

Saint James United Church
120 Chapel St. Woodstock, N.B. E7M 1H1
Phone: 328-6114 Fax: 324-9349

E mail: stjames@nb.aibn.com Website: saintjamesunited.ca

Minister: Rev. Adekunle Benjamin Adeniyi

Music Ministry: Amy Anderson

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 April 4, 2021; 10:30 a.m.
Easter Sunday

Prelude

Introit: VU# 175 "This is the Day That God Has Made"

Welcome and Announcement

First Reading: John 20:1-2

Reflection: Part One

Prayers:

God of mystery, we have made it here on Easter morning, seeking to find you. We *know* the Easter story, yet we do not always *understand* what is happening. When your truth is not yet clear to us, give us courage to keep seeking that truth. So may our hearts learn to sing your Easter promise:

DONATIONS

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Leighton Clark Robert and Bonnie Stokes, Ruby MacNabb, David and Sandra MacNally, Fran Grzesik, John and Mary Wheelan, Blair and Angela Young, Gail Lipsett, Mary Leigh Webb, Esther Rogers, Doreen Canam and Family. Richard and Gail Reid. Marg and Mike McCallum, Janet MacElwain

A memorial donation has been made to the Youth Camp in loving memory of Leighton Clark by Scott and Angela Palmer

A memorial donation has been made to the Kirk Cemetery in loving memory of Leighton Clark by Wayne McCallum,

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Jolene Caverhill Wayne McCallum, Peter and Janet Clark, David and Sandra MacNally, Ruby MacNabb, John and Mary Wheelan, Gail Lipsett, Blair and Angela Young. Mary Leigh Webb, Esther Rogers, Shirley Gates, Carol Millie, Janet MacElwain

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Jolene Caverhill

A memorial donation has been made to the Children's Health Fund in loving memory of Jolene Caverhill by Scott and Angela Palmer

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Betty Wilson by Wayne McCallum, Scott and Angela Palmer, Doug and Marg Arnold, Fran Grzesik, Blair and Angela Young, Gail Lipsett Janet MacElwain, Doreen Canam and family. Shirley Gates

Closing Hymn VU # 242: “Let All Things Now Living”

Closing Prayer:

Dear Lord, draw our thoughts upward toward You every minute of every day, but especially this Easter. Help us resist the temptation to focus on the painful things of this earthly life and learn to control our thoughts so they don't sink our faith and joy in You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Blessing and Send Forth:

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Now we are an Easter people!

Now we are the people of the risen Christ!

Now we are the people who go out into the world living the love of God, sharing the peace of Christ, being the community of the Holy Spirit as we bring the new life of Easter to everyone we meet.

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

Choral Benediction

The bulletin today has been dedicated in loving memory of husband, Clair Robinson, by Phyllis Robinson and family.

MISSION STATEMENT The congregation of Saint James United Church strives to be a welcoming, caring, committed family of people from all ages and walks of life who come together in fellowship with each other and our Creator God.

We endeavor to respect each other's differences and abilities, to follow the way of Jesus, and to be open to the work of the Holy Spirit in us and through us, for the ultimate enrichment of our faith, our community and our world.

Second Reading: John 20:3–10

Reflection: Part Two

Prayers:

God of mystery, we confess that faith doesn't come easy every Easter. We know the Easter story, but we do not understand *how* things happened as that day dawned. Help us trust the faith of those who first believed. Ease our doubts and fill our hearts with faith that blossoms in hope as we sing:

Hymn VU #155: “Jesus Christ is Risen Today” Organ play vs 1.

Third Reading: John 20:11–16, 18a

Reflection: Part Three

Prayers:

God of mystery, we *know* the Easter story and we are *glad* to be caught up in its joy. You call each of us by name because you love us. So, may we live our love for you gladly as we sing with Easter joy:

Hymn VU #155: “Jesus Christ is Risen Today” Organ play vs 2.

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Offering

On this Easter day, we come to the table to remember our future with our Risen Lord. We remember Jesus declared that people will come from east and west and north and south to sit at table in God's kingdom. Remember the Risen Christ has spread this joyful feast for you. The gifts we bring to his table are for all those who love him and for all who want to love him more. Taste and see that God is good.

