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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)*

October 20, 2024- Twenty Second after Pentecost

### GOD BRINGS US TOGETHER

Prelude *The Longer I Serve Him* (William J. Gaither) April Martell

Welcome and Announcements

Introit (222 VU Come, Let Us Sing)

*Come, let us sing to the Lord our song,  
 we have stood silently too long;  
 surely the Lord deserves our praise,  
 so joyfully thank God for our days.*

Call to Worship (responsive).

Let us come to worship with confidence,  
**for God is loving.**

Let us come to worship with humility,  
**for God is holy.**

Let us come to worship with anticipation,  
**for God promises a new beginning.**

Let us come to worship with joy,  
**for God promises hope.**

Prayer of Approach (together)

**Loving God, we come into your presence with hope,  
 looking to be instructed in the truth,  
 seeking be strengthened in the face of difficulties,  
 and following in the way you open for us  
 through Jesus Christ, Amen.**

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

Blessing of the Prayer Shawls

Children's Time

Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the Lord's Prayer  
 Hymn: 443 VU *God, We Pray at this Beginning*

### GOD SPEAKS THROUGH SCRIPTURE

Responsive Reading: Psalm 104 (p. 826 VU)

Old Testament: Isaiah 53:4-12

Epistle: Hebrews 5:1-10

Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

Anthem *In Suffering Love* (Rob Johns)

Sermon "Great in the Eyes of God"

Paul Davie  
 Jonathan Davie

April Martell

### GOD CALLS US TO RESPOND

Hymn: 145 MV *Draw The Circle Wide*

Minute for Social Justice

Offering (537 VU Your Work, O God)

*Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere  
 and some there are who cannot serve, unless our gifts we share.  
 Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make;  
 Be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.*

Michèle Ashby

Prayers of the People

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

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Benediction (222 VU Come, Let Us Sing)

*Deserts shall bloom and mountains shall sing  
 to the desire of all living things.  
 Come, all you creatures, high and low,  
 let your praises endlessly flow*

Postlude Postlude: *Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works*

**A warm welcome** to everyone joining us for worship. May this time help you draw to closer to God and your neighbour. 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.

**Coffee Hosts** this morning are Ida Sarty and Judy MacCarron

### Scripture for Next Sunday

Isaiah 53:4-12 • Hebrews 5:1-10 • Mark 10:35-45

**This morning we welcome** to the church through the sacrament of Holy Baptism *Elijah Adamson Scott* child of Jennifer (Catelado) and Adam Scott. Standing with Elijah as godparents are Breanna Scott and Michelle Cataldo.

**If you have tea towels and dish cloths from the kitchen** to return, please do as our supply is getting very low.

**The United Church bookstore** is taking pre-orders for the 2025 United Church Calendars. The cost is \$10.00 per calendar. There are limited supplies so order early. Contact [christine@betterbodiesbymassage.ca](mailto:christine@betterbodiesbymassage.ca) or 902-714-9463 if you would like to order.

**Happy Birthday to the Hot Meal Program!** During our 200 th year celebrations , events were planned for each month and it was suggested that we should do an outreach program or event and the members of the Celebration Committee were asked to bring ideas to the next meeting. Betty Webber came with the suggestion that we do a weekly hot meal and this was agreed upon. On October 19, 2004, the first Hot Meal was served to the five people who showed up. The next week there were ten people. Now twenty years later the average attendance is 40 and we now have two days when meals are served as members of the community felt they would like to be part of this program. From a team of four: Joyce Hilling, Hazel Murray, Mavis Murray, Betty Webber, there are now well organized teams who prepare nourishing meals and our thanks go to these volunteers who give so willingly of their time .

**Visiting at St. Martha's.** Just a reminder that because of policies in place at the hospital that patients or their families have to request visits from clergy. If you are in the hospital and would like a visit from Rev. Peter please call 902-863-2859 or tell one of the staff or chaplains at St. Martha's.

**St James' Prayer Circle** is a small group of folks who believe in the power of prayer. We are happy to pray for individuals and situations upon request. If you'd like to join us or if you would like to bring forward a prayer request, please speak to Michèle Ashby after church or call her at 232-3473. All matters are kept strictly confidential.

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

### Sunday, October 20

10:30 am Blessing of Prayer Shawls  
11:30 am Trustees and Property Committee gather in the meeting room.

### Thursday, October 24

7:00 am Ministry and Personnel Committee in the Meeting Room.

### Saturday, October 26

Indigenous Cultural Day Trip to Visit Mi'kmawey/Debert Cultural Centre location where we will Meet Elder Gerald Gloade. Bring lunch or buy enroute to Millbrook for pt 2 of day Sign up after church with Fran or call Office 902 863 2001 Carpooling encouraged. Indicate if you want to be a driver.

**St James is a busy and active church** not just on Sunday but through the week. As well as our church community there are exercise groups, girls guides, AA and other regular users of our building. So if you have a group or committee that is looking to meet or if you want to set up early for an event or activity please remember to contact the office to reserve your space.

