



St. James United Church



Belong • Grow • Serve

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

Celebration of Worship: June 7, 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.

June 7, 2026, Second Sunday after Pentecost

Leading: Rev. James Ravenscroft, Katie Vardy,
Betty Pilgrim, Amy Dalziel and Glen Warren
Ushers: Damien Betts, Sasha Betts, Marilyn Adams
Jean Thompson and Susan Pike

*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 share greetings in Mik'mawisimk, French & Yoruba as we acknowledge the land and local Indigenous peoples, and commit to full inclusion for all.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

INTROIT: "Day by Day" (*Godspell*)

CALL TO WORSHIP (*inspired by Psalm 33:1-12*)

Rejoice, O siblings! It is fitting to lift to God our praise!

We will sing to God a new song!

Sing with instruments for God is ever faithful.

We will sing with thanks for their steadfast love.

Let all the earth offer God praise, every people stand in awe.

Happy are the people who place their trust in God!

OPENING PRAYER

Blessed are you faithful God!

**You have beckoned us to follow you,
calling us out onto a holy adventure.**

**We are ready to go, trusting that you will be with us,
even when we are not sure where to go.**

**Be with us, healing the wounds that hold us back,
giving strength to wary and worried hearts.**

We long to be faithful to you as you are faithful.

Praying in your Spirit's power we will be. Amen.

* **HYMN:** "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven" (*Voices United* 240)

We Share in Love

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

PRESENTATION OF STOLE

We gift a stole to Katie Vardy, our ministry candidate.



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), or e-transfer (email 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 12:1-9 and Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

* **HYMN:** "God of the Bible" (*More Voices* 28)

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

Excerpt from Mirabai Starr, *Ordinary Mystic: Your Life As Sacred Ground* (Harper One, 2024), 30-31 and 35-36.

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

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

SOLO: "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF JESUS (Voices United p 921, Ecumenical Version)

We Leave to Serve

* **HYMN:** "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky" (*Voices United* 509)

* **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.*

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;

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www.stjamesuc.org

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

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

WiFi: StJamesGuest WiFi Password: StJamesUC

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Life and Work – June 7, 2026

We acknowledge the following donation to the General Fund:

* To congratulate my cousin Elizabeth Borgela from Montreal, on her successful completion of her masters in family counselling from Diane Ryan

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

A thought of the week: "It is often the small steps, not the giant leaps, that bring about the most lasting change."

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.

Pleasant View Towers Service: 2 pm on June 11. Worship with Bob Rose, UCW and AOTS at Pleasant View Towers.

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.

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)).

Celebration of Ministries: Next weekend there will be a special worship service here at St. James United Church (*330 Elizabeth Avenue*) on Saturday, June 13 at 1:00 p.m. At that service, Katie Vardy will be ordained to the ministry of Word, Sacrament, and Pastoral Care. The service will also include the installation of our new Regional Council President, the Rev. Susan Sheppard. A reception will follow downstairs following the service.

First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRIES

Ordination and Installation of the President

Saturday, June 13, 2026 at 1:00 PM

St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue,
St. John's, NL



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.

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. Thank you