Communion Hymn: VU # 468 Let Us Talents
and Tongues Employ

The Story of the Table

When we gather at this table, we remember how this meal began, how it has promised hope and new life to Jesus' friends from one generation to the next. Often, when we gather, we remember bread and wine shared around a table one solemn, holy night. Today we remember another day, the first Easter day, when Jesus appeared to friends along a road. But they were too sad and tired to recognize him.

So, he came to the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. *Then* their eyes were opened; *then* they recognized him.

As we break this bread and share this cup in the name of our Risen Lord, may our eyes be opened to recognize Jesus' present with us here and now. And as Jesus offered thanks for the gifts of the earth, let us also bless God for what we are about receive.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

With hearts lifted high, O God, we offer our gifts to you on this joyful Easter Day, for we have seen your grace and power, rolling away the stone of sorrow and despair, bursting from the tomb in the gift of new life. And so, we join our voices with all creatures high and low, with all the saints who have gone before us, and with those who sit beside us and all around us, to raise the song of your unending goodness and greatness:

The Sanctus: Holy, holy, holy. O Christ, our Risen Lord, receive our praise and joy this day.

Your resurrection promises that there are new possibilities for us and our weary world. Even when we falter in discouragement at the daily news, even if we hesitate at the good news that your great love has come back to embrace us, you do not abandon us. You call us by name to assure us of your love and invite us to join you now as your friends. You have spread this table for us with gifts of bread and wine so that we may taste your love and grace, meant to bless and heal us. And so, we proclaim our faith and our hope as we sing:

The Acclamation: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Spirit of Life, rising in us and around us this Easter Day, breathe upon us now and upon this bread and wine. So, may they become for us Christ's body and life blood, to nourish us with the gift of new life in Christ. As this bread and wine become a part of us, may we become a part of you, Lord Jesus, and your work of healing this hurting world. Help us trust that all things will work together for good through the power of love that raised you from the dead, the power of the great love we share in your name. We pray for...hear our prayers and let it come to you. So, we are bold to pray for our daily bread as you taught us: **Our Father who art...**

The Fraction & Elevation

Jesus took bread, broke it and said, "This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me. He also took the cup of wine and said, This cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Drink from it, all of you."

Sharing the Elements

The One who was sealed in the tomb has been raised from death for our sake and is present with us in the Bread of Life. The Christ whose wounded hands bear the marks of our sorrow and pain now reaches out to us in the Cup of Joy.

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you have nourished us with bread broken and wine poured out to strengthen us for our journey. And you have put your Spirit in us anew to be a carrier of your peace wherever we go. You rise in us in spite of all that challenges us within our own lives and in the world you love. Send us out as your witnesses to share your peace and your grace with hope and humility for your sake. Amen.

DONATIONS

A memorial donation has been made to the Building Fund in loving memory of Leighton Clark by Keith and Pat Fullarton, Ron and Anne Murray and Building Fund (Roof) by Phyllis Robinson.

A memorial donation has been made to the Building Fund in loving memory of Jolene Caverhill by Ron and Anne Murray, and Building (Roof) by Phyllis Robinson.

A memorial donation has been made to the Building Fund in loving memory of Ed Stone by Ron and Anne Murray.

A memorial donation has been made to the U.C.W. Fellowship Unit Fund in loving memory of Jolene Caverhill by Keith and Pat Fullarton.

A memorial donation has been made to the Choir Fund in loving memory of Leighton Clark by Doug and Marg Arnold.

A memorial donation has been made to the Kirk Cemetery in loving memory of Ed Stone by Eugene and Audrey Stone, Blake and Heather Price, Mike and Sue Quinn, Brent Dimock and Sharon Sharpe.

Shelter the World in love this Easter

**God, make Easter my home.
Shelter me from apathy with a desire to do good.
Let the rhythm of my days pulse with your call to live justly.
Set the table of my soul with the generosity of your Spirit.
Furnish my life with such hope that, while I have breath, I
might not only share good news but also be a source of it. God,
make Easter not only my home but also my mission.
Amen**