



**St. James United Church**



Belong • Grow • Serve

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

**Celebration of Worship: December 24, 2025, 4:30PM**



**December 24, 2025, 4:30 P.M.  
Christmas Eve Family Service**

Leading: Rev. James Ravenscroft, Amy Dalziel, Andie Winsor,  
Becca Bartlett, Jessica Dwyer and Grace Parmiter.  
Ushers: Damien Betts, Sasha Betts, Melanie Seal  
Shane Seal, Quentin Seal, Griffin Seal, Callia Seal,  
Lachlan Seal, Marilyn Adams, Jean Thompson

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**We Come to Worship**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME; ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP**

*We give thanks for the land and the Indigenous peoples who steward it.*

**LIGHTING OF CHRISTMAS CANDLE**

**Reader 1:** On this Christmas eve we gather with great joy! In the birth of Jesus, God draws near to us with love and understanding.

**Reader 2:** In Christ, God's grace shines upon us and within us, proclaiming that every life can be a blessing, a gift for the world.

**REFRAIN: We light this candle for Christ.**

**Await the new life within. May our hearts now live each day,  
so Christ can find a way, so Christ can find a way.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

Holy God, we come together today with grateful hearts.

**We rejoice in your coming among us through your holy child.**

**In the birth of Jesus, you join your story to our stories,  
blessing our lives by sharing in all that we experience.**

**Be with us as we pray and reflect together,  
opening our hearts to your loving grace.**

**We pray in the name of Jesus, your Emmanuel. Amen.**

**CAROL: "O Come All Ye Faithful" (Voices United 60, v. 1, 3-5)**

**We Share in Love**

**OFFERTORY:** *There are many ways to give to St. James. You can place an offering in the plate, scan the QR code on the left, contribute via PAR, website ([www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)), e-transfer (email [treasurer@stjamesuc.org](mailto:treasurer@stjamesuc.org)), mail to the church office or drop in our secure mailbox. In whatever way you choose to give, the community is grateful.*



**\* HYMN:** “In the Bleak Midwinter” (*Voices United 55 v 4*)  
**What can I give him, poor as I am. If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise man I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him, give my heart.**

### **We Listen and Respond**

**READING:** Isaiah 52:7-10

### **PROCLAIMING THE CHRISTMAS STORY**

*We meet our biblical characters as we listen to the Christmas story.*

**CAROL:** “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (*Voices United 64*)

**READING:** Luke 2:1-7

**ANTHEM:** “Away in a Manger” (*author unknown*)

**READING:** Luke 2:8-20

**ANTHEM:** “Angel’s Carol” (*John Rutter*)

### **PONDERING WHERE WE ARE IN THE STORY/REFLECTION**

*Anyone who dressed up in a costume or brought an object to be added to the nativity is invited to share about who they are or what they brought.*

**CAROL:** “Silent Night” (*Voices United 67*)

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*We pray for the needs of our global and local communities, responding to the words “God, hear our prayer” with “**Praise to you, O Emmanuel.**”*

**THE PRAYER OF JESUS** (The Lord’s Prayer)

**Our Father, who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the  
power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **We Leave to Serve**

#### **BENEDICTION AND SENDING**

Rejoice! God blesses the world in the birth of Jesus, blesses each of us gathered to celebrate him! So go with love in your hearts!

**We go, blessed to share God's blessing with all of the world!**

**HYMN:** "Joy to the World" (*Voices United* 59, v.1,2,4)

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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-Directors of Music:	Amy Dalziel & Bob Rose
Technology Support:	Jake Thompson
Office Administrator:	Stephanie Harnum
Church Custodian:	Bruce Winsor

Office: 1-709-722-1881, x200; Email: [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org);  
Emergency Cellphone: 1-709-351-0983; Website: [www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)

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WiFi: StJamesGuest    WiFi Password: StJamesUC

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