



St. James United Church

Belong Grow Serve



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

Celebration of Worship for August 31, 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.

August 31, 2025, Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Leading Worship and Music: Rev. James Ravenscroft,
Amy Dalziel and Jean Rose
Ushers: Damien Betts, Sasha Betts, 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 AND LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE

We gather in love, greeting each other in Inuktitut, French and Pashtun.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

We acknowledge the land, Indigenous people, and commit to full inclusion.

*** SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

CALL TO WORSHIP (*inspired by Psalm 71:1-6*)

We come together, finding holy refuge in God and one another.
Through God's grace, we are held in love and made whole.
We seek protection in a world where often things go wrong,
And where injustice and cruelty seem to be rewarded.
And yet God is still our hope, the one in whom we trust.
In bad times and good, we can count on God's strength.

OPENING PRAYER

Divine Shelter,
in you we find comfort and peace,
in your grace find the assurance that love does find a way.
Lead us in this way, into your faithful living,
that your promises may unfold in us,
and the light of your saving justice dawn in our world.
We pray in the name of Jesus, our brother and guide. Amen.

HYMN: “God of the Bible” (*More Voices 28*)

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:** “Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow” (*VU 541*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God
all creatures high and low; give thanks to God in love
made known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.**

* **PRAYER OF GRATITUDE AND GRACE**

We Listen and Respond

LEARNING TOGETHER

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

* **HYMN:** "Take Time to Be Holy" (*Voices United* 672)

READINGS: *At the end of each reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*

Jeremiah 1:4-10; and Luke 13:10-17

* **HYMN:** "Healer of Our Every Ill" (*Voices United* 619)

READING: *At the end of the reading please say, "Thanks be to God"*

Excerpt from Valarie Kaur, *See No Stranger: A Memoir and Manifesto of Revolutionary Love*. Publisher is One World, 2020.

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

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

SOLO: "I Surrender All"

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:** "Go Forth for God" (*Voices United* 418)

* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

May Christ who comes to heal and set free, fill you with hope;

and the blessing of God - Abba, Christ, and Spirit –
be with you now, and remain with you always. **Amen.**
Go in that blessing to serve in love and to walk humbly with
God. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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
Co Music Director:	Amy Dalziel
Co Music Director:	Bob Rose
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Office Administrator:	Stephanie Harnum
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor

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