



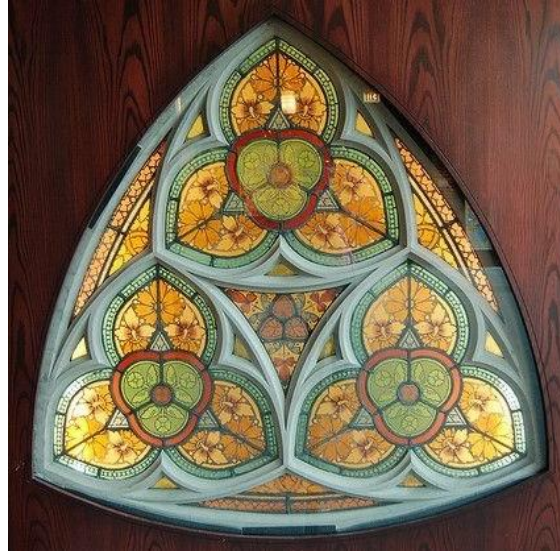
**St. James United Church**



Belong • Grow • Serve

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

### **Celebration of Worship: May 31, 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

## May 31, 2026, Trinity Sunday

Leading: Rev. James Ravenscroft, Owen Sinyard,  
Bob Rose and Jean Rose

Ushers: Bill Pike, Cindy Pike, Marilyn Adams,  
Jean Thompson and Susan Pike

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*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; ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND AND KINSHIP**

*We greet each other in Innu-aimun, French & Turkish as we acknowledge the land and local Indigenous peoples and commit to full inclusion for all.*

#### **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*We extend welcome with a wave, a bow, a prayerful wish for peace.*

**INTROIT:** "Holy Spirit, Hear Us" (VU 377, v. 1)

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(inspired by Psalm 8)*

We come together in the name of Christ, inspired by the Holy Spirit, blessed by the source of each, the One that Christ called Abba.

**We come to worship one, holy God.**

We come together as children of that one, holy God,

**Come to proclaim the wonder of God, sung in the starry skies and billowing sea, praised even from the dust of the earth.**

We come together in the name of Abba, Christ and Holy Spirit, grateful that God is mindful of us, thankful for their care.

**We come to sing their praise, how wonderful in all the earth!**

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

**O Holy One, Holy Three - we praise you as we come together!**

**We praise you for creating us, redeeming us, uplifting us, joining us with all life in the power of your abundant love.**

**Open our hearts to your presence in beloved community, that in your grace we may nurture the same in our world.**

**Blessed are you, Abba, Christ and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

\* **HYMN:** “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty” (*Voices United 315*)

### **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: place a gift in the plate, use the square in the foyer, scan the QR code on the left, donate via PAR, mail the office, go to the website ([www.stjamesuc.org](http://www.stjamesuc.org)), or e-transfer (email [treasurer@stjamesuc.org](mailto:treasurer@stjamesuc.org)) However you support St. James, the community is grateful. Tax receipts available.*



\* **OFFERTORY:** “Spirit of Life” (*Voices United 381*)

**Spirit of Life, come unto me. Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion. Blow in the wind, rise in the sea; move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice. Roots hold me close; wings set me free; Spirit of Life come to me, come to me.**

\* **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:** “Like a Rock” (*More Voices 92*)

**READINGS:** *At the end of each reading please say, “Thanks be to God.”*  
Genesis 1:1-2:4a and Matthew 28:16-20

**HYMN:** “Praise with Joy the World’s Creator” (*Voices United 312*)

**READING:** *At the end of the reading please say, “Thanks be to God.”*  
Excerpt from John Steinbeck, *Grapes of Wrath* (Chapter 28)

#### **REFLECTION ON THE READINGS**

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

**ANTHEM:** “Near to the Heart of God” (C. B. McAfee)

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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

### **We Leave to Serve**

\* **HYMN:** “Be Thou My Vision” (*Voices United* 642)

\* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH:**

The blessing of the running wave to you.

The blessing of the flowing air to you.

The blessing of the quiet earth to you.

The blessing of the shining stars to you.

The blessing of God: Abba, Christ and Spirit to you,

**and to all of creation, this day and evermore. Amen.**

**POSTLUDE:** *Please remain seated during 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:

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)

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

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

WiFi: StJamesGuest    WiFi Password: StJamesUC

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 – May 31, 2026

**A thought of the week:** Difficult roads often lead to the most beautiful destinations.

**Year End Potluck and Review, June 2, 5:30 pm:** Each year our church board hosts a retreat to reflect on the past year and prepare for the next. This year the plan is for an evening rather than a full day, beginning with a potluck meal. Committee members and anyone interested from the congregation is welcome to attend along with members of our church board as we review last year's ministry plan and consider what, if anything, to carry over into next year, along with new possibilities.

