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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)*

August 15, 2021 - Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

GOD BRINGS US TOGETHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (responsive)

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Love the Lord your God, with all your strength and with all your mind.

Love your neighbour as yourself.

Do this and you will live in the heart of God.

Do this and we will be called the children of God.

Come, let us worship the Lord our God.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Approach: (All)

God of compassion, work your will in our world. Free us, to tend to those who are weak and needy. You always care especially for the abandoned or rejected. Give us eyes to recognize them in our midst. Give us the courage to humble ourselves, so that we may be your instruments of grace and peace in our world. Heal our aching world and use us to work out your will. Lord, hear our prayer for we ask it in the holy name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Children's story and Lord's prayer.

Meditative Music

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH SCRIPTURE

Responsive Reading: Psalm 111 (p. 833 VU)

I will thank you, God, with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in their assembly.

Great are your works, O God,

studied by all who delight in them.

Honour and majesty are your work;
your righteousness endures forever.

**You have won renown for your wonders;
you are gracious and full of compassion. R**

You give food to those who fear you;
you keep your covenant always in mind.

**You have shown your power in action,
giving your people the heritage of nations.**

The works of your hands are faithful and just,
all your precepts trustworthy.

**They stand fast forever and ever;
grounded in justice and truth.**

You sent redemption to your people;

you decreed your covenant forever.

Holy and awesome is your name. R

The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom;

those who practice it have good understanding.

May your praise endure forever. R

Holy Gospel: St. Luke 18: 9 - 17

Sermon: "All children's lives matter".

GOD CALLS US TO RESPOND

Meditative Music

Prayer of the People

Commissioning and Benediction

Let us go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

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 are posted each week on our website (www.stjamesuc.com) and through social media (www.facebook.com/stjamesAntigonish)

This morning we welcome the Rev. Doug Stewart to lead our service of worship. The Rev. Peter Smith is on holidays from August 7th until September 2nd. If there is a pastoral emergency during that time please contact the Rev. Doug Stewart at at (902) 735-2102 or through the St.

Martha's Hospital Switchboard during the day (902) 867-4500.

Thanks to Amy Hendricks and Ronald Charles for sharing their gifts of music with us this day.

The Church office is closed until September 7th. The voice mail, email and mail slot will be checked regularly while the office is closed.

August 19th is **World Humanitarian Day** and is commemorated every year to pay tribute to humanitarian workers killed and injured in the course of their work, and to honour all aid and health workers who continue, despite the odds, to provide life-saving support and protection to people most in need. Just a few examples of humanitarian work are: ensuring basic sewer and sanitation for all; promoting resilience in a more disaster prone world; promoting emission reduction targets; bridging the financial gap between "haves" and "have nots"; promoting sustainable development and biodiversity.

Truth & Reconciliation- Call #74 Truth & Reconciliation – We call upon the federal government to work with the churches and Aboriginal community leaders to inform the families of children who died at residential schools of the child's burial location, and to respond to families' wishes for appropriate commemoration ceremonies and markers, and reburial in home communities where requested. To read all the calls and the complete Truth and Reconciliation Report please go to <http://www.trc.ca/>

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

Scripture Readings for Next Sunday

Psalm 84 • St. Luke 15: 1 - 10