



St. James United Church



Belong • Grow • Serve

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

Celebration of Worship for October 12, 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 cherished parents
Roma and Eric Paul
Forever grateful for their love, guidance and support.
From Nancy and Anthony Paul

**October 12, 2025, Thanksgiving Sunday shared in celebration with
St. John's Methodist Church**

Leading Worship and Music: Rev. James Ravenscroft,
Barbara Butt, Samuel Amoako, Henry Oppong Arthur,
Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose, and the Senior Choir
Ushers: Members of each congregation

*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 SCRIPTURE SENTENCES (Psalm 133:1)

We gather in love and greet each other in Mi'kmawi'simk, French and Twi.

LIGHTING OF CANDLE AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

INTROIT: "Now Thank We All Our God"

CALL TO WORSHIP

In hills resplendent with colour and fields producing abundance:

We see the beauty and generosity of God!

In tables laden with food and the people labouring to prepare it:

We savour the loving goodness of Christ!

In the community gathered here and in countless homes:

We experience the unifying grace of the Holy Spirit!

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, **from you comes all that we experience,
every aspect of creation is a sign of your goodness.**

And so we give thanks, not only for your gift of creation,

but for each person here, each person in our lives,
every face and smile a reflection of your abundant love.
Be with us as we gather on this day, your Spirit moving
as we express our gratitude for your grace, are nurtured in
our shared relationships, as we sing praise for the constant presence
of your redeeming love made known in Jesus.
We pray with hearts full of thanksgiving. Amen.

HYMN: “Every Day is a Day of Thanksgiving” (*More Voices* 185)

* **SHARING THE PEACE** (*in the style of St. John’s Methodist Church*)

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:** “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 that 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:** “We Plough the Fields” (*Voices United* 520)

PRAYER FOR HEALING AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

READINGS: *At the end of each reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*
Deuteronomy 26:1-11; and Philippians 4:4-9 (read in Twi)

THE TE DEUM (*sung by members of St. John's Methodist Church*)

READING: *At the end of the reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*
The Gospel according to Luke 17:11-19

ANTHEM: "What a Friend" by Jack Schrader

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

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

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Voices United p. 918*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, PRAYER OF JESUS (*VU p. 921*)

We Leave to Serve

* **HYMN:** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" (*Voices United 333*)

* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

Go in the blessing of God whose abundant care holds all creation,
in the companionship of Christ who binds us together in love,
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.*

St. James United Church

Chair of the Church Board:	Pamela Norman
Minister:	Rev. James Ravenscroft
Minister Emeritus:	Rev. Dr. Donovan Brown
Co-Directors of Music:	Amy Dalziel and Bob Rose
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Office Administrator:	Stephanie Harnum
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor

Office: 722-1881, x200; Email: info@stjamesuc.org;
Emergency Cellphone: 709-351-0983; Website: www.stjamesuc.org

 @StJamesUCNL  @stjamesuc

WiFi: StJamesGuest WiFi Password: StJamesUC

Life and Work – October 12, 2025

Office Closure: The church office will be closed on Tuesday, October 14th to observe the Thanksgiving holiday. The office will reopen Wednesday morning as usual.

Rev. James' Study Time: Over the next month, Rev. James will be taking an extra day or two each week to work on a major paper. This is a comprehensive paper he is writing as part of his doctoral program. He will be around to prepare and lead the service, as well as for pastoral emergencies.

After Worship Bible Study: Beginning on Sunday, October 19, Rev. James will lead a Bible study each Sunday after the coffee time. This will be a chance to explore the lectionary readings in more detail. Gather in the library 30 minutes after worship for an hour-long study.

Pub Theology Reminder: Thursday, October 16 at 7 pm at Guv'nor Pub. A time to explore questions of faith, spirituality and ethics over a beverage. No question is too big or too small. See you there

Sunday, October 19th Soup Luncheon: We are looking for donations of soup or casserole dishes, sweets and dinner rolls. Please reach out to any of the team members on what you want to contribute. Thank you, Your support is greatly appreciated!

Looking for a new name: Now that our quarterly newsletter is principally an online only publication, it feels apt that we give it a new name. Please send in your suggestions to info@stjamesuc.org and then we will have a vote.

AOTS Fish Dinner:



* Tickets are available from any member of the AOTS Men's Club or Aubrey Hill - 709-726-8306 *

Harvest Afternoon Tea & Bake Sale: Saturday, November 8th 2-4 pm
Tickets \$10 and available at the church office 709-722-1881 and at the door.

St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue

Harvest Tea & Bake Stall



St. James Auditorium
Saturday, Nov 8, 2025



Time: 2 – 4 pm Cost: \$10.00

Thanksgiving Envelopes: Due to the Canada post strike, we are unable to mail out the Thanksgiving envelopes. However, you can pick up one at the church office during office hours or during the Sunday worship. You can also put your contribution in a blank envelope and mark Thanksgiving on it. You can then drop it off to the church any time and place it in our secure lock box to the right of the main office entrance or bring it to church on Sunday morning. You can also send an e-transfer to treasurer@stjamesuc.org or use the donate button on the church's website.

Trunk or Treat – Sunday, October 26th 2:30PM: We are hosting our Trunk or Treat again this year and are asking for your help. It would be greatly appreciated if you could donate some treats towards this event. If you cannot get out to shop, monetary donations are also welcome and we will buy what we need. Volunteers are also needed to give the treats out on the day of the event. If you don't have a car but would still like to participate, we can buddy you up with another volunteer. Please let the office know if you would need to be partnered with a buddy so we can have it prearranged. Thank you!



Trunk Or Treat

We're back and ready
for another day of fun!

Sunday, October 26, 2025

2:30 — 4:00 pm
(or until shelled out,
whichever comes first)

St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue

No costume required

Hope to see you all
there!!!