



## St. James United Church



Belong • Grow • Serve

330 Elizabeth Ave,

St. John's, NL, A1B 1T9

**Celebration of Worship: July 19, 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 19, 2026: Hymn Sing in Celebration of Pride**

Leading: Judy Molyneux, Heather McMaster, Jalna McMaster, Gloria Osei, Bob Rose,  
and Leah Kirk

Ushers: Damien Betts, Sasha Betts, 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 give thanks for the land and affirm our promise to be fully inclusive.*

**SHARING THE PEACE:** *We greet each with signs of Christ's peace.*

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

We come together as church, people from many places and stages of life,  
from different backgrounds and life experiences.

**We come together as church to love and serve God.**

We come together as an open, inclusive, affirming community, where all  
are welcome to be themselves with judgement or bias. **We come together  
to honour the diversity God has made.**

We come together to affirm the good news that there is a place for everyone  
in God's heart, at Christ's table, in the Spirit's grace.

**We come together with hearts open to God and one another.**

**\* HYMN:** "Let Us Build a House" (*More Voices 1*)

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

Welcoming God, we give thanks for your inclusive love,  
**calling us together into one community, holding us together in grace to  
recognise each other as siblings, a chosen family.**

**Be with us as we gather, that we may grow in our gratitude,  
setting aside the biases and fears that may tear us apart,  
and affirming the breadth and beauty of each other's lives.**

**We pray in the name of Jesus, our brother and Lord. 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: 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:** "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:** *Drew's Secret Talent (Written by D.D Sheppard, illustrated by Pheilm Martin; Breakwater Books, 2025)*

**\* HYMN:** "Take, O Take Me As I Am" (*More Voices 85*)

**REFLECTION AND READING:** Psalm 139 (selected verses)

**\* HYMN:** "Creating God, Your Fingers Trace" (*Voices United 265*)

**SOLO**

**REFLECTION AND READING:** 1 John 4:7-12

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

**READING AND REFLECTION:** "Travel/Viaggiatte" by Gio Evan

**\* HYMN:** "My Love, Colours Outside the Lines" (*More Voices 138*)

**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:** "Draw the Circle Wide" (*More Voices* 145)

**\* 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** (*You are invited to 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           |

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## **Life and Work – July 19, 2026**

It is with heavy heart we share the passing of long time St James member and AOTS, (Eli) Ron Robbins, who passed away on Monday, July 13, 2026. Please keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

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

\* In gratitude for inner peace and prayers for world peace from Diane Ryan

\*In loving memory of Maude Lake from Clarence Lake

**A thought of the week:** *“Life itself is the most wonderful fairy tale”*

### **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.

**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.

**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

**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.



Dear St. James United Church,

Hello, this is Evelyn and Alicia reaching out to your organization from Bridges To Hope as the program coordinators for the 2026 Bag To School program. We know that summer has only just begun, but it is not too early to start thinking about Bag To School!

Each year, the Bag To School program at Bridges To Hope provides school supply assistance to K-12 students in the St. John's Metro region whose families are experiencing financial hardship. Our goal this year is to support 1000 local kids, many of which would not be able to put together a full complement of school supplies without this program.

Last year, Bridges To Hope was able to provide school bags to 900 local students. We are once again reaching out to our faith-based community, and are asking you to extend your generosity through donations of specific school supplies from our wishlist.

We are asking for donations of **24 pack Crayola Crayons** and **Erasers**. We are hoping you can help us in our mission to prepare young minds for a great school year in 2026.

Thank you for your continued support,

**Alicia Flynn & Evelyn Stagg**

Bag to School Coordinators

Bridges to Hope, Inc.

Charitable Reg. No. 859148009 RR0001

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