



**St. James United Church**



Belong • Grow • Serve

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

### **Celebration of Worship: May 10, 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

In Loving Memory of a Cherished Mother  
**Roma Paul**  
From: Nancy & Anthony  
The love and joy you gave us will never be forgotten.  
You will always be our guiding light.

**May 10, 2026, Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
(Mother's Day and Asian Heritage Month)

Leading: Rev. James Ravenscroft, Judy Molyneaux,  
Betty Pilgrim, Amy Dalziel, Bob Rose and Senior Choir  
Ushers: Harvey Diamond, Paul Diamond, 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 offer greetings in Inuktitut, French and Chinese 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.*

**INTROIT:** "We Worship You, God" (VU 218, v. 2)

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*inspired by Ps. 66:8-20*)

Celebrate and sing! Give God praise!

Glorify the one who lifts us and leads us home!

**We celebrate, grateful for all that God has done.**

May the whole world bless God and sing their praise,  
for God tenderly holds us, our lives in their hands.

**We bless God whose steadfast love never fails.**

\* **HYMN:** "Maker in Whom We Live" (*Voices United 321*)

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

**Maker of all, we come together with open hearts,  
yearning for the protection of your steadfast love.  
Send your Spirit to be with us as we worship,  
that we may abide in you, drawing on your strength  
to go into the world to embody the liberating way  
of the Risen Christ, in whose name, we pray. Amen.**

## **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](http://www.stjamesuc.org)), e-transfer (email [treasurer@stjamesuc.org](mailto:treasurer@stjamesuc.org)), or mail to the church office. In whatever way you support St. James, the community is grateful. Tax receipts available by request.*



**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** (*"Nicene Creed" from Modern Liturgist*)

**We believe in God the Creator!**

**Maker of everything,**

**Author of the universe,**

**And Mystery behind every matter.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ!**

**God from God, Light from Light, true God and true human,**

**One with the Creator,**

**The Word made flesh and Saviour of all creation.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit!  
Breath of God moving among us,  
One with the Creator and one with Christ,  
Our guide and the mentor of all creation.**

### **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 end of each reading please say, “Thanks be to God.”*

1 Peter 3:13-22 and John 14:15-21

\* **HYMN:** “Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth” (*Voices United 320*)

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

“Mother” by Lola Ridge (*in public domain*)

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

#### **A PAUSE FOR THOUGHT**

**ANTHEM:** “Now Thank We All Our God” (*J. S. Bach*)

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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

### **We Leave to Serve**

\* **HYMN:** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” (*Voices United 333*)

#### **A BLESSING FOR MOTHER’S DAY**

#### **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH:**

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:** *Please remain seated until the end of the prelude.*

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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);

## Life and Work – May 10, 2026

### **We acknowledge the following donation to the General Fund:**

\* In loving memory of husband Carlson and son Brian from Ann Emberley

### **We acknowledge the following donation to the Cemetery Fund:**

\* In memory of May Stokes from daughter Jean and family

### **We accept the following donation to the Maintenance Fund:**

\* In memory of Leah Bursey from Son, Doug and Harry Bursey and their families.

\* In memory of Mother, Mary Granter from Joan and Doug Bursey and family.

**A thought of the week:** Blowing out someone else's candle doesn't make yours shine any brighter.

### **Church Rummage Sale on Saturday, June 6th, 9am - 1pm:**



Admission fee \$2.

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

Items can be dropped off at the church office on any Friday in May between the hours of 10 am to 12 noon.

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.

We appreciate your support with this fundraising initiative. Thank you!

**Save the date for St. James' Senior Choir Concert:** Sunday, June 7, 2.30PM in the sanctuary. More information to follow.

**What is "The Next Chapter"** St. James is at a threshold. Like our founders who met in McPherson School to build a new future, we are launching a "Listening Phase" to determine how we remain a thriving, progressive church for the next 25 years. We are being proactive about our building's future and our mission in St. John's No decisions have been made—this is your chance to draw the map. The final say belongs to the congregation.

This Sunday, we can talk about Our Space?? We have a large footprint and an aging demographic. How can we use our building to better serve St. John's? Should we be a community hub? Join us after service to talk about our property and our sustainability. If you can't stay, look for the "Next Chapter" online survey soon on our website!

### **Financial Update to March 31:**

It has been a challenging financial time for St James, as the church was closed for two Sundays and there was a lot of snow to deal with.

For January 1 to March 31

Total Revenue \$68,546

Total Expenses 98,981

Total Deficit \$30,435

Explanation: Our collections are down \$8,000 from last year; Rentals are down \$4,000 - With the loss of Quadrangle and The Bridge Group didn't start till February; on a good note Fundraising is up by \$6,000. Our Insurance increased by \$3,400 from last year and repairs are up \$2,000. Heat is on par with last year, which is due to the number of fill-ups. For the month of March 2026 we paid \$9,000 for oil. This was due to the cost of oil on the rise and the excessive cold for the month. With the cleaners leaving and new cleaners starting we did save \$3,500 on cleaning. Everything else is on par with 2025. We did replace the lights downstairs with a cost of \$9,000 but this came out of the Contingency Funds

## **What's with "Apostolic"?**

Throughout the Easter Season, we have included a reading from the First Letter of Peter and when we conclude, the reader refers to the apostolic community. Peter was an apostle, as was Paul and John. Two common writers of epistles (letters) in the New Testament. An apostle is a witness of the resurrection and sent by the Risen Christ to share the good news. Mary Magdalene was the first to see the Risen Christ. She is often called the apostle of the apostles. The first generation of the early church was thus decidedly "apostolic". We continue to be an apostolic church, descendants of these first witnesses of the resurrection, sharing the good news. We profess this in the Nicene Creed, when we say "We believe in one, holy catholic and apostolic church"