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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 27, 2024- Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost  
220<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. James

### GOD BRINGS US TOGETHER

Prelude

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)

In 1804 a group of believers came together in this place,

**To worship, to learn, and to be a church of Jesus Christ.**

For 220 years this congregation has stood within the town and county,

**As a place of refuge, of faith, and of Christian witness.**

This day we have gathered in this church to celebrate God's blessings,

**Let us come as those before us and be the people of God in this place.**

Prayer of Approach (together)

**God of grace and love, we come to listen, to learn, and to grow as disciples of Jesus. Let us honestly see ourselves as you see us. Let our hearts be open to your Holy Spirit. And let us hear again your call for us to follow as your people and your church, Amen.**

Hymn: 415 VU *God We Praise You*

Children's Time and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn: 575 VU *I'm Gonna Live So*

### GOD SPEAKS THROUGH SCRIPTURE

Responsive Reading: Psalm 78 (792 VU)

Old Testament: Ezra 3:10-13

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1: 2-10

Gospel: Matthew 1:1-17

Anthem *Deep in Our Hearts* (Ron Klusmeier)

Sermon "What We Will Tell New Generations?" Rev. Meredith Fraser

### GOD CALLS US TO RESPOND

Hymn: 713 VU *I See A New Heaven I See A New Earth*

Minute for Mission

Robert Smith

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.*

Prayers of the People

Hymn: 528 VU *God of Life*

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

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**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.

**After our service this morning** everyone is welcome to join together in the hall for a congregational potluck.

**Greeting at the door** is Cathy Sampson

**Scripture for Next Sunday**

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 • 1 Corinthians 12:1-7 • Mark 12:28-34

**The prayers and Christian sympathy** of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of *the Rev. Doug Stewart* who died last week. The funeral will be tomorrow (Monday) at St. James at 2 pm with visitation tonight from 2-4 and 7-9 at MacIsaac Funeral Home. Please keep his sister Joan and all of the family in your thoughts and prayers.

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

**Sunday, October 27**

- 10:30am Our Anniversary Service at St. James. Join us as we celebrate 220 years as a congregation. We are please to welcome the Rev. Meredith Fraser as our guest preacher.
- 11:30 am A Congregational potluck will follow our worship service in the hall.
- 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.

**Monday, October 28**

- 2:00 pm Funeral for the Rev. Doug Stewart

**Tuesday, October 29**

- 11:00 am Community Hot Meal Program
- 3:00 pm Meditation Group in the Parlour. Contact Fran for more information 902 870-1198.

**Thursday, October 31**

- 11:00 am Community Hot Meal Program
- 7:00 pm Choir practice

**The Rev. Peter Smith** is away on Study leave from Tuesday October 29 until Tuesday November 5<sup>th</sup>. If there is a pastoral emergency during that time please contact the Rev. Meredith Marple at 902-863-0452

**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 .

**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! The Antigonish Women’s Resource Centre’s Sexual Assault Services provides support and programs for women and adolescent girls who are facing issues related to poverty, violence, and mental health. Donations are used for emergency needs or for program services. (902) 863-6221 Family Services of Eastern Nova Scotia provides counseling and therapy to families and individuals. They also house the Men’s Health Centre which offers health services to males 12 years and older. Donations are used to help families who require support. (902) 863-2358 Antigonish County Adult Learning Association provides free learning opportunities for adults in our community including newcomers. Donations are used for transportation, childcare &course materials. (902) 863-3060

## 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.

**Speaker Series** St Paul's Anglican Church is pleased to announce the first talk in the Epistle at St. Paul's 2024-25 speaker series. Dr. Erika Koch will be speaking on Thursday November 7 at 7pm. The talk will be "Self-Compassion for the Common Good."

**Interfaith Panel:** Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Perspectives on the War in Gaza Five panelists will address pressing questions about how these religious traditions, especially the central ethic of 'saving life,' speak to the moral and spiritual questions raised by the yearlong events in Israel and Gaza and now Lebanon. Panelists include Dr. Eva Mroczek (Judaism, Dalhousie University); Rev. Steve Berube (St. Paul's United Church, Moncton); Dr. Darlene O'Leary (Social Justice Coordinator, the Marthas); Sheikh Abdullah Yousri (al-Ummah Society, Halifax); Digafie Debalke (Peace and Conflict, Coady International Institute). There will be an opportunity to ask questions. Date and time: November 7, 7:00 p.m. Location: StFX University, Schwartz School of Business, Room 215

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

