



Rev. Peter Smith (Clergy), Hee-Jung Choi (Organist)
Christine Morrison, Peter Rawding (Choir Directors)
May MacKenzie (CE Dir) Chad Brazier (Custodian)
Patsy Farrell (Secretary) office@stjamesuc.com
197 Main St Antigonish, NS B2G 2L6
(902) 863-2001 www.stjamesuc.com

Our Mission as a congregation: *Love the Lord Your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence and energy and love your neighbour as yourself. (Mark 12:19-21 MSG)*

January 10, 2021 - Baptism of Jesus

GOD BRINGS US TOGETHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (from Titus 3:5-7 responsive)

God saved us, not because of any works of righteousness we had done,
**but according to God's mercy, through the water of rebirth
and renewal by the Holy Spirit.**

This Spirit God poured out on us richly
through Jesus Christ our Savior,
**so that justified by God's grace, we might become heirs
according to the hope of eternal life.**

Prayer of Approach: (together)

**Gracious God, you call us to be your people in the world.
You choose us with your love, save us by your mercy,
and make us new by your grace.
As we gather this day, speak to us again of your way and will
for we are yours in Jesus' name, Amen.**

Children's story and the Lord's prayer.

Meditative Music

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH SCRIPTURE

Responsive Reading: Psalm 36 (p. 762 VU)

Your steadfast love, O God, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

**Your righteousness is like the mountains, O God, your judgements
are like the great deep; all living things you save. R**

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**They feast on the abundance of your house
and you have them drink from the river of your delights. R**

For with you is the fountain of life, in your light do we see light.

**Continue your steadfast love to those who know you,
and your salvation to the upright in heart. R**

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

Second Reading: Acts 19:1-7

Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

Anthem

Sermon: "Living Within the Promise"

GOD CALLS US TO RESPOND

Meditative Music

Pastoral Prayer of the People

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

A warm welcome to everyone who is joining us for worship. May this be a time for you to draw closer to God. The services online will be posted each week on our website and through social media.

The prayers and Christian sympathy of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of Pam Harrison who died earlier this week in Amherst. Pam was a key person in promoting the Mission and Service Fund here at St. James (she spoke at our M&S Services on more than one occasion) and across the Maritimes. Please keep her family and friends in your thoughts and prayers in the weeks to come.

The 2021 Social Justice Calendar is now available for pick up in the narthex. Please take one of these and prayerfully consider the dates and events as they come up throughout the year. Thank you!

For the month of January, the church office will be open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10 am until noon. The emails, voice messages, and mail slot are checked daily.

The latest issue of Connections is available online and in print. If you have a neighbour who would like a print copy feel free to pick one up for

them as well. Thanks to Brenda, Ruth and all of our contributors.

Truth & Reconciliation – Call #64 Education for Reconciliation – We call upon all levels of government that provide public funds to denominational schools to require such schools to provide an education on comparative religious studies, which must include a segment on Aboriginal spiritual beliefs and practices developed in collaboration with Aboriginal elders.

Truth & Reconciliation – Call #65 Education for Reconciliation – We call upon the federal government, through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, post-secondary institutions and educators, and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation and its partner institutions, to establish a national research program with multi-year funding to advance understanding of reconciliation.

How can you help support the life and work at St. James? You can send a donation to St. James United Church, P. O. Box 1178, 197 Main Street, Antigonish NS B2G 2L6, or you can drop it off in the mail slot in the office door. You can also click on the “Donate” button on the website to take you to our Canada Helps page, or you can give monthly via PAR. For more information send an email to office@stjamesuc.com

Virtual Coffee Time continues this Thursday at 11 am. If you would like to join the fun just email Rev. Peter minister@stjamesuc.com

Scripture Readings for Next Sunday

1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20) • 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 • John 1:43-51