## UPCOMING AT ST. JAMES

### Sunday, October 27

10:30am Our Anniversary Service at St. James. Join us as we celebrate 220 years as a congregation and welcome he Rev. Meredith Fraser as our guest preacher.  
11:30 am A Congregational potluck will follow our worship service in the hall. **Everyone is invited to bring a dish to share!**  
7:00 pm Anniversary Hymn Sing. Join us as we sing some of the great hymns of the faith from Voices United and give thanks for our history. If you would like to dedicate one of the hymns please see the sheet for details.

**Saturday November 16**, St James UCW will be holding their annual Holly Tea and Sale. We will need several dozen volunteers, all ages and genders, on both the sale day and a few days prior to the sale. If you can help in any way, please contact Barb at the office, as soon as possible by phone 902 863 2001 or email [office@stjamesuc.com](mailto:office@stjamesuc.com)  
We will shortly be accepting donations for the Christmas Room, Silent Auction, New-to-You (NO yard sale items or books) and Jewelry Tables. Watch for dates.

**The Prayer Shawl Ministry** continues to meet although we are fewer in members than when we began in 2011. For those who may not be familiar with the work of this group, a few words of explanation. We meet once a month and knit or crochet shawls which are given (they are never sold) to anyone who may be experiencing illness, grief, stress, anxiety, or as one of our cards says: in need of a hug. When completed, the shawl is brought to the meeting and the members form a circle, place our hands on the shawls and offer a prayer that they bring comfort to the receiver and that they know that they are loved and we pray that they will know God's love. The shawls are brought to a church service where they are dedicated. If anyone knows of someone who could benefit from receiving a shawl, please leave your name and phone number at the church office.

**The Social Justice Collective** wants to highlight a few of the worthy front line poverty fighting organizations that are included in our "Antigonish Gift Book" – for use at any time – not just Christmas! Kids First Family Resource Centre provides programs and parenting support to families with preschool children and pregnant women. Donations are used for transportation, nutritious snacks and milk for healthy pregnancies. (902) 863-3848 The Naomi Society offers support to women and children who experience family violence. Donations are used to purchase gas, food, personal care items & emergency overnight shelter. (902) 863-3807.

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**How can you help support the life and work at St. James?** If you are worshiping in person there are the offering boxes at the doors for your donation. Envelopes can also be dropped off at the office (or in the mail slot after hours) or mailed to "St James United Church, P. O. Box 1178 Antigonish, NS B2G 2L6." Online donations via credit card can be made by clicking on the "Donate" button at [www.stjamesuc.com](http://www.stjamesuc.com) and interac e-transfers can be sent to [eft@stjamesuc.com](mailto:eft@stjamesuc.com)

**Did you know? PAR (Pre Authorized Remittance)** is as easy to start as one-two-three. 1) Ask to sign up at the church office. 2) Fill in the amount you want to give each month. 3) Know that each month your gift goes to help the church do God's work here in Antigonish and around the world! If you are interested in PAR speak to Pamela Cunningham or drop by the church office.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Skinnamarink Story Walk** Visit St. Theresa's Garden, Bethany from October 18th to November 1st for a fun and engaging story walk featuring Skinnamarink. Perfect for families and kids, this outdoor event encourages a love of reading and community. Hosted by ABC for Kids Society and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

**Annual Hip of Beef Dinner** Sunday, November 3rd from 11:30 – 1:30PM at 4382 Mini-Trail Community Centre on Highway 337, Lakevale in Antigonish Co. Enjoy this buffet style dinner of roast beef, fresh vegetables, salad, rolls with an amazing assortment of desserts. \$25 for adults, \$12 for children 12 and under. Takeout available. For additional information about the event please call 902-870-5528.

**Donate Blood** Canadian Blood Services: Nov 19-21 St. Ninian's Cathedral Parish. Visit [blood.ca](http://blood.ca)

## Anniversary Hymn Sing

This year marks the 220<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for St. James as a congregation. In celebration of that milestone, we're having an Anniversary Hymn Sing on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

We've picked some beloved and favorite hymns that we're going to be singing that night. If you wish to make a donation in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a milestone or special event just fill out the form below or email the office and we'll make sure those dedications are part of our service as we gather to remember the good people who have been part of our lives and part of St. James.



Donations for the Anniversary Hymn Sing can be put in the offering boxes with this form, sent via EFT ([eft@stjamesuc.com](mailto:eft@stjamesuc.com)) or via our Canada Helps Page (please make the memorial donation information in the comments in electronic donations). **Deadline for donations to be a part of the bulletin** is Thursday, October 24 at noon.

### Hymns for the Anniversary Hymn Sing

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|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Amazing Grace         | 2. Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah |
| 3. Here I Am Lord        | 4. How Great Thou Art             |
| 5. Open My Eyes          | 6. Precious Lord, Take My Hand    |
| 7. What a Friend We Have | 8. Will Your Anchor Hold          |

Please circle the hymn(s) and fill out the information below.

I am making this donation *in memory of* *in celebration of*

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Your name and address (or envelope number)

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Thank You!