



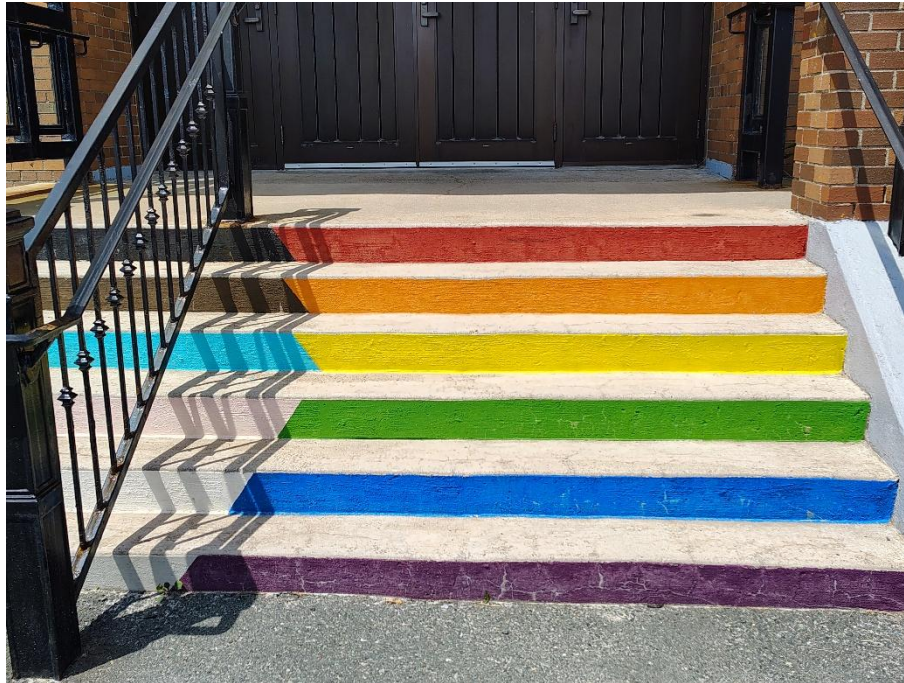
St. James United Church



• Belong Grow Serve •

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

Celebration of Worship: July 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.

July 12, 2026, Pride Sunday (7th Sunday after Pentecost)

Leading: Rev. James Ravenscroft, Diane Ryan,
Judy Molyneaux, Bob Rose and Glen Warren

Ushers: Brian Johnston, Mary Johnston, Marilyn Adams
and Jean Thompson.

*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

* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

INTROIT: "God Loves us in Mysterious Ways"

CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on the colours of the Pride flag)*

We gather today to affirm the worth and goodness of everyone,
and celebrate the gift of life in all its diversity and colour.

We come with honesty, aware of the hurt that many people carry,
open to the healing that comes with full and loving welcome.

We gather in hope, trusting in the promise of new life,
as we affirm that we are each a gift of grace and of light.

We come together with thanks for the wider world around us,
and honour how we are all strands of one web of creation.

We pray for a world that is divided and in deep conflict,
trusting that harmony and peace begin with each one here.

We come to worship the One who has called us together,
gathering as one rainbow, united in the Spirit of love.

OPENING PRAYER

Creating God, you delight in all that you have made,
all around us the multicoloured wonder of your creation!

That same diversity is present as we come together to pray! Be with us in your love, that our hearts be open to each other, open to all the identities, experiences, and life-ways we bring, knowing we are made fuller for them being brought together. We pray in the name of Jesus, our brother and Lord. Amen.

*** HYMN:** “All the Colours of the Rainbow” (by Carl P. Daw from *Songs of The Holy Other*; Tune: Abbot’s Leigh, *Voices United* 260)

**All the colours of the rainbow
live unseen in daily light,
but their splendours find expression
when released to human sight;
so the church reveals most beauty
where diversity is real:
breadth of race and class and gender,
room for doubt and space to heal.**

**All the body’s parts are wanted,
nor can one despise the rest:
head and hand must work together,
as must eye and ear and chest;
so the church needs all its members
for a range of ministries:
varied gifts with one great mission,
“Do this for the least of these”**

**Teach us, God our need of others;
through them help us fully live.
Wean us from our selfish habits;
let us listen, learn, forgive.
May we see your longed-for image
in each human heart and face,
and behold how those around us
can be channels of your grace.**

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), or e-transfer (email treasurer@stjamesuc.org) However you support St. James, the community is grateful. Tax receipts available.*



