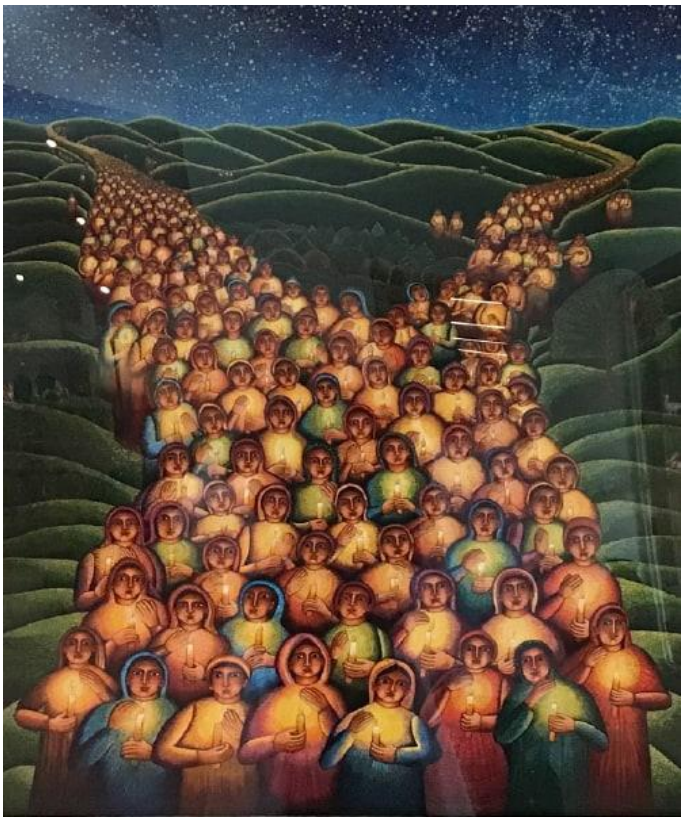
St. James United Church

Belong • Grow • Serve

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

Celebration of Worship: November 1, 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.

November 1, 2026, All Saints Sunday

Leading: Rev. James Ravenscroft, Heather McMaster,
Bob Rose, Amy Dalziel and La Rose Des Vents Choir.
Ushers: Damien and Sasha Betts, Marilyn Adams,
Jean Thompson and Susan Pike

Take whatever posture for singing and prayers that you wish.
*Print in **bold** indicates that the portion is read or sung by everyone.*

We Come to Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE
We welcome and greet each other in Inuktitut, French and Idoma.

LAND-KINSHIP ACKNOWLEDGEMENT; SHARING OF PEACE *We give thanks for the land, acknowledge treaty obligations and affirm our commitment to the inclusion of everyone in our community of faith***.**

INTROIT: "Mungu ni mwema/C'est vrai Dieu est bon"

CALL TO WORSHIP *(inspired by Ps. 34:1-10, 22)*

Come! Let us bless God! May we always sing God's praise.
May our only boast be in God. We exalt God's name together.
We look to God who hears our prayers, who gives us strength.
We trust in God who uplifts all who honour God in their lives.
Come! See the goodness of God, all you who seek God's refuge.
God's servants are redeemed, all who seek God will live!

OPENING PRAYER
Holy God, source of life and all blessing,
you touch us with grace through the lives of others,
a great cloud of witnesses both known and unknown,
who even now raise a great song of praise to you.
Inspire us in our lives through their wisdom and love,
that we too may follow Jesus as his faithful disciples.
Blessed are you, Creator, Redeemer, Giver of Life. Amen.

HYMN: “Let Us with a Gladsome Mind/À mon Dieu, je me confie”
Alternating verses in English & French (*Voices United 234 and 233*)

1. **Let us with a gladsome mind, praise our God, forever kind;**
   whose great mercies still endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

2. **À mon Dieu, je me confie; sa clémence est infinie;**
   ta pensée, ô Dieu d'amour, est fidèle pour toujours.

3. **God has with a gracious eye looked upon our misery;**
   for God's mercies still endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

4. **La lumière radieuse est ton oeuvre merveilleuse;**
   ta pensée, ô Dieu d'amour, est fidèle pour toujours.

