

St. James United Church



1958-2025
Celebrating 67 Years!!

Bulletin Dedication:

James Alan Beckett

(Dec. 25, 1940 - Nov. 17, 2021)

From Wife Sheilah, Son David, Daughter-in-law Tina
and Precious Granddaughter Kayleigh

"A life that touches others goes on forever"

November 16, 2025, Anniversary Sunday

Leading worship: Rev. James Ravenscroft,
Brad Hollett, Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose, and Senior Choir
Ushering: Gerry and Kim Mayo, Marilyn Adams,
Jean Thompson and Susan Pike

*Please rise as you are able where there is an * in the service.
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 and Twi.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SHARING OF PEACE

INTROIT: "How Sacred Is This Place" (*Voices United 392*)

RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE SENTENCES (*Psalm 118:1-2*)

O give thanks to God for God is good,

God's steadfast love endures forever.

God's faithful love endures from age to age.

OPENING PRAYER

O God of every age and generation,

we gather in celebration of our 67th year as a congregation.

**This is a time for us to ponder what it means to be church,
not just in past years together but as we look to the future
and to where you are calling us in hope and in faith.**

**Animate us with your love as we sing and pray together,
that we may follow Christ, your Incarnate Word into the promise of
your reign. In his name, we pray. Amen**

*** HYMN: “For All the Ways”** (words, Jim Burklo, tune *Sine Nomine*)

**For all the ways we help each other grow
as we share stories, moments high and low,
the face of Christ among us now will show.
We sing hallelujah, hallelujah.**

**For all the people that our church holds dear,
for every precious memory made here,**

**for those we serve in love, both far and near.
We sing hallelujah, hallelujah.**

**For times when silence is the truest word,
or when the prophet’s thund’ring voice is heard,
for tears and laughter that our church has stirred,
we sing hallelujah, hallelujah.**

**In all our struggles, God will lead us through,
and give us strength to do what we must do,
to gain the peace and justice we pursue,
we sing hallelujah, hallelujah.**

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:** “In Gratitude & Humble Trust” (VU 544)

In gratitude and humble trust, we bring our best today to serve your cause and share your love with all along life’s way. O God, you give yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son, teach us to give ourselves each day until life’s work is done.

* **PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

We Listen and Respond

HONOURING TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

We pause to remember those killed because of their gender expression or identity and all others who have experienced hurt and persecution.

We light candles, concluding the ritual with the following words:

Their light comes from the eternal light. It will not be put out. May all be free to shine as who they are both inside and out.

* **HYMN:** “Spirit, Open My Heart” (*More Voices 79, verse 3*)

PRAYER FOR HEALING

Living God, you are always with us, guiding us through the wisdom of your Holy Spirit, in the companionship of Christ. We thank you for the many ways you have been with us over the years, there as a loving parent enabling us to grow in love. As we mark this anniversary, we are conscious too that when we cling to our past, we can block your creative power in the present, and into the future. Forgive this. Forgive too times in our history we have not loved each other, or contributed to suffering in our community. Heal the wounds of the past, lifting all that weighs us down and prevents us from living the abundant life you promised. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

READINGS: *At the end of each reading please say, “Thanks be to God.”* Isaiah 65:17-25; and Luke 21:5-19

* **HYMN:** “O God Our Help in Ages Past” (*Voices United p. 806*)

READING: *At the end of the reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*
Excerpt from Henri Nouwen, *Can You Drink the Cup?* (1996)

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

ANTHEM: "With a Voice of Singing" (*Martin Shaw*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for the needs of our global and local communities.

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

We Leave to Serve

* **HYMN:** "Rise Up, O Saints of God"

**Rise up, O saints of God! Have done with lesser things;
give heart and soul and mind and strength
to serve the King of kings.**

**Rise up, O saints of God! The kingdom tarries long;
bring in the day of Christlike love
and end the night of wrong.**

**Lift high the cross of Christ! Tread where his feet have trod;
led onward by the Son of Man,
rise up, O saints of God!**

* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

As we go forth from here may we be:

strong in spirit, courageous in will, and gentle of heart.

Each day may our actions be:

rooted in wisdom, nurtured by hope and open to love.

May we meet others as we would wish to be met:

with a heart of compassion, in a spirit of healing,

and grounded in joy.

