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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)*

September 18, 2022 - Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## GOD BRINGS US TOGETHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit (409 VU Morning has Broken v1)

*Morning has broken, like the first morning  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird,  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them springing, fresh from the Word!*

Call to Worship (responsive)

God's love is here in this place as we worship.

**We gather to celebrate the goodness of God.**

God's mercy wipes away our tears and strengthens our hearts.

**We gather to rejoice in the salvation Jesus brings.**

God's grace opens a new day for us to live.

**We gather to become the people God calls us to be.**

Prayer of Approach (together)

**Eternal God, you call us through Jesus to know your love. Speak to us, so we can hear again the promise you make to us through the cross. Open our minds, so we can know the power and possibility of the empty tomb. Show us the way, so that we can live within the good news of Jesus Christ, Amen.**

Hymn: 312 VU *Praise with Joy the World's Creator*

Children's Story and the Lord's Prayer.

## GOD SPEAKS THROUGH SCRIPTURE

Responsive Reading: Psalm 112 (p. 834 VU)

First Reading: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Anthem *There is a Balm in Gilead* (Traditional)

Sermon "An Unexpected Story of Judgement"

## GOD CALLS US TO RESPOND

Hymn: 79 MV *Spirit, Open My Heart*

Minute for Stewardship

Offertory (227 VU For the Fruits of All Creation- v3)

*For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.*

*For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.*

*For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.*

Prayers of the People

Hymn: 507 VU *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Benediction (409 VU Morning has Broken v3)

*Ours is the Sunlight, ours is the morning*

*born of the one light Eden saw play.*

*Praise with elation, praise every morning*

*God's recreation of the new day!*

Postlude

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**A warm welcome** to everyone who is joining us for worship. May this be a time for us to draw closer to each other and God. We recognize that we gather in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People, and we seek to be good neighbours to the First Nations.

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

**Tuesday, September 20**

11:00am The Community Hot Meal in the Hall.

3:00pm Meditation Group in the Meeting Room.

**Wednesday, September 21**

12:00 pm St. James Senior Fellowship will meet for a Potluck

Luncheon followed by a business meeting. All St. James seniors 55 and over are invited to bring a potluck dish and join us in the Church Hall.

**Thursday, September 22**

6:30pm Choir Practice in the Sanctuary

**Saturday, September 24**

11:00 am - 1:00 pm. **Family Fun Day**, at St. James. Join us for children's games and activities, petting zoo, homemade ice cream, and BBQ. No admission. Everyone is welcome!

**Are you interested in decorating** a window at St. James for Thanksgiving? Look for the sign up sheet which will be available next Sunday.

Your Social Justice Committee asks you to note that 21 September is the **International Day of Prayer for Peace**. Each year at this time the World Council of Churches calls churches and parishes to observe the day and offers an opportunity for church communities everywhere to pray and act together to nurture lasting peace in the hearts of people, their families, communities and societies. This year's theme is: "We all have a role to play in fostering peace". Tackling racism is one crucial way to contribute to this effort.

### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Monday, September 19, 2022** at 10:45 am there will be a service at the Cenotaph in Columbus Field on Main Street to honour the life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Everyone is welcome.

**Tuesday, September 20, 2022** at 5 pm There will be a meeting for those interested in getting involved or discussing the organization of the Antigonish Community Fridge/Pantry in the meeting room at the People's Place library.

**Stewardship Thought** for September 18, 2022

"I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare."-C.S.Lewis.

### **Next Sunday's Scripture**

Amos 6:1a, 4-7 • 1 Timothy 6:6-19 • Luke 16:19-31