*** OFFERTORY:** "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow"

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God
all creatures high and low; give thanks to God in love
made known: Creator, Word and Spirit One.**

*** PRAYER OF GRATITUDE AND GRACE**

We Listen and Respond

LEARNING TOGETHER

*** HYMN:** "This Joy" (*African American Spiritual*)

**This joy/love/pride/joy I have, the world didn't give it to me. (x3)
The world didn't give it, and the world can't take it away.**

READINGS: *At the end of each reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*
Romans 15:2-7; and Matthew 9:9-13

*** HYMN:** "For Everyone Born" (*Then Let Us Sing 23*)

**For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,**

**for everyone born, a star over head.
For those we neglect, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,**

**the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for those we neglect, the right to belong.**

Refrain:

**And God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace.
Yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice, and joy.**

**For all who have breath, a place at the table.
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,
a rainbow of race and gender and colour,
for all who have breath, the chalice of grace.**

**For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free.**

Refrain:

**And God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace.
Yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice, and joy.**

READING: *At the end of the reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*
Audre Lorde, "A Litany for Survival"

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

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

SOLO: "Canticle of the Turning" (*More Voices 120*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE PRAYER OF JESUS (*VU* p. 921)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as 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.

REAFFIRMATION OF OUR VISION *(see front of bulletin)*

We Leave to Serve

*** HYMN:** “As a Fire Is Meant for Burning” *(Voices United 578)*

*** BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

We go in the embrace of God who affirms each of us as we are.
We go in the grace of Christ who welcomed everyone in love.
We go in the Spirit’s vision of a world where everyone belongs.
We go in God’s blessing that we may share the same.

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;
Emergency Cellphone: 1-709-351-0983; Website: www.stjamesuc.org



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Life and Work – July 12, 2026

We acknowledge the following donations to the Memorial Fund:

*In loving memory of Maude Lake from Barbara Butt

A thought of the week: *“Believe you can and you are halfway there”*

General Protestant Cemetery Services (Flower Services):

General Protestant Cemetery - Monday, July 20, 2026 at 7PM

Memorial Gardens Cemetery - Monday, July 27, 2026 at 7PM

Please note in the event of inclement weather, the services will move ahead to 7PM the next evening.

Attention: We will not have access to the church sanctuary on Sunday July 26 until 10:30 am. Any congregation members arriving before this are welcome to sit in with St. John's Methodist as they celebrate their 1st Anniversary or wait in vestibule. Their service will be 7:30-10:30 for this Sunday only.

Thank you for your patience on July 26 as we allow our fellow worshippers to celebrate their 1st Anniversary in fine style.

Hymn Picking Team: We are looking for a small group of people (2 or 3) to assist in picking an older, favourite hymn for each Sunday, beginning in September. These may be from The Hymnary, Songs of the Gospel, or others that folks like to sing. Contact Rev. James (james@[stjamesuc.org](mailto:james@stjamesuc.org)) if you can help in this way.

Hymn Sing: Next Sunday is a hymn sing of songs focused on inclusion and belonging. This lay led service will be about 45 minutes to give people time to get to the parade route to watch the Pride Parade. The parade starts at 12 noon, so if you are walking in the parade, you might want to attend the 10 am service at Gower Street United because parade participants are asked to be in place at 11 am.

Join the Pride Parade, July 19 at Noon: Once again St. James United Church will be in the Pride Parade. So let's get a large contingent of us to take part, showing our love and support of the 2SLGBTQ+ community. Contact Rev. James (james@stjamesuc.org) for more details.

On Pause for Summer: A reminder that Pub Theology, Tapestry, InsideOUT, Carehome Services, Taizé, and Meditation are all on pause for the summer. We will regroup in the Fall.

Looking for a Dog Sitter: Rev. James and Glen are looking for a dog/house/plant sitter while they are away for the last week of August and the first week of September. Responsibilities are focused on walking Ben twice a day, feeding him and keeping him company. He can be left alone for extended periods. Contact Rev. James if you are interested.

Connecting with our Neighbourhood: This summer and fall we are doing Prayer Walks in our neighbourhood. This is a simple weekly walk along the streets surrounding the church, praying, observing and connecting with neighbours as you go. We will form small teams of 2-3 people to walk each week (or every 2 weeks if that is easier). Contact Rev. James (james@stjamesuc.org) if this interests you or for more information.

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: July 22. Meet on the lawn between the church and Paton Street.