



Rev. Peter Smith (Clergy), Carolyn Curry (Organist)
May MacKenzie (CE Dir), Chad Brazier (Custodian)
Barb Shea (Secretary) office@stjamesuc.com
197 Main St, P.O. Box 1178, Antigonish, NS B2G 2L6
(902) 863-2001 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 24, 2024- Reign of Christ Sunday

GOD BRINGS US TOGETHER

Prelude Steal Away to Jesus, feat Bill Marshall
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)
We come to remember Christ's crucifixion.
We come to receive God's pardon.
We come to celebrate Christ's resurrection.
We come to experience God's grace.

Prayer of Approach (together)
**Eternal God, as we gather, we pray that your kingdom will come —
during this hour, in this place, and at this time.**
**May your kingdom come in our prayers, in our singing, in our
hearts, in our attitudes, and hearing your Word.**
**Then may your will be done as we leave this place of worship,
and as we commit ourselves to the gospel —
working, healing, helping, loving, and witnessing
to your mercy and grace through Jesus Christ, Amen.**

Hymn: 352 VU *I Danced in the Morning*
Children's Time and the Lord's Prayer
Hymn: 356 VU *Seek Ye First*

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH SCRIPTURE

Responsive Reading: Psalm 93 (p.813 VU)
First Lesson: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Beth Schumacher
Second Lesson: Revelation 1:4b-8 Chad Brazier
Gospel: John 18:33-37
Anthem: Ride On, King Jesus (American Spiritual, arr. Donald Moore)
Sermon: "Which King Do We Serve?"

GOD CALLS US TO RESPOND

Hymn: 135 VU *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*
Offering Prayer and Offering Response (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: 477 VU *I Come with Joy*
Sacrament of Holy Communion (see insert)
Hymn: 635 VU *All the Way My Saviour Leads Me*
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

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 Tim Hinds and Michèle Ashby

The Photo Directories have arrived! If you had your picture taken this spring your complimentary copy can be picked up in the hall or at the office during the week. Extra copies are available for purchase.

A New Creed

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.

The prayers and Christian sympathy of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of *Florence Anne Burke* who died last week. Please keep Flo's children and grandchildren, siblings, and friends in your thoughts and prayers during this time. The family are planning a service to celebrate her life with a service in July.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

Tuesday, November 27

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

Thursday, November 29

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

Saturday, November 30

10:00 am Everyone is welcome to come and help decorate the sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season

November 25th is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. The term "violence against women"; means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion, or arbitrary deprivation of liberty.

The 29th is the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. Now more than ever we need to support Palestinians in their struggle to survive as a people and a nation. Support for Palestine is not the equivalent of anti-Semitism. If you're at all uncertain about this complex issue, please educate yourself about it.

Community Fridge and Pantry volunteers thank you very much for your donations. Please place non-perishable items in the wooden box in the narthex.

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.

Celebration of Holy Communion on

Reign of Christ Sunday

St. James United Church, November 24, 2024

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 to give God thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, Holy God, for the teaching and witness of Jesus Christ. The record of scripture reveals to us the parables and wisdom he taught all disciples. The testimony of those who followed him bears witness to his life, death, and resurrection.

Help us to carry his words with us so that we might be a people informed and excited by the gospel message.

We give you thanks, Eternal God, for the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The suffering and trials of Jesus, the despair of the cross shows your great love for us. The triumph of the empty tomb and the presence of our Risen Lord, reveals the mystery and wonder of your grace.

Help us to embody your living Word that we might live as bold people of faith.

We thank you for this table and the gifts upon it. We thank you for the bread of life and the body broken upon the cross for our sins. We thank you for the cup of our salvation and the blood shed to seal the new covenant.

Help us to experience the great love and sacrifice which makes this meal communion with you.

*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!*

For as we come before this table we remember that Jesus broke the bread saying "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

We break this bread. We eat and remember.

As we come to this table, we remember that Jesus shared the cup saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

We share the cup. We drink and remember.

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

Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit upon this table that as we feast upon these gifts they might be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Allow us to draw near to you and share this bread and cup as a sign of our faith and trust in the power of your love and grace.

This we ask, Holy and Eternal God, in the name of Jesus and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion (together)

Eternal and Loving God, for the bread which we have eaten and the cup we have tasted, we praise and thank you. For you have touched us by your Holy Spirit, and challenged 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.

St James is a busy and active church not just on Sunday but throughout 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 please remember to contact the office to reserve your space.

Did you know? PAR (Pre Authorized Remittance) is a way to automatically make your offering to the church. Once a month your donation is transferred electronically to St. James. Best of all you don't have to remember where you left your envelopes! If you are interested in PAR speak to Pamela Cunningham or drop by the church office.

Missed a Sunday at St. James and want to see the service? Our worship is available online and available through our website at www.stjamesuc.com. The most recent service is in the center of the page, the last month's services are on the left, and just below last month's services is a link to our youtube page where all the older services are archived.

Scripture for Next Sunday

Jeremiah 33:14-16 • 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 • Luke 21:25-36

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lions Pancake and Sausage Breakfast on Sunday November 24 from 9-12 noon at the Lions Den located at 13 Highland Dr.Ext. Donations at the door will be going to the Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund.

St. FX Sociology Dept. Presents Dr. Agnes Calliste African Heritage Lecture: Dr. Kevin Hewitt "Social Justice Injustice and Stem": Connecting these ideas for better health outcomes and increased participation. Tues, Nov 26, 2024 7 pm Schwartz Auditorium. Livestreamed at [HTTPS://VIMEO.COM/STFXMEDIASERVICES](https://vimeo.com/stfxmediaservices)

Christmas with the Celtic Ladies. Saturday December 7 @ 7:30 pm at St. James United Church. Enjoy an evening of angelic harmonies with sopranos, Ann Holton-Melong, Brenna Conrad and Jodie Miller as they bring their rich tones and Celtic flair to Christmas classics! They will be joined by the fabulous Emery Van De Wiel on piano and Katey Aucoin on fiddle. Tickets at celticladiesmusic@gmail.com or \$25 at the door.