



St. James United Church



Belong Grow Serve

330 Elizabeth Ave,

St. John's, NL, A1B 1T9

Celebration of Worship: August 30, 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.

August 30, 2026, Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Leading: Rev. Stephanie Rose, Al Quainoo, Bob Rose
and Jean Rose

Ushers: Mary Johnston, Brian Johnston, Marilyn Adams
And Jean Thompson

Print in bold indicates that the portion is read or sung by everyone.

We Come to Worship

PRELUDE

ACKNOWLEDGING THE TERRITORY

WELCOME; LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

We light the Christ candle as a symbol
of the Christ-light we carry within us.

We are God's generous light in the world!

SHARING THE PEACE

Peace be with you. **And also with you.**

Let's take a moment to offer a warm welcome
to our fellow worshipers today.

INTROIT: "Come Touch Our Hearts" (More Voices 12 V.1)

HYMN: "New Every Morning" (*Voices United* 405)

CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls us.

We gather in response to the invitation.

God reminds us of all that has been done.

We remember with gratitude and give thanks.

Christ calls us to follow.

We come with open hearts, ready to listen and learn.

The Holy Spirit gives us courage.

We are strengthened to live our faith with love and purpose.

We worship together this morning.
God is here! Let us give thanks!

OPENING PRAYER

**Creator God, open our hearts today to feel your presence, to receive your Word, to sing your praises, and to trust your promises. Remind us of your faithfulness through all the generations. When you call, give us ears to listen; when you lead, give us courage to follow; and when we are uncertain, give us grace to trust that you are with us. On this holy day, help us to recognize your presence in the people we meet, the blessings we receive, and the world you have entrusted to our care. May our worship draw us closer to you and prepare us to respond faithfully to whatever you ask of us.
We will answer your call. 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), or e-transfer (email treasurer@stjamesuc.org). 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 BLESSING:¹

**Our selves, our actions, our words,
our mission, and our gifts
we dedicate them all to you O God, as we answer your call.
Bless all that is offered, for the sake of your ministry. Amen.**

We Listen and Respond

¹ Gord Dunbar, Kincardine, On. 2026 Gathering, Pentecost 1A

LEARNING TOGETHER

HYMN: “Three Things I Promise” (*More Voices* 176)

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION²

Let us pray together

that God will aid our understanding of his word:

Source of all wisdom and understanding,

Amid so many competing voices,

let us hear your word for our times.

Send your Holy Spirit to help us discern your will and

follow the path Jesus sets for us as your Living Word. Amen

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

Exodus 3:1-15; Matthew 16:13-28; and Romans 12:9-21

HYMN: “Take Up Your Cross” (*Voices United* 561)

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SOLO: “The Lord’s Prayer” (Albert Hay Malotte)

We Leave to Serve

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

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE: *Please remain seated during the postlude.*

² Gord Dunbar, Kincardine, On. 2026 Gathering, Pentecost 1A

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;

Life and Work – August 30, 2026

We acknowledge the following donation to the Memorial Fund:

*In loving memory of Maude Lake from Brenda Trickett

We acknowledge the following donations to the General Fund:

*In loving memory of Maude Lake from Frances Winsor

*In loving memory of Don from Effie Parsons

*In loving memory of Uncle Eric Andrews La Scie, who died August 2026 at age 88 from Diane Ryan

We acknowledge the following donation to the Cemetery Fund:

* In loving memory of husband, Bas Jamieson from Lorna and family

A thought of the week: “The mind is everything. What you think you become”.

Rev. James on holiday: Beginning on August 27, Rev. James will be away on holiday visiting family in Alberta. While he is away, Rev. Bill Mercer will be covering any emergencies. He can be reached by email (bmercerc@wesleychurch.ca) or on his mobile phone (709-683-1980). Rev. James returns September 10.

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.

MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH PORTUGAL COVE, NEWFOUNDLAND CELEBRATES!

They are now planning their second annual old-fashioned style garden party to be held at Memorial United Church in Portugal Cove. This will include a full out party with fun, food and music on Saturday, September 26th, 2026 from 2-4pm.

The garden party will include live music, traditional games like fish pond, darts, corn hole, etc., a BBQ, a cake walk, a book sale table, a

flea market table of craft and art supplies, local artists and craft persons, an ice cream tent, tickets on a hand made quilt, Anniversary Cake, and much, much more. NOTE: All games will cost just \$1; BBQ hamburger/hotdog & drinks \$5. For the games and activities every player wins!

Wesley United Church Thrift Shop: Wesley United Church Thrift Shop (corner of Patrick Street & Hamilton Avenue) is now accepting donations of new and gently used clothing as well as household goods and small appliances in preparation for the reopening of the Thrift Shop which will be announced soon. Donations can be dropped off at the lower parking lot door on weekdays between 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. For any questions please contact the church office at 709-579-3682 or info@wesleychurch.ca

Thinking about joining a choir in September, come and join Coastal Sounds Choir Association, We have 2 choirs of energetic, kind and welcoming choristers looking for new Friends. Coastal Sounds Community Choir- No Auditions, Everyone Welcome, Rehearsals on Wednesday Evenings in CBS. Aurora Women's Choir- Auditioned, Sopranos and Altos, Rehearsals on Sunday Evening in CBS. For more information please email coastalsoundschoirs@gmail.com