



**St. James United Church**



Belong • Grow • Serve

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

### **Celebration of Worship: April 12, 2026**



The people of St. James United Church are eternal seekers who value diversity within our congregation, our 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.

## April 12, 2026: Second Sunday of Easter

Leading: Rev. James Ravenscroft, Paul Walsh,  
Owen Sinyard, Amy Dalziel and Becca-Ann Bartlett

Ushers: Grace Marcoux, Damien Betts,  
Marilyn Adams, Jean Thompson and Susan Pike

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*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

#### **WELCOME; ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP**

*We offer greetings in Mi'kmawi'simk, French and Farsi as we give thanks for the land and affirm our promise to be an inclusive community.*

\* **SHARING THE PEACE OF EASTER:** *We greet one another with signs of Christ's peace with a wave, bow, prayerful wish for blessing*

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP** (*inspired by Psalm 16*)

Come! We raise our hearts to God!

**May our souls rejoice, for we are not abandoned.**

God gives us counsel. The Risen One stands beside us!

**God reveals the path of life, their presence is sheer joy.**

In God's company we rest secure!

**Blessed is God's holy and life-giving name!**

\* **HYMN:** "The Day of Resurrection" (*Voices United 164*)

#### **OPENING PRAYER** (*in unison*)

Living God, **we give thanks for your abiding presence, accompanying us in Christ, present not only in hope and joy, but also in our doubt and despair.**

**Open our hearts to his encouraging presence, exchanging our fears for the strength to follow his way.**

**In his name, we pray. Amen.**

### We Share in Love

**OUR LIFE AND WORK:** *We share what is going on in our community.*



**OFFERTORY:** *There are many ways to support 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 church office or drop in our secure mailbox.*

**OFFERTORY:** “Hallelujah, Hallelujah” Voices United 179, v 4

**Hallelujah, hallelujah, give thanks to the risen Christ; hallelujah, hallelujah! Give praise to God’s name. Come let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Saviour; Hallelujah, hallelujah, give thanks to the risen Christ; hallelujah, hallelujah! Give praise to God’s name.**

## **PRAYER OF GRATITUDE AND GRACE**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH** (based on bible verses)

...let us offer words used by our ancestors,  
expressed in these passages from scripture:

*With the people of Israel we proclaim:*

*Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.*

**With Mary Magdalene we proclaim to Jesus:**

**“You are the Messiah, the Son of God who comes to the world.”**

With Thomas we proclaim: “My Lord and my God!”

*And with John we uphold this truth:*

*“God is love. Those who live in love, live in God  
and God lives in them. We love because God loved.”*

**May these ancient words bring wisdom to our hearts.**

## **We Listen and Respond**

### **LEARNING TOGETHER**

*We explore the theme of the day in an age-appropriate format.*

\* **HYMN:** “Praise Our Maker” (*Voices United* 316)

**READINGS:** *At the end of each reading please say, “Thanks be to God.”*

1 Peter 1:3-9 and John 20:19-29

\* **HYMN:** “O God, Whose First Creative Word” (*Voices United* 322)

**READING:** *At the end of the reading please say, “Thanks be to God.”*  
Leonard Cohen, “Anthem” (From *The Future*, released in 1992)

## **REFLECTION ON THE READINGS**

**SOLO:** “We Walk in Love”

## **TIME OF REFLECTION**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**SUNG PRAYER OF JESUS** (*Then Let Us Sing* 70)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.**

**Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth  
as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### **We Leave to Serve**

\* **HYMN:** “Christ Is Alive” (*Voices United* 158)

## **\* BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH:**

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed, Hallelujah!**

Blessed in resurrection hope, we go with hearts enlivened in joy:

**We go clothed with the promise of new life in Christ, living in the  
grace of God’s love, walking in the Spirit’s peace.**

**POSTLUDE:** *You are invited to remain seated for 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-Directors of Music:

Amy Dalziel & Bob Rose

Technology Support:  
Office Administrator:  
Church Custodian:

Jake Thompson  
Stephanie Harnum  
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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## Life and Work – April 12, 2026

**Happy 100th Birthday to Effie Parsons!!** Effie is a long time member of St. James United Church and a lifetime member of the UCW. She celebrated this milestone birthday at Tiffany Village on Wednesday, April 8th with family and friends, including her UCW friends.

**We gratefully acknowledge a donation to The Bethany Danielle Pike Memorial Camp Fund** from The Sorensen School of Dance Christmas Show proceeds.

**A thought of the week:** While you are busy doubting yourself, someone else may be admiring your strength.

### **Confirmation and Membership Classes:**

Beginning on April 16, we will be holding two sets of confirmation and membership classes, one for youth and another for adults.

- The youth confirmation sessions will be held jointly with youth from Cowan Heights United Church, 6 sessions held on Tuesdays, beginning April 16 from 3:30 to 5:00 pm
- The adult classes will be held on Sundays in place of Bible Study during the Easter Season. Contact Rev. James if you are interested.

If you are interested in learning more about Christianity as it is expressed in the United Church, or are not a member of the church but would like to be, including transferring your membership from another United Church congregation, contact Rev. James by email, [james@stjamesuc.org](mailto:james@stjamesuc.org).

