



St. James United Church



Belong • Grow • Serve

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

Celebration of Worship: July 5, 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 5, 2026, Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Leading: Rev. James Ravenscroft, Bob Rose
and Glenda Winsor

Ushers: Leah Kirk, Skyler Simpson, 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 Inuktitut, French and Igbo 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: “The King of Love” (VU 273, v. 1)

CALL TO WORSHIP (*inspired by Psalm 45:10-17*)

We come as children of God, dedicating our hearts and lives.

We come to worship, bowing in love to God our maker.

We come bringing our whole hearts, our fullest selves.

We come with joy and gladness into the house of God.

We come as our parents did before us and our children will after.

We come praising God’s name from one generation to the next.

OPENING PRAYER

O God of our ancestors, of our descendants too,

**we come to worship, trusting your promise of salvation,
the covenant you made with our ancestors long ago.**

**Be with us in this time, our hearts open to your love,
a covenanting love extended to all people**

through the death and resurrection of your Son
and sealed by the gifting of your Holy Spirit.
Blessed are you, Maker of all, for ever and ever. Amen.

* **HYMN:** “O God Our Help in Ages Past” (*Voices United* p.806)

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

We explore themes of the day in a manner that is accessible to all ages.

* **HYMN:** “Come to My Heart” (*Voices United* 661)

READINGS: *At the end of each reading please say, “Thanks be to God.”*
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; and Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

HYMN: “O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go” (*Voices United* 658)
“Jesus, Your boundless love to me” (631)

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

Lao Tzu, *Tao Te Ching*, verse 15 (trans. Stephen Mitchell)

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

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

SOLO: "In the Arms of God" (*Then Let Us Sing 107* by T. Alonso)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF JESUS (*Voices United* 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.**

We Leave to Serve

* **HYMN:** "I Heard the Voice of Jesus" (*Voices United* 626)

* **BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH**

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: 722-1881, x200; Email: info@stjamesuc.org;

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

 @StJamesUCNL  @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 – July 5, 2026

We acknowledge the following donations to the Memorial Fund:

- * In loving memory of Don Marshall from his wife Vera
- * In loving memory of Maude Lake from Vera Marshall
- * In loving memory of Maude Lake from Heman Whalen and family
- * In loving memory of Maude Lake from Grace Noel and family
- * In loving memory of Maude Lake from Keith Whalen

A thought of the week: *"Life does not have to be perfect to be wonderful"*

General Protestant Cemetery Services (Flower Services):

Mount Pleasant Cemetery - Monday, July 6, 2026 at 7PM

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.

Our Church is in a Movie: Did you know that the outside of St. James is in an indie supernatural horror movie? Local filmmaker, Andrew Musgrave, is premiering "Anna, Postmortem" on July 2 at LSPU Hall, 3:30 pm and 8:30 pm. Glen Warren is starting in it and Rev. James was filmed in a scene (he's not sure if his scene is still in it). Support a St. John's film company and local talent. You can buy tickets via [showpass.com](https://www.showpass.com)

"Rejoice and Rise" Out in Faith Pride Gathering, July 9 at 6:30 pm, The Lantern: Each year "Out in Faith" hosts a prayerful celebration to mark Pride and make space for members of the LGBTQIA and 2S community to explore the intersection between sexuality/gender identity and spirituality/faith. The event includes speakers, singing and reflection. It is a wonderful time for LGBTQIA and 2S people to come together with allies to reflect together in a spirit of love and mutual support.

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](mailto:james@stjamesuc.org)) for more details.

Adopt a Flower Bed: Do you love tending flowers? Then why not adopt one of our flower beds? We are looking for people to take on a flower bed, keeping it weeded and looking its best. Contact the office to let us know.

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.

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.