

Saint James United Church

April 1, 2018

Easter Sunday

120 Chapel St. Woodstock, N.B. E7M1H1

Phone: 328-6114 Fax: 324-9349 Evenings: 328-3198

Email: stjames@nb.aibn.com Minister's Office 328-3191

Minister's Cell Phone No: 323-1304

Ministers: Rev. Debra Baker

Music Director and Organist: Amy Anderson

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

Ushers: Ray and Arlene Derrick

Reader: Andrea Dimock



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

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.

He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know he lives?

He lives within my heart.

Welcome

Question to Ponder What might you have done if you had discovered the empty tomb?

DATES TO REMEMBER

- | | | |
|--------|--|--|
| Apr. 1 | Sunrise Service
Farm Market Parking Lot
Easter Breakfast
Morning Worship Easter Sunday
with Communion.
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room | 7:00 a.m.

8:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. |
| Apr. 3 | Games
Sparks and Pathfinders | 1:00 p.m.
6:30 p.m. |
| Apr. 4 | Quilting Group
Choir | 1:00 p.m.
7:15 p.m. |
| Apr. 5 | Unity Group | 2:00 p.m. |
| Apr. 8 | Morning Worship
Covenanting with Elders
Sunday School
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room | 10:30 a.m. |

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 endeavour 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.

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.

RAISE THE ROOF
FUNDRAISER

Our church is in need of major roof repairs to the cost of about \$ 50,000.00. Pictures have been placed on the bulletin board outside the board room for you to see. We have about \$ 5,000 donated already. We will have a thermometer on the bulletin board to keep you informed how we are doing. If you have any questions, please contact the chair of the Board of Stewards, John McLellan. All donations would be greatly appreciated. This project will be taking place in the early spring.

COFFEE HOUR *Special thanks to our Session committee for hosting coffee hour for the Month of March. If you would like to donate goodies feel free to drop off in the board room on Sunday. The Unity