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. All music and lyrics, not in the public domain, are reproduced/ broadcast under ONE LICENSE. **License #: #A-700000.**

Life and Work – November 16, 2025

Our AED Machines:

We now have TWO AED machines in the building. One in the side porch by the offices and one at the back of the auditorium. The one by the office is now an AUTOMATIC machine and the one in the auditorium is a SEMIAUTOMATIC machine.

We hope we never have to use them but we're glad we have them.

If you have any questions regarding these machines please contact Susan.

Susan Pike: susanpike@warp.nfld.net // 709-685-5613

After Worship Bible Study: 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.

Worship Service Readers: If there is anyone that is interested in helping out during Sunday worship services by doing readings, please contact Barry Cutler at (709) 685-9030 or by email at newfie_1_ca@yahoo.ca. Thank you

St. James fundraising committee extends sincere gratitude to everyone who supported the Harvest Afternoon Tea & Sale.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time, talent, donations of baked goods, sandwiches, and cookies. Thank you to Linda, Vickie and Krista who donated a beautiful Christmas Themed basket raising a little over \$400. Thanks to those who generously contributed financially, we couldn't have done it without you.

Sunday luncheon, November 16th will consist of sandwiches, sweets, fruit/veggie tray, crackers & Cheese. Donations are greatly appreciated. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule, or you can reach out to any team member, Sheilah, Catherine, Linda or Barbara.

Christmas Decorating:

Come one, come all!

Young or old!

Tall or small!

Many hands make for light work.

We will be meeting on Monday, November 24th @10:00 am. Please join us to help prepare for the Advent Season. Light refreshments will be provided. If you can be available that morning please let Marilyn or Susan know.

Upcoming Newsletter: We are seeking submissions for the upcoming Advent-Christmas edition of the soon to be renamed "Visitor." If you have a news item, committee update, interest story that you would like to share, please email it to info@stjamesuc.org by November 16

AOTS: This is a reminder of the next dinner meeting 12:30 for 1:00pm start on Wednesday, November 19. Our guest speaker will be Vern Whalen telling the story of the "loss of the Water witch"

Audio-visual Technician - Volunteer position: Interested in Technology and need your volunteer hours topped up? This could be the volunteer position for you!!

The Audio-Visual Technician is responsible for the operation of the audio systems for worship services at St. James United Church. Candidate would be responsible for preparing the audio systems 1 hour prior to all services, sound checks, preparing the projector, loading and operation of the power point, and assistance to the livestream technician if needed. Training on our systems will be provided.

If you or someone you know is interested please send along a resume to Susan Pike, Chair, Worship & Sacraments Committee by November 5th to susanpike@warp.nfld.net

St. James United 67th Anniversary Celebrations:

Friday, November 21, 2025. Tickets can be purchased at the church office during office hours, by E-transfer at treasurer@stjamesuc.org or by Paypal. Also, tickets can be purchased from Jean Thompson (709) 728-5048 and Aubrey Hill (709) 726-8306

The deadline to get your tickets is November 17th. For additional information please contact the church office at: info@stjamesuc.org

Donations for the treat walk and silent auction would be greatly appreciated! They can be dropped off to the church office up to November 20th.



St. James United

67th

Anniversary

Celebrations

TREAT WALK / DINNER / SILENT AUCTION

Friday, November 21, 2025
Starts at 6pm
Tickets \$25



Blue Christmas Service: Tuesday, December 16 at 7 pm.

A reflective service for those who need extra support or feel blue during the holidays, especially because of a recent death, illness, break up or any other loss.

**St. James United
Church Presents**

Blue Christmas Service

December 16, 2025

7:00pm

**330 Elizabeth Avenue,
St. James United Church**





THE GREAT CHRISTMAS VISIT



The Advent-Christmas season is a great time to connect with loved ones as we share with each other the hope made real in the birth of Jesus. While we visit family and friends, our hearts go out to people who may feel isolated or lonely at this time, especially members of St. James United Church who have trouble getting around or just having a harder time this year.

So...we invite you to take part in our **“Great Christmas Visit”!**

Simply sign up and you will be linked with one of our more senior members. Visit with them at some point between December 1, 2025 and January 6, 2026, extending to them the care of this faith community. Full instructions will be given to help you share this important ministry.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

In addition, if you know someone who would appreciate a visit, please list their name and contact information below.

Name of Person(s) to be visited: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

**Thank you for sharing your gift of time
this Advent-Christmas!**