**Pub Theology Reminder:** Thursday, April 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

### **AOTS Men's Club Fish Dinner:**



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

**Meditation:** Each Wednesday, 5:45-6:30 pm. Doors open at 5:30 pm. People who are new to Christian meditation are asked to come at 5:30 for a time of instruction with Rev. James. Come each week for a time of quiet meditation in the Christian tradition. Following meditation this week those who wish will practice Lectio Divina together.

**AOTS Meeting:** Our Men's Club meeting is on Wednesday, April 15 12:30 for 1:00 start. New members always welcome.

**Pub Theology Reminder:** Thursday, April 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

**Volunteer Appreciation Soup Luncheon:** Our upcoming Soup luncheon on April 19 is dedicated to our volunteers. Along with the regular donations of soup, stew or casserole, we will also share some cake! Thank you to everyone for all that you do to make St. James a special community. (If you wish to contribute, you can note it on the sign-up sheet in the foyer, or you can speak with Barbara, Catherine or Linda.)

**Join the St. James' Music Team on Saturday, April 25, from 2:00–4:00 PM in the sanctuary as we celebrate *International Pipe Organ Day*.**

The afternoon begins with an informal 20-minute recital at 2:00 PM, showcasing our wonderful pipe organ. Following the recital, everyone is invited to an open console, where members of the public can try the organ for themselves. Amy and Bob will be on hand to answer questions and share insights about this remarkable instrument. Activities will also be available for children. A freewill offering will be received at the door.

**Wild Light Spiritual Oasis:** Saturday, May 2 at 3:00 pm at Long Point (Meet at the shelter in the Fluvarium parking lot). We will take part in a meditative walk focused on nurturing our relationship with nature.

**Readers Required:** If anyone is interested in helping out during Sunday worship services by doing readings, please see the sign up sheet in the vestibule or please contact Barry Cutler at (709) 685-9030 or by email at [newfie\\_1\\_ca@yahoo.ca](mailto:newfie_1_ca@yahoo.ca). Thank you

**Lost and Found:** We have a few items that were left here at the church and placed in the lost and found. Please contact the church office if any of these items are yours at [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org)

- Blue Baseball hat that says S. Andrew Social Club Toronto, Ontario
- Grey Shawl with black tassels
- Black stocking hat with red trim that says Everest 2016
- A pair of black leather gloves with a bow on the wrist area
- Beige and Black Zebra Print Baggu baggie
- Brown and Black cheetah print reading glasses
- Silver Bangle
- Children's pink bracelet
- Red supplement king water bottle
- Metal and green water bottle
- Miller Thompson metal travel coffee mug
- Clear green water bottle

**Memorial United Church in Portugal Cove will be hosting their annual spring Newfie Brunch on Saturday April 18th from 11am-1pm.** The menu will consist of beans, bologna, toutons, scrambled eggs, toast, juice, and tea or coffee. Ticket prices are only \$15 for adults and \$7 for children under 12. There will also be a book sale, bake sale, door prizes and ticket sales. Join us for a wonderful meal and lots of fun.

**Hypnosis Kitchen Party at Pleasantville Legion:** A family friendly show titled "*Adventures with HypnoGOOB*" Will take place at Pleasantville Legion on Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Tickets are \$20 per person and will be available at the door. Immediately following the hypnosis part of the show there will be a Kitchen Party and we encourage you to bring your instruments and take part or if you prefer just come and enjoy.

**Church of the Ascension, 58 Smallwood Drive is hosting Take a Bite out of Hunger - Food Bank Benefit Concert:** On Saturday, May 2 at 7 p.m. Alex Taylor, along with musical friends Chris & Jessie Connolly and Not Fit, are hosting a concert to benefit our Food Bank here at the Ascension. Admission is \$20 at the door and there will be a 50/50 draw. It promises to be a very entertaining evening so please come out to support this wonderful cause!

## Memorial Hymn Sing: Sunday, April 26, 2026

Each year, we take time to remember our loved ones through the fellowship of song. By selecting a hymn in dedication to your loved ones, you are contributing to the life and work of our church, supporting and enhancing the various programs and activities that make St. James United Church the faith community that we love. St. James Guitar Group and our Music Director, Amy Dalziel, will provide the music.

Simply print and complete the form below or write out your requests on a sheet of paper with the required information. Drop them off with your cash or cheque payment (payable to "St. James United Church") at the office, in the secure drop-box to the right of the office entrance, or by e-mailing them to [info@stjamesuc.org](mailto:info@stjamesuc.org). Payments can also be made by e-transfer to [treasurer@stjamesuc.org](mailto:treasurer@stjamesuc.org).

*Please ensure to note "Hymn Sing" on your envelope or in the subject line online.*

**Submission deadline: Sunday, April 19, 2026**

**Hymn Selections from which to choose:**

1. **How Great Thou Art**
2. **In the Bulb There Is a Flower**
3. **I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I Am Lord)**
4. **Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore**
5. **Just a Closer Walk With Thee**
6. **Morning Has Broken**
7. **Precious Memories**
8. **The Old Rugged Cross**
9. **What a Friend We Have in Jesus**
10. **Will Your Anchor Hold**

Name(s) of Contributor: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope No. OR Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Hymn Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

**To contribute more "in memoriums", please use a separate sheet for each, clearly attributing the contributor's name to loved one's name & selected hymn no.; amount; & envelope no. or address.**