5. **Let us then with gladsome mind, praise our God, forever kind;**
   whose great mercies still endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

We Share in Love

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

GIVING THANKS FOR THE GIFT OF SERVICE: *We take time to highlight the importance of serving our community and our congregation.*

OFFERING: *There are many ways to financially support St. James: place your gift in the plate, use the Square (tap payment machine) in the foyer, scan the QR code on the left, donate via PAR, go to the website (www.stjamesuc.org), e-transfer (email treasurer@stjamesuc.org), or mail the church office. Tax receipts available upon request.*

HYMN: “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” (*VU* 541)

Gloire à Dieu, notre Créateur; gloire à notre Rédempteur;
gloire à l’Esprit Consolateur! Louange et gloire à Dieu Sauveur.

or

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

TIME TO REMEMBER: *Those who wish may bring forward a photo of a loved one who has died. We pause in their memory.*

We Listen and Respond

TIME TO BE CENTRED: *We pause before readings are proclaimed.*

READINGS: *At the end of each reading please say, "Thanks be to God."*
Revelation 7:9-17 and Matthew 23:1-12

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

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

ANTHEM: « Cantique de Jean Racine »

INVITATION TO THE TABLE
The celebration of communion is a festival of friends.
At this and every banquet table, we are most fully ourselves.
Here we see others for who they are – children of God,
our siblings in Christ. We share this meal as one family.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God be with you. **And also with you.**
Open your hearts. **We gladly open them to God.**
Let us give thanks. **We give to God our thanks and praise.**

It is good to praise you, holy God, made known in your creation, present in the hearts of your countless children. We give thanks with siblings of every age, who meeting you in faith, shared your love through their lives. With them, we praise your eternal glory.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed
is the One who comes in God's name. Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks for the witness of those who walked before us,
like Abraham, Sarah and Hagar, who obeyed your call and left their home to venture to a land that was promised but not seen;

and Moses, Miriam and Aaron, who led your people out of slavery, called as a new people through your holy covenant.

We thank you for your prophets like Elijah, Isaiah and Micah, who called the people back into right relationship with you.
And for Mary and Joseph who rejoiced in the birth of your Holy Child and John who proclaimed your Messiah had come.

We give thanks most especially for Jesus who revealed your saving love in all that he did. In a special way, we recall how on the night he was betrayed, he gathered for a meal with friends. Taking some bread, he gave you thanks, broke it and gave it to them, saying:
"Take, eat; this is my body, given for you." After supper, he took the cup and after giving you thanks, shared it with them, saying:
"Take, drink. This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Whenever you eat or drink, remember me."

We remember, living God, and so we hold fast to Jesus' example of faith and love, as the saints have done before us, proclaiming in word and action the mystery of our faith:
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

In union with them we pray that you reveal the presence of your Spirit within these gifts, within us also, that we be joined as one with all the saints, with Peter, James, John, Mary Magdalene and Paul**,**
With Francis, Clare, John Calvin, John Knox, John Wesley, Ann Cutler, Laurence Coughlan and all the blessed whose lives of faith and love continue to inspire and guide us.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit all glory is yours, most holy and wondrous God. **Amen.**

CHORAL PRAYER OF JESUS: « Notre Père » *(Maurice Duruflé)*

SHARING IN COMMUNION
The bread we share, **is our sharing in the life of Christ.**
The cup we bless, **is our blessing in the love of Christ.**

Everyone is welcome to share communion – all ages, identities, and life experiences. Come to the front to receive the bread and grape juice (in a small glass). Consume both before returning to your pew. A gluten free option is available. If you'd prefer a blessing, cross your arms over your

chest to indicate this request. If you need to remain seated, someone will bring communion to you. You are free not to take communion.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(in unison)*:
We give thanks, holy God, for this sacred meal, shared not only with the saints we see, but the countless faithful who hold us in your love. As we have shared in this banquet, may we make its meaning present in our lives. Amen.

HYMN: "For All the Saints/Pour tous les saints" (*melody VU 705*)

1. For all the saints who from their labours rest,
all who by faith before the world confessed;
your name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Hallelujah, hallelujah!

2. Pourtous les saints qui ont donné leur vie
pour témoigner que tu es le Messie,
ton nom, Jésus, soit à jamais béni! Alléluia, Alléluia.

3. But lo! there breaks a still more glorious day:
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
as God to glory calls them all away. Hallelujah, hallelujah!