### Financial Update to April 30, 2026

Revenue:		Expenses:	
Envelopes	52,213	Repairs & Maintenance	4,345
Other Envelopes	6,103	Heat & Lights	18,827
Rentals	21,430	Insurance	19,742
Fund Raising	12,386	Cleaning	6,789
Other	<u>2,681</u>	Assessments	4,939
Total	94,813	Committees	616
		Salaries	57,405
		Other	<u>8,061</u>
		Total	120,724

We have a loss of \$25,911 for the first four months of 2026. For the same four months in 2025, we had a loss of \$15,313. The difference of \$10,598 is basically due to our envelope giving's being down. A copy of the income statement will be on the bulletin board in the vestibule or speak to the treasurer, Jean Thompson, if you have any questions.

**Taizé Prayer Service:** Wednesday, June 3 at 6:30PM. A time of readings, singing and silent reflection.

**InsideOUT LGBTQIA+ Spirituality Gathering - Sunday, June 7, 2026:** InsideOUT is an LGBTQIA+ an opportunity to explore the intersection between queerness and spirituality. Held in the Multi-Purpose Room (old Quadrangle Outreach Room) at 7:30PM

**Tapestry - Saturday, June 13:** Beginning with a potluck at 5:30. This service celebrates the strands that make us who we are in terms of faith, experience, and identity.

**Wild Light Spiritual Oasis:** Saturday, June 20 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.

**Monthly Labyrinth Walk:** Did you know we have a labyrinth? We do and it is beckoning for us to walk it. A labyrinth is a circular winding path into a centre point. Unlike a maze there is only one path, and you cannot get lost. Walking the labyrinth is an ancient prayer practice to quiet the mind and seek spiritual clarity. Throughout the summer we will have a group labyrinth walk on fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. June 24 and July 22. Meet on the lawn between the church and Paton Street.

**Faith Formation (Christian Education) Team:** Are you interested in the ongoing education and growth of every generation at St. James? Then you are just who we need as we renew our Faith Formation Team.

The role of this body is the following:

- a) discerning the educational needs of St. James and providing leadership to programs for all ages and stages of spiritual development;
- b) keeping up to date on curriculum, faith formation programs and opportunities offered and/or recommended by The United Church of Canada for various ages within the community of faith;
- c) planning for special events that are of interest to multiple generations and families;
- d) publicizing and encouraging adults to get involved in local, regional and national faith formation events and programs;
- e) providing information, leadership and assistance to youth and young adults interested in attending regional and national events such as Youth Forum, the Go Project and Rendez-vous;
- f) working collaboratively with other local United churches in leading and planning training events for those responsible for faith formation to various age groups;
- g) providing oversight for the church library; and h) having representation on joint initiatives of the United Church in Greater St. John's.

This mandate is a general guide. The members of the team can adapt it based on the current needs and strategies of the congregation.

If any of this interests you, email Rev. James (james @ [stjamesuc.org](mailto:james@stjamesuc.org)).

**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.

**Care Home Services:** Each month (except during the summer), Rev. James and various volunteers lead worship services and hymn sings at 3 different care homes. Feel free to come and worship, sing, and meet the residents, some of whom are members of St. James.

- 2nd Thursday at 2 pm - Worship with Bob Rose, UCW and AOTS at Pleasant View Towers.
- 3rd Wednesday at 3 pm - Hymn Sing with Doreen Brown at Kenny's Pond Retirement Community.
- 4th Wednesday at 3 pm - Hymn Sing with Doreen Brown at Bishops Gardens Seniors Living.
- In addition, Doreen Brown assists Rev. Rebecca on the 1st Wednesday at 3 pm at Tiffany Village.

**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.

**Join St. James' Senior Choir for a concert on Sunday, June 7 at 2:30 PM in the sanctuary.** The choir will perform a selection of favourite anthems from over the years, spanning a variety of eras, genres, and styles — from *Gloria* by Antonio Vivaldi to John Rutter's *For the Beauty of the Earth*, and much more in between. A freewill offering will be collected at the door.

**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



Accepting donations of good used household items, small appliances in working order, no books, electronics or clothing, please.

On Friday, June 5th we are available to accept your donations between the hours of 10 am to 2 pm.

Any questions please contact any member of the fundraising team: Barbara, Catherine, Linda, Barry, Randy, Clyde or Dianne.