

Saint James United Church

September 17, 2017 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost

120 Chapel St. Woodstock, N.B. E7M1H1

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Minister's Office 328-3191 Minister's Cell Phone No: 323-1304

Minister: Rev. Debra Baker

Music Director and Organist: Amy Anderson

Admin. Assistant: Mary Wheelan C.D. Coordinator: Joan Hall

Reader: Joan Hall

Ushers: Keith Fullarton, David and Sandra MacNally



Welcome all visitors and their families who may be worshipping with us this morning. We pray that you will feel at home here at Saint James and that you will feel the presence of God's Holy Spirit, as we worship. After the service please introduce

yourself to Rev. Debra., sign our guest book at the back of the sanctuary and join us for Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in the Board Room.

WE GATHER

Prelude

Introit VU#249 – Rejoice in the Lord Always (2X)

Welcome

Question to Ponder: Who do you need to forgive?

Call to Worship

Come to this place of love and forgiveness.

We have come because we want to celebrate our faith.

Come – for it is God who invites and welcomes you!

It is a joy to be invited by God!

Come, let us worship and praise our God together!

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept. 17 ^t	Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Special Music by Wyatt Morrell and Jens Jeppesen	
	Sunday School – Blessing of the Backpacks	
	Sunshine Singers	
	Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room	
	Northampton Fall Supper	3:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Sept. 18	Alzheimer Support Group	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Sept. 19	Games	1:00 p.m.
	Committee Meetings	7:00 p.m.
	Official Board	8:00 p.m.
Sept. 20	Quilting	1:00 p.m.
	Choir	7:15 p.m.
Sept. 24	Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Sunday School	
	Soup, Rolls and Fellowship in Board Room	
	Kirk Service	2:00 p.m.

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

The fall yard sale for Saint James will be held on Thursday, October 5, 2017 from 9:00 am. – 7:00 p.m. If you are able to help, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board or call Lana at 328-6736.

SCENT FREE ENVIRONMENT: A few of our congregation members have been experiencing problems due to perfumes in the church. We have tried to maintain a Scent Free Environment within Saint James United Church. We would like to remind everyone to please consider this request and refrain from wearing perfumes.

Mission for Minutes

Prayer of Opening

God of all times and places, we praise and worship you. You guide your creation with never-failing love, and take care of the needs of all your children. You give hope to the hopeless, freedom to the enslaved, and justice to the oppressed. Open our hearts and minds to new possibilities within the sacred circle of this community, so that, through Christ, we might participate in the healing of this beautiful yet hurting world. Amen.

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Hymn VU#232 – Joyful, Joyful We Adore You

Children's Time – Blessing of the Backpacks

Prayer of Confession

There are times, O God, when we don't think about you; when we use your name only in anger; when we have forgotten your love; when we have failed to show love to others; when we don't trust you; when we think no one, not even you, cares about us; when we have hurt someone and refused to say, "I'm sorry." For all these things and more, we say, "We're sorry, God" and ask for your forgiveness. Amen.

(time for silent prayer)

Words of Forgiveness

There is no limit to God's forgiveness. It comes to us over and over again. "Seventy times seven times," Jesus said, which means "without end." We are loved without end. We are forgiven without limit.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

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WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem Sweet Beulah Land

Scripture Sharing Exodus 14:19-31, 15:1b-11, 20-21

Musical Guests Wyatt Morrell & Jens Jeppeson

Scripture Song of the Sea, VU p.876
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

Message

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

Presentation of the Offering

Offertory *What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.*

Offertory prayer

God of life, take these gifts we offer, and use them to change the world. Use them to help bring people to freedom and new life. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

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Minute for Mission (printed)

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn VU#364 – Forgive Our Sins

Blessing and Sending Forth

Choral Amen VU#967 – Amen

Postlude

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**The congregation is invited to an Open House
in Celebration of 90 Years!!**

You are invited to join us at an Open House in
Wayne McCallum's honour
at the Y's Men's Club (Connell Park)
from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. on Saturday,
September 23, 2017. Best Wishes Only Please.
Join us for lunch and companionship.

***If you have noticed someone missing from our congregation, please
contact them by phone or visit them in person.
You may be their "angel."***

DONATIONS

A donation has been made to the Building Fund in loving memory of Nina Harrison by Wayne and Shirley McCallum.

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Nina Harrison by John and Mary Wheelan. .

A donation has been made to the Youth Development Fund in loving memory of Robert MacFarlane by Marg Beattie, Mary Cox-Price.

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Mary Jane Hatfield by Peter and Janet Clark.

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Robert MacFarlane by Lauren Graham, Doug and Lynda Swan, Joan Hall, Madeline, Steven and Keith Little.

A donation has been made to the Children`s Health Fund in loving memory of Rhoda Bernard by Doug and Lynda Swan.

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Dolly Gunning by Doug and Lynda Swan, Peter and Janet Clark.

A donation has been made to the Youth Development Fund in loving memory of Terry Drake by Mary Cox-Price.

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Terry Drake by John and Mary Wheelan, Saint James United Church Quilters.

A donation has been made to the Building Fund in loving memory of Robert MacFarlane by Andrea Dimock.

TODAY'S READINGS

Exodus 14:19-31

¹⁹The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Romans 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own Lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in the honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times."

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his Lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Scripture readings for September 24, 2017

Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1:21-30;
Matthew 20:1-16

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE HOUR We serve coffee and tea after church and if you wish to bring a snack to share, please feel free to do so.

We still need volunteers for setup and cleanup. **See sign up sheet.**
Thank you.

SURVEYS: We would like to thank all those who have completed and turned in their surveys. Just to let you know that, if you have not submitted the survey, there are copies available outside the church office. Please complete and place in the boxes at the Green Street entrance, as soon as possible. They would like to complete this project in the next couple weeks.

UPPER ROOMS FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER The **large print** did arrive but we are still waiting for the small print.
(Cost 3.00.)

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY SUPPORT GROUP

This support group meets at Saint James the 3rd Monday of each month. The next meeting will be from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on September 18th. All those who are care givers may like to mark this on your calendars. Please call the church office to confirm meetings over the summer, as sometimes there are changes.

SIGN-UP SHEETS: We have placed sign-up sheets on our bulletin board in the lobby for volunteers for:
Readers, Sunday School Teachers and Helpers,
Pie Making, Pie Orders, etc. Yard Sale, etc.

Please check the bulletin board for sign up sheets for orders, volunteers, and deliveries. We will let you know the exact date and times.

COMING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS!!

We've made it to Jerusalem and have toured around the city.
Now it's time to head for home.

If we start walking now, we can plan to be in Woodstock for Christmas. That is 8401 km. A sheet is back on the Bulletin Board to record your kms. This week we travelled 346 kms. The total to date is 2267.7 Kms. We are in the Mediterranean Sea.
Let's Go!! Keep Walking.

NORTHAMPTON FALL SUPPER

Come and enjoy a beautiful fall drive,
as well as, a delicious fall supper.
Sunday, Sept. 17th 3:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Turkey Supper with all the trimmings
and home made dessert.