4. Que tes soldats s'engagent au combat
avec les saints qui luttaient autre fois,
gagnant, comme eux, les lauriers de la foi. Alléluia…

5. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
in praise of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah…!

BLESSING AND SENDING *(Based on 1 Peter 2:9; 2 Cor. 12:9)*
We are called to be people of hope, a community of God's beloved,
a community in Christ sharing in service of God's reign.
We do it in the power of love, blessed in God, Abba, Christ & Spirit.
Thanks be to God. 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 and 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

@StJamesUCNL @stjamesuc

WiFi: StJamesGuest WiFi Password: StJamesUC

Life and Work - November 1, 2026

Common Ground, a 2SLGBTQIA+ positive worship service:
Common Ground is a 2SLGBTQIA+ positive worship service, held on the first Sunday of each month at 6:30 pm at St. James United Church. This ecumenical Christian worship service of praise, reflection, and communion is created by and for 2SLGBTQIA+ community members. Allies are welcome. Doors open at 6 p.m. with worship beginning at 6:30 p.m. Next Service will be held on Today, November 1, at 6:30 p.m.

Post-worship Bible Study: After Worship on Sunday, we have our post-worship Bible Study. Come to the library 30 minutes after the start of coffee time to further explore the Bible readings of the day

Office Closure: The church office will be closed next week on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday November 4, 5, 6). Stephanie will be working from home on those days but will still be reachable by email. She will also be checking voicemails and returning phone calls, so if you call the church office on those days, please leave a voicemail with your name, phone number and the reason you are calling and Stephanie will get back to you as soon as possible.

Meditation for Busy People: Each Wednesday at 5:45 pm, we host a short time of Christian Meditation followed by additional spiritual practices like Lectio Divina, walking the labyrinth, a wonderful chance to come to inner quiet as we each focus on God's love within us. Come to the Fellowship Room. If you have not practiced Meditation before, arrive at 5:30 pm and Rev. James will teach you how to go about it. Following meditation, each week there is an additional spiritual practice to take part in, such as Lectio Divina, walking the labyrinth or Taizé.
Use this link if you would prefer to join the group virtually:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88638302614?pwd=y4Ad1OqHjb8dtsWSLXJNMKkf2998f3.1

Meditation Plus! Following our weekly meditation gathering, why not stay for another form of prayer or learning at 6:30 pm. The schedule is as follows:
First Wednesday of the month: Taizé Prayer (a time of singing and reflection)
Second Wednesday: Lectio Divina (shared reflection on a short Bible passage)
Third Wednesday: Post meditation teaching (learn more about Christian meditation)
Fourth Wednesday: Labyrinth Walk (a meditation practice focused on movement)

Considering Membership? We are planning to celebrate new members on November 15, our congregational anniversary. So let us know if you're currently a member of another congregation and considering transferring your membership to St. James, or were baptized in the United Church but never confirmed, or were baptized in another denomination and want to join the United Church. Whatever your circumstances, we would be happy to discern with you what is needed for you to become a member of our congregation. You can email Rev. James (james @ stjamesuc.org) or Susan Pike (susanpike @ warp.nfld.net).

Harvest Tea & Bake Stall:
Saturday, November 7th at 2PM-4PM.
Tickets $10 available at the church office and at the door

Donations of Baked goods are greatly appreciated! Donations can be dropped off on Friday, November 6 from 1PM to 5PM. Sandwiches to be dropped off on Saturday, November 7 from 10am to 12pm.

We are looking for a few volunteers to help set up the tables on Friday at 1pm.


HARVEST TEA
&
BAKE STALL
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7
TIME: 2:00PM – 4:00PM
ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH
330 ELIZABETH AVENUE
ST. JOHN'S, NL
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR $10

St. James United 68th Anniversary Celebrations:
Friday, November 20, 2026. Tickets can be purchased at the church office during office hours by debit or credit, by E-transfer at treasurer@stjamesuc.org or by Paypal. Also, tickets can be purchased from Jean Thompson (709) 728-5048.
The deadline to get your tickets is November 15th. For additional information, please contact the church office at: info@stjamesuc.org

We are accepting donations for the cake walk and new items for the auction would be greatly appreciated! (Gift Cards, Wine, etc). They can be dropped off at the church office up to November 19th.

The menu is scalloped potatoes, ham, marinated carrots and dessert. Please let us know in advance of any dietary restrictions.

