



St. James United Church



Belong • Grow • Serve

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

Celebration of Worship for July 6, 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.

July 6, 2025 – Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

Leading Worship and Music: Rev. Guy Matthews,
Amy Dalziel, and Becca-Ann Bartlett
Ushers: Judy Molyneux, Brad Hollett, 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

PRELUDE

WELCOME; ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

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

*** SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

No matter who you are, where you come from, how you come to be here, what you believe or what you are questioning, you are welcome in fullness.

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

HYMN: "Come and Find the Quiet Centre" (*Voices United* 374)

CALL TO WORSHIP

When it seems that only darkness surrounds us, there is still light.

When we have an overwhelming sense of blindness, we will be given sight.

Our God sees our struggles and extends healing love to us.

May we be open to the light of Jesus' love, breaking through our blindness and filling our world with joy.

All: Singing verse 1 of "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

We come so that the bonds that trap us in darkness may be torn away...
that all our fears would be wiped away and we may boldly proclaim God's Love.

We seek the courage to stand for what we have come to believe is true.
We seek the wisdom to stand by others in their struggles and their searching.

All: Singing verse 2 of "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

By God's wide mercy, be opened to leave here Transformed.

And Reformed in our souls.

Seek a new day in the kingdom of God.

We seek a new way of serving God with great joy.

All: singing verse 3 of "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

OPENING PRAYER

God, our Healer,

give us the courage of blind Bartimaeus,

to cry out to you when we are in need;

give us the wisdom of Job,

to know when we have overreached and our cause is lost;

give us the confidence of the Psalmist, to sing your praises

and magnify your name.

Grant us the wisdom, O God,

to seek from you what is of real value – what will truly make us well,

what will truly make us whole, what will truly bring us joy. Amen.

We Share in Love

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 upon request.*



* **HYMN:** "Amazing Grace" v. 1,3 & 4) (*Voices United 266*)

1. Amazing grace, How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4. The Lord has promised good to me,
this word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

*** PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

Mighty God,
you restore sight to the blind
and bounty to the afflicted;
you provide refuge for the lost
and freedom for the condemned.

**Open our mouths to cry out our need
and open our hearts to give from our abundance,
in Jesus' name we offer this prayer. Amen!**

We Listen and Respond

LEARNING TOGETHER

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

*** HYMN:** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" (*Voices United 271*)

READINGS: *At the end of each reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*
Job 42:1-6, 10-17, Psalm 34 VU page 761 (*Tune of Kreutz*)

HYMN: "I, the Lord, of Sea and Sky" (*Voices United 509*)

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

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

SOLO: “As the Deer”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: *We pray for the needs of our global and local communities.*

PRAYER OF JESUS (Voices United p. 921)

We Leave to Serve

* **HYMN:** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” (*Voices United 264*)

* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

POSTLUDE: *Please remain seated during the 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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Life and Work – July 6, 2025

We offer our sincere condolences to the family of Cecil Templeman, who passed away yesterday, Thursday, July 3, 2025. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time. Cecil was a long time member of St. James and was very involved in our church before his move to Calgary. Obituary details will follow once they become available.

Huge Thank you: To all who helped with this past Sunday's service, Luncheon and Hymn Festival. We certainly appreciated all the help of: the set up and take down, the running of the luncheon and the kitchen, the many people who supplied food and sweets of many varieties, the ushers and greeters for all. We certainly had a wonderful time with our visitors from Islington United Church and they were very thankful for our hospitality. All left over food, (three trays of sandwiches, three trays of cookies and some apples), was delivered to Emmanuel House and they were very appreciative for the donation. We are truly proud of our choir and the visiting choir for the wonderful festival they provided for us. Proceeds collected from the good will offering are going to the church general fund. Many hands make for a wonderful experience for all. Huge thanks from the Choir, Amy, Bob and myself - Susan Pike

Rev. James on holiday: Rev James is away 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.

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.