



Rev. Peter Smith (Clergy), Carolyn Curry (Organist)  
May MacKenzie (CE Dir) Chad Brazier (Custodian)  
Patsy Farrell (Secretary) [office@stjamesuc.com](mailto:office@stjamesuc.com)  
197 Main St, P.O. Box 1178, Antigonish, NS B2G 2L6  
(902) 863-2001 [www.stjamesuc.com](http://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)*

November 20, 2022 - Reign of Christ

## 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 from Philippians 2:8-11)

Being found in human form, Jesus humbled himself  
**and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.**  
Therefore God also highly exalted Jesus  
**and gave him the name that is above every name,**  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,  
**in heaven and on earth and under the earth,**  
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Prayer of Approach (adapted from Thomas à Kempis, 1380-1471)

**Grant us, O Lord, to know what we ought to know, to love what we ought to love, to praise what delights you most, to value what is precious in your sight, and to reject what is offensive to you. Do not allow us to judge according to the sight of our eyes, or to pass sentence according to the hearing of our ears; but to discern with true judgment between things visible and spiritual, and above all to inquire what is the good pleasure of your will, Amen.**

Hymn: 296 VU *This is God's Wondrous World*

Children's Story and the Lord's Prayer.

## GOD SPEAKS THROUGH SCRIPTURE

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Second Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

Anthem *The Lord Ascendeth up on High* M. Praetorius, arr A. Bullard

Sermon "Words from the Cross"

## GOD CALLS US TO RESPOND

Hymn: 142 VU *Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross*

Moment for Offering

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

A New Creed (The Creed of the United Church of Canada)

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,**

**who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,**

**to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others**

**by the Spirit. We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: 469 VU *We Gather Here*

Celebration of Holy Communion (see insert)

Hymn: 230 VU *Rejoice the Lord is King*

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

**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.

**The prayers and Christian sympathy** of the congregation are extended to the family of *John Whidden* who died earlier this week. Visitation will be on Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at CI Curry Funeral Home from 2-6pm with a private family funeral on Wednesday. The service will be live-streamed through the funeral home website. Please keep Andrew, Susan, and all of John's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

### **THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES**

#### **Sunday, November 20**

- 10:30am We gather around the table and celebrate the goodness of God through Jesus as we break the bread and share the cup.
- 11:30 am There will be no **Holly Tea and Sale** this year. Instead, a table of Christmas items will be sold during coffee hour Nov 20 and 27. We are not accepting new items for sale.

#### **Tuesday, November 22**

- 11:00am The Community Hot Meal in the Hall.
- 3:00pm Meditation Group in the Meeting Room.

#### **Thursday, November 24**

- 6:30pm Choir Practice in the Sanctuary

#### **Saturday, November 26**

- 10:00am Decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas. Everyone is welcome to help.

#### **Stewardship Thought** for this Sunday (November 20, 2022)

“What we often wait for God to do for us God wants to do through us.”

-Unknown

**JOIN US by Serving Others on Christmas Day!** Please join us this year, as St. James United Church hosts the annual Community Christmas Dinner, on Sunday, December 25th – 2pm at the St, James United Church Hall in Antigonish. Volunteers are greatly needed to help with set up, food preparation and serving, greeting and clean up. We also require food donations including turkeys, vegetables, condiments and desserts as well as monetary donations to cover expenses. It is indeed due to your kindness and generosity that this event has been such a great success over the years.

Will you help and serve during this wonderful time of building community? To be involved please call Daniel Vanderlans @ 902-957-8255 or email: [antigonishdinner@outlook.com](mailto:antigonishdinner@outlook.com)  
Let's bless & serve others this Christmas through our Community Christmas Dinner 2022.

**The Social Justice Committee reminds you** that 20 November is **Universal Children's Day**. For 2022, UNICEF is calling on partners and supporters to share a positive message of **equality and inclusion for every child**. This is an annual day of action for children, by children. From climate change, education and mental health, to ending racism and discrimination, children and young people are raising their voices on the issues that matter to their generation and calling for adults to create a better future. Also note that "[16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence](#)" is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November, the **International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women**. The UN's UNiTE campaign calls for global actions to increase awareness, galvanize advocacy efforts, and share knowledge and innovations. The theme this year is "UNiTE! Activism to end violence against women and girls".

