

**Saint James United Church**  
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**Minister: Rev. Adekunle Benjamin Adeniyi**  
**Admin. Assistant: Mary Wheelan**



Welcome all visitors and their families who may be worshipping with us this morning through live stream. We pray that you will feel the presence of God's Holy Spirit, as we worship.

**St. James United Church, Woodstock, N.B.**  
**Order of service for December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 10:30 a.m.**  
**First Sunday after Christmas**

## **Prelude**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us praise the Lord of all creation.

**Let all creation praise our God.**

God's name alone shall we praise, whose glory is reflected in earth and heaven.

**Praise our God, Provider, Savior, who called us into being and holds us close. Praise the Lord!**

### **OPENING PRAYER:**

**Dear Jesus, you have called each one of us, great God of the ages, and despite detours, you continue to call and show us love and grace. Now is the time of worship, we praise and thank you for your never-ending love. May your Holy Spirit breathe upon us anew. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND APPROACH**

**In the midst of our failings and struggles, Jesus Christ, bathe us in the waters of your Spirit, that perfect harmony may wash over us, and we might swim in the waters of your love and forgiveness.**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God comes to us, incarnate in an innocent baby, through whom we are free from the burden of sin. We are a forgiven people.

**Thanks be to God. Hallelujah.**

## **CELEBRATIONS**

### **MINUTE FOR MISSION**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Gracious God, we praise you for the greatest gift, your Son Jesus. As we dedicate our offerings, we devote ourselves to your service. Thank you for giving us opportunities to bring tidings of joy to our neighbors through the ministries of this congregation. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** John 1: 1-18

### **REFLECTION:**

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Eternal God, on this the first Sunday after Christmas, we sing with joy for the coming of God to earth. Help us to sow peace around us, live like Jesus, giving people a glimpse of his kingdom.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer**

Loving God we pray for your church throughout the world, for those people persecuted for their faith, whose songs are freedom songs. We pray for their safety and ask you to give their praise the strength to convince and convert, the power to ward off war and divisions and the love to bring peace.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer**

We pray for all those who lead our nations of the world and for those in authority, that they may always work for peace and for the good of their people.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer**

Faithful God, we pray for all who sing a sad song today: the grieving, the lonely, the lost and the bereaved. We pray especially for those who have lost their voice and feel silenced or oppressed. ...May we bring light into dark places, restore hope and vision to all who struggle, and bring well-being and comfort to all those who suffer.

**Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer.**

#### **BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**

**May the Spirit of love fill our hearts to overflowing. May**

**Christ's Spirit of peace be upon everyone, everywhere.**

The grace of Christ be with you, today and forevermore. **Amen.**

#### **Postlude**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **ANNUAL REPORTS**

**It is that time of year again. Please have reports in by January 15, 2021 so we can prepare for Annual Meeting.**

**Envelopes for 2021 are ready to be picked up in the lobby.**

