but we are trying our best to follow in the way of Jesus – the dark-skinned peacemaker who risked everything for love.

We do this with a spirit of hospitality in the interest of building community with both compassion and hope.

Today's festival includes hymns that span the past 100 years of the United Church of Canada's musical tradition. While some of the earlier selections contain language that does not align with our present-day commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, we have chosen to present them in their original form. This decision is made with respect to the composers and in recognition of the historical breadth of our hymnary. By doing so, we honour the full arc of our musical heritage, even as we remain mindful of the ways in which our values have evolved—and continue to evolve—in our journey toward justice and compassion.

100th Anniversary Hymn Festival

Sunday, June 29th 3:30 PM



100th Anniversary Hymn Festival

St. James United Director of Music: Amy Dalziel
St. James United Associate Director of Music: Robert Rose
Islington United Director of Music: Jason Locke
Islington United Piano Accompanist: Marjorie Wiens
Soloists: Darrin Martin, Jennifer Taverner

MUSICAL PRELUDE

OPENING WORDS – Rev. James Ravenscroft

HYMN: “We Gather as Christ’s Body” (Then Let Us Sing) –
words printed in the bulletin

HYMN: “Praise My Soul, the God of Heaven” (*Voices United 240*)

HYMN: “Let Us Build a House” (*More Voices 1*)

SOLO - Darrin Martin, tenor: “It is Well with My Soul”

ANTHEM - St. James United Church Senior Choir: “River in
Judea” (*Linda Marcus & Jack Feldman, arr. John Leavitt*)

HYMN: “Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart” (*Voices United
378 - vs. 1, 3, 4 – congregation, vs. 2 - soloist*)

ANTHEM: - Combined Choir: “What a Friend We Have in
Jesus” (*arr. Jack Schrader*)

HYMN: Blessed Assurance (*Voices United 337*)

ANTHEM - Islington United Senior Choir: “Roll Down Justice”
(*Mark A. Miller*)

HYMN: “Draw the Circle Wide” (*More Voices 145*)

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: “The Old 100th” (*arr. Ralph Vaughan
Williams*) – *words printed in the bulletin*

HYMN: “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer” (*Voices United 651*)

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Land Acknowledgement:

We respectfully acknowledge the land on which we work as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, whose culture has been lost forever and can never be recovered. We also acknowledge the island of Ktaqmkuk (Newfoundland) as the unceded, traditional territory of the Beothuk and the Mi'kmaq. And we acknowledge Labrador as the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Innu of Nitassinan, the Inuit of Nunatsiavut, and the Inuit of NunatuKavut. We recognize all First Peoples who were here before us, those who live with us now, and the seven generations to come. As First Peoples have done since time immemorial, we strive to be responsible stewards of the land and to respect the cultures, ceremonies, and traditions of all who call it home. As we open our hearts and minds to the past, we commit ourselves to working in a spirit of truth and reconciliation to make a better future for all." (*borrowed from First Light with appreciation*)

“We Gather As Christ’s Body”

1. We gather as Christ’s body and lift our hearts anew.
The Spirit is among us, at work in all we do.
And God, the One we worship, shows tender loving care:
inviting life-abundant with siblings everywhere.
No sorrow can confine us, no power can destroy
our hopeful trust to guide us, our songs of faith and joy.
2. In times when we are sep’rate and distance feels a strain
We turn toward Creator who reassures again:
Though sadness may befall us, what trial can assail?
Can sickness separate us? Can fear or death derail?
No! Nothing can divide us, not height or depth or space,
from God our watchful parent, who folds us in embrace.
3. Though even when we’re silenced, our hearts uplift in praise
For love that’s ever-seeking; for love that ever-stays.
We bring this promise with us: God’s presence is at hand
when loneliness is crushing, when we don’t understand.
Our trust makes ways of knowing; in weakness we are strong;
our faith becomes our courage, God’s love becomes our song.

“The Old 100th”

1. All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
Come ye before him, and rejoice.
2. The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.
3. Choir verse
4. For why? The Lord our God is good;
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.
5. To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heaven and earth adore,
From men and from the angel host
Be praise and glory evermore.
Amen.