



**St. James United Church**

Belong • Grow • Serve



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

## **Celebration of Worship for September 14, 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.

This bulletin is dedicated to Joan (Granter) and Douglas L. Burse on the celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary on August 16th. They were married in 1965.

## Sept. 14, 2025, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in the Season of Creation

Leading Worship and Music: Rev. James Ravenscroft,  
Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose, Jean Rose and John Austin.  
Ushers: Bill Pike, Cindy Pike, Marilyn Adams,  
Jean Thompson, and Susan Pike

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*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 Mi'kmawi'simk, French & Bangla.*

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

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

#### \* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

**INTROIT:** "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" (VU 400)

#### RESPONSIVE OPENING PRAYER

*(Adapted "Canticle of the Sun," attributed to St. Francis of Assisi)*

All praise to you, O Most High, all glory, honour and blessings.  
**To you alone belongs all manner of thanksgiving and praise.** We  
praise you for all creatures, especially for Brother Sun,  
thru whom you give us light, in splendour bearing your likeness.  
**We praise you for Sister Moon and the stars,**  
**in the heavens you set them to shine, precious and fair.**  
We praise you for Brothers Wind and Air, both fair and stormy,

all weather's moods by which you cherish all that you made.  
**And praise you for Sister Water, so humble, precious & pure.** We  
praise you for Brother Fire, bright, playful, robust and strong.  
**And we praise you for Sister Earth, our Mother who sustains us, who  
gifts us with varied fruits, flowers and herbs.**  
We praise you God, for all that you have made.  
**We thank you and pledge to you with all humility. Amen.**

**HYMN:** "Called by Earth and Sky" (*More Voices* 135)

### **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](http://www.stjamesuc.org)), e-transfer (email [treasurer@stjamesuc.org](mailto: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:** "For the Gift of Creation" (*Voices United* 538)

**For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,  
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,  
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.  
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts which we give.**

\* **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:** "This Is God's Wondrous World" (*Voices United* 296)

**READINGS:** *At the end of each reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*  
Jeremiah 4:11-12 and 22-28; and Luke 15:1-10 (*Read in Isoko*)

\* **HYMN:** “The Ninety and Nine” (*E. C. Clephane; I.D. Sankey*)

**READING:** *At the end of the reading please say, “Thanks be to God.”*  
Andrea Skevington, “Holy Ground, barefoot”

**ANTHEM:** “My Lord, What a Morning” (*VU 708*) - Spiritual

## **REFLECTION ON THE READINGS**

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

## **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:** “Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing to Your Praise” (*VU 223*)

## \* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

Go in the blessing of God whose abundant loves hold all creation, in the companionship of Christ who encourages us in God’s way, in the power of the Spirit who draws us deeper into God’s kin-dom. Go and tend the earth, bringing forth the fruits of righteousness.

**We go in the love of Christ. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**POSTLUDE:** *Please remain seated during the postlude.*

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### **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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