**Did you know?** There is no minimum or maximum amount for your PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) contribution to St. James. Simply designate the offering you normally give to the congregation and once a month on a designated date the money moves from your account to the church's. Interested in learning more? Speak with Pamela Cunningham or drop by the church office.

### Scripture for Next Sunday

Isaiah 2:1-5 • Psalm 122 • Romans 13:11-14 • Matthew 24:36-44

## Celebration of Holy Communion on Reign of Christ Sunday

St. James United Church, November 20, 2022

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give God thanks and praise.

**It is right and good to give God thanks and praise.**

We thank and praise you, Eternal God,  
for you have sent your son Jesus Christ  
into the world to reclaim us.

Your answer to our world lost in sin was a Saviour  
with the power to set us free and return us to your kingdom.

**Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life."**

We thank and praise you, Loving God,  
for Jesus Christ who shows us your face  
and has speaks your word to a weary world.  
Jesus in his life shows us your way  
and allows us to hope of life eternal with you.

**Jesus said, "Whoever has seen me, has seen my Father."**

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Bless'd is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest*

We thank and praise you, Merciful God,  
for Jesus Christ who emptied himself  
and became a servant to all.  
He took upon himself our sins  
and suffered for our sakes.  
He was wounded for our transgressions  
and was killed to break the power of sin and death.

**Jesus said, "This is my body, which is broken for you."**

Take this bread and bless it we pray.  
That it might be for us the body of Christ.

**Jesus said, "This is my blood which is shed for you."**

Take this cup and bless it we pray.  
That it might be for us the blood of Christ.

**Jesus said on the cross, "It is finished."**

*Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again*

Renew us as we share this bread and cup.  
Renew our weary spirits, fill our hearts with your love,  
and open our eyes to see the meaning and purpose  
of Christ's death upon the cross and his rising from the grave.  
Hear our prayer, God most Holy,  
in the name of Jesus, the Lamb of Heaven,  
and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever,

*Amen, Amen, Amen.*

Prayer Following Communion (Together)  
**Eternal God, for the bread we have eaten  
and the cup we have tasted,  
we praise and thank you.  
For you touch us by your Holy Spirit,  
and challenge us to live as your people,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

This prayer is from *All Things are Ready* by Peter Andrew Smith © 2007 CSS Publishing. Used by Permission.

**Just a reminder** that the musicians of the church consider their offering of music and song to be part of the worship service. If you feel moved by what they do offer a silent prayer of thanks to God and let them know personally after service.

**Gifts with Vision** Our Congregation has multiple copies of *Gifts with Vision: A Gift-Giving Catalogue from the United Church of Canada* for all of us to use and share. The United Church developed the gift catalogue in response to member requests to be able to give gifts to support that support the church's Mission and Service partners. Gifts are available in a range of dollar amounts and include projects here in Canada and around the world many different areas of need (hunger, shelter, education, health, safety, mobility, and more). An online copy of the gift catalogue can be found at [www.giftswithvision.ca](http://www.giftswithvision.ca)

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Sunday, November 27** from 9-1 Antigonish Lions Club Pancake and Sausage Breakfast, Lions' Den, Highland Drive Ext.

**Wednesday, November 30** at the People's Place Library from 4:30 to 6:00 you are enthusiastically invited to the launch of Sara avMaat's new comic book. Hope Unleashed is a comic book about moving from climate anxiety to climate action. The story begins with Maude the dog and her concern for her person, Patrick, who is paralyzed by climate anxiety. We follow Maude and Patrick as they learn about some of the people and organizations in Nova Scotia working to make a difference. We empathize with Patrick when he reaches the point where "it still feels like all too much", but knows he's ready to make a start. Available at the launch, The Curious Cat Bookstore, Happenstance, Antigonish 5 to \$1 or from the author at [savmaat@yahoo.ca](mailto:savmaat@yahoo.ca) for \$7 plus shipping.

**Do you provide ongoing support** to a family member or friend? The Nova Scotia Centre on Aging wants to hear from you! They will be hosting a focus group discussion at the Antigonish Town & County Library on Tuesday November 22nd from 10:00-11:30am (for caregivers of children, youth or young adults) and 1:30-3:00pm (for caregivers of older adults). Attendees will receive a \$50 gift card in thanks. Pre-registration is required, go to [www.NSCaregivingProject.ca](http://www.NSCaregivingProject.ca) or call 1-877-302-4440 to register.