



St. James United Church



Belong • Grow • Serve

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

Celebration of Worship for October 5, 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.

Oct. 5, 2025, World Communion Sunday

Leading Worship and Music: Rev. James Ravenscroft, Sheilah Beckett,
Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose, and the Senior Choir.

Ushers: Ovie Attamako, Edionhon O. Wisdom, Theresa Roberts-
Morrissett, Marilyn Adams and Jean Thompson,

*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 Innu-aimun, French & Tagalog.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP

* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

INTROIT: “We Come Now to Your Table Lord” (MV 192)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Today we gather around God's table from near and far.

We pray together as the People of God!

We differ in language, custom, identity and tradition.

And yet we are one family, all siblings in Christ!

We are joined together in one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

We are united in love, one in the Holy Spirit.

Come, let us worship as one people in God's grace!

OPENING PRAYER

We praise you, Gracious God as we gather in the name of Jesus.

**He prayed that we would be one and we seek to be just that,
even as we confess the all too present reality of division.**

**We are growing in your love, your presence healing hearts,
and reconnecting communities through the power of your grace.
Continue to be present here in this place and as you send us out,**

called to embody your kin-dom of justice, of mercy, of peace. We pray in Jesus who enables us to live in your love. Amen.

HYMN: “Many Are the Lightbeams” (*Voices United 588*)

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 which we give.**

* **PRAYER OF GRATITUDE AND GRACE**

We Listen and Respond

* **HYMN:** “For the Beauty of the Earth” (*Voices United 226*)

READINGS: *At the end of each reading please say, “Thanks be to God.”*
Lamentations 1:1-6; and Luke 17:5-10

ANTHEM: “In Remembrance” – (Buryl Red)

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

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

* **HYMN:** One Bread, One Body” (*Voices United 467*)

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

We come to this table from around the world, united in Christ,
joined as his siblings, a family both grateful and graced.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (adapted from a Eucharistic Prayer in *Prayers for an Inclusive Church*)

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Open your hearts. **We open them to God.**

Let us give thanks. **It is good to give God thanks and praise**

We praise you, singing One, shining One, loving and breathing One, for all you have made is gift. In the majesty of the ocean and hidden life of our kin of the sea; in the unseen currents of the air and soaring life of our kin of the sky; in the fertile depths of the earth and sensuous life of our kin both in and upon the soil; in the mystery of all we see your face, your breath, and your touch.

We thank you for your Spirit's breath on the face of the waters, loving chaos into integrity; we thank you for your Word made flesh loving heaven and earth into communion; we thank you for your constant, goading presence, nurturing your reign into being.

With all that lives and breathes, with all that is more than human, we sing the symphony of your love in the communion of creation:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your light. Glory to you our God. Blessed is he, blessed are we, blessed are all who come. Hosannas ring, archangels sing. Blessed are all who come.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your light. Glory to you our God.

We ask you to enliven your Spirit in us and these gifts that these earthly things may be to us the nurturing presence of Jesus Christ, who, on the night he was betrayed, gathered with friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Calling them to table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: 'This is my body, which is given for you.' In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my lifeblood. Whenever you eat, whenever you drink, whenever you share at table, do so in memory of me.'

As on that night, so here and now Christ offers himself in touch and taste, a gift beyond all that words can hold, a mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is ris'n, Christ will come again.

Therefore, we come to him in whom all is created in heaven and on earth, whose cross and resurrection make all things new. We offer this to you, asking you to smile upon the gift we bring, for you alone are the Giver, and Christ is the gift through which we live, once and for all. Through him who was emptied to bear your fullness we make our prayer with all created life to the glory of the God who fills all in all, now and for ever.
Amen, amen, alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen.

THE PRAYER OF JESUS (*Voices United*, p. 921)

SHARING IN COMMUNION

As God gave us golden fields of wheat, whose many grains have been made into this one bread, and vines laden with fruit whose juice has been mingled together into sweet wine,
so may the church be gathered from the ends of the earth and joined together in God's loving kin-dom.

Everyone is welcome to share communion – all ages, beliefs, identities and life experiences. Come to the front to receive the bread and grape juice (in a glass). Please tell us if you need gluten free. If you prefer a blessing, cross your arms over your chest to indicate as much. If you are unable to come forward, someone will bring communion to you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One, may we who have broken bread in this sacrament of new creation hallow this world of matter and life and share its gifts with reverence, joy and compassion. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

We Leave to Serve

* **HYMN:** "O for a World" (*Voices United* 697)

* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

Go in the blessing of God whose abundant loves hold all creation, in the fellowship of Christ who encourages us in his loving 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.*

All worship services at St. James are Live Streamed via video for our online congregation. By participating in this service, you acknowledge that you may be visible on live broadcast or archived video. If you are uncomfortable about the possibility of appearing on video, please speak to an usher who can seat you in an area not visible on camera. You may also speak to Rev. James after the service if you have concerns. All music and lyrics, not in the public domain, are reproduced/ broadcast under ONE LICENSE. License #: #A-700000

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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 [@StJamesUCNL](https://www.facebook.com/StJamesUCNL)  [@stjamesuc](https://www.instagram.com/stjamesuc)

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Life and Work – October 5, 2025

We offer our sincere condolences to the Giang Family on the passing of the patriarch of the family, Mr. Thanh Giang, who passed away on Sunday, September 28th in Markham, Ontario. He was 89. He leaves to mourn, his wife, Chanh Long, their 4 children, Cathy, Billy, Melissa and Pamela, and their spouses; 9 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. St. James had sponsored the family into Canada in 1980. Condolences may be sent online to Chapel Ridge Funeral Home, Markham, Ontario.

Communion this Sunday: For anyone who is joining in worship from home in real time this Sunday, we are sharing the sacrament of communion. Be sure to have some bread and grape juice or another food and drink option so that you can share in the sacrament with everyone else.

Tapestry - Saturday, October 4 @ 5:30PM: Beginning with a potluck at 5:30 pm, this service celebrates the strands that make us who we are in terms of faith, experience, and identity.

InsideOUT LGBTQIA+ Spirituality Gathering - Sunday, October 5, 2025:

InsideOUT is an LGBTQIA+ an opportunity to explore the intersection between queerness and spirituality. Held in the Quadrangle Outreach Room at 7:30PM

Big thanks to everyone who stepped in last Sunday while I (Linda) was away to make sure coffee time went ahead. To Barbara Butt, who led the charge and to all others who helped with setting up, clearing away and clean up, and all those who brought food. It does indeed take a village.

AOTS Fish Dinner:



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

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.

The Autumn Visitor is here!!

The Visitor is now completely online, so please visit the church website at www.stjamesuc.org

If you would like a paper copy, please contact the office.

Thank you to all who contributed.

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.

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!!!**