



**ST. JAMES UNITED**  
— C H U R C H —

Rev. Peter Smith (Clergy) Sheila Davison (Organist)  
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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)*

January 22, 2017- Third Sunday After Epiphany

### **GOD BRINGS US TOGETHER**

Prelude *Be Still My Soul and Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Fred Davison, trombone (setting Donald Busarow)

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: (84 VU O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word vs1)

***O radiant Christ, incarnate Word, eternal love revealed in time:  
come, make your home within our hearts,  
that we may dwell in light sublime.***

Call to Worship (responsive from Psalm 96:1-4a)

O sing to the Lord a new song;

**sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

Sing to the Lord, bless God's holy name;

**tell of salvation from day to day.**

Declare the Lord's glory among the nations,

**God's marvelous works among all the peoples,**

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

Prayer of Approach (together)

**We come here this morning to praise you, O Lord:**

**to praise you for your creative power;**

**to praise you for the life you have given us;**

**to praise you for your love and care;**

**and to praise you for the great purpose you have for our lives,**

**in Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Hymn: 79 VU Arise, Your Light has Come

Prayer of Confession (together)

**We confess, Merciful Lord,**

**that sometimes we fail by making individual decisions,**

**and sometimes we fail by going along with the decisions of others.**

**Sometimes we fail by speaking out,**

**and sometimes we fail by saying nothing.**

**Sometimes we fail by doing things we ought not to do,**

**and sometimes we fail by not doing the things we ought to do.**

**Pardon us, Lord God, both for our positive and negative sins,**

**and restore us through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Hymn: 167 MV Hush! Hush!

Children's Time and the Lord's Prayer

### **GOD SPEAKS THROUGH SCRIPTURE**

Prayer for Illumination

Responsive Reading: Psalm 27 (p. 754 VU)

Old Testament: Isaiah 9:1-4

Claire MacDonell

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Mark Cooke

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

Anthem *Walk in the Light* soloist Alistair Hamilton (arr. R. Houghton)

Sermon: "Answering the Call"

### **GOD CALLS US TO RESPOND**

Hymn: 161 MV I Have Called You By Your Name

Minute for Mission

Pamela Cunningham

Offertory *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

(James Biery)

Offertory Response (In Gratitude and Humble Trust 544 VU)

***In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today***

***to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.***

***O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son,***

***teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.***

Prayers of the People

Hymn: 563 VU Jesus, You have Come to the Lakeshore

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Benediction (84 VU O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word vs4)

***O Light of Nations, fill the earth; our faith and hope and love renew.***

***Come, lead the peoples to your peace, as stars once led the way to you.***

Postlude

**A warm welcome to all** who have gathered with us for worship this morning. May this time be one of fellowship with God and neighbour. If you are visiting please sign our guest book.

**Greeters at the door** this Sunday are Marilyn Swim and Harlan MacLeod

**The prayers and Christian sympathy** of the congregation are extended to the family of Ella Skinner whose funeral was yesterday here at St. James. Please keep all of her family and friends in your thoughts and prayers in the days and weeks ahead.

**Babies and toddlers who don't want** to stay in the service for worship are welcome to make use of the nursery located in the multipurpose room. The nursery has toys and a speaker for parents to hear the service. This week in the Nursery- Lori Young

#### **Next Week's Scriptures** (January 29, 2017)

Micah 6:1-8 • 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 • Matthew 5:1-12

**Bowls, plates, Casserole dishes:** Are you missing your favourite dish, we have a drawer full waiting for you to pick up. The items will be placed on a table in the hall for the next 3 weeks and then will be put in the Spring Yard Sale.

**St. James UCW** will be holding their annual Spring Yard Sale on Saturday, April 29th from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. There has a bit of a misunderstanding regarding the yard sales as a result of Barb Gardiner's sabbatical this year. To clarify the situation, there will be a spring and a fall yard sale as usual. Hazel Deon, Sharron MacDonald and Ellen Cross, who have been working the yard sales along with Barb, have agreed to take on the job. Barb will be convening the Holly Tea and Sale in November as usual. Please watch for upcoming drop-off dates for the spring sale.

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

**Tuesday, January 24**

7:30 am Yoga with Stacy Steeves in the Hall  
10:00 am Bible Study in the Parlour  
11:00 am Hot Meal in the church hall

3:00 pm Meditation Group in the Meeting Room.  
7:00 pm Council Meets in the Parlour

**Thursday, January 26**

11:00 pm Hot Meal in the Church Hall.  
6:30 pm Senior Choir (Welcoming new members)  
7:30 pm Women Chorus (Welcoming new members)

#### **UPCOMING AT ST. JAMES**

**Sunday, February 5**

11:30am Annual UCW Meeting in the Meeting room.

**Sunday, February 12**

10:30 am Our annual African Heritage/Black History Service with special music.

**Sunday, February 26**

11:30 am Our Congregational Annual Meeting will take place in the hall following a shared meal. Everyone is welcome

**Sunday, March 5**

10:30 am We will celebrate the Lord's Supper as we begin the move through Lent toward Holy Week.

#### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Sunday January 29, 9:00 A.M. to 1:00P.M.** Antigonish Lions Club Sausage & Pancake Breakfast. Lions Den Highland Dr. Extension Donations at the door. Monies go to Antigonish Food bank

**Saturday, Feb 4, 2017 from 8:30am-10:30am.** The Antigonish Women's Prayer Breakfast is being held Guest speaker is Dr. Angie Kolen, StFX Professor Human Kinetics. Topic: How faith informs my life... Tickets are \$15.00. Student tickets are \$7.50. Tickets available at St. Ninian parish office ( 902-863-2338)

## THOUGHTS ON DISCIPLESHIP

Christianity is a journey not a destination.

-John Spencer

...Christ did not appoint professors, but followers. If Christianity ... is not reduplicated in the life of the person expounding it, then that person does not expound Christianity, for Christianity is a message about living and can only be expounded by being realized in our lives.

-Soren Kierkegaard

The decision to grow always involves a choice between risk and comfort. This means that to be a follower of Jesus you must renounce comfort as the ultimate value of your life.

-John Ortberg

Jesus said you are to love one another as I have loved you, a love that will possibly lead to the bloody, anguish gift of yourself, a love that forgives seven times seven, that keeps no record of wrong. This is the criterion, sole norm, the standard of discipleship in the New Israel of God.

-Brennan Manning

Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, Communion without confession, absolution without personal confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Jesus tapped me on the shoulder and said, "Bob, why are you resisting me?" I said, "I'm not resisting you!" He said, "You gonna follow me?" I said, "I've never thought about that before!" He said, "When you're not following me, you're resisting me."

-Bob Dylan

The Christian ideal has not been found tried and found wanting, it has been found difficult and left untried.

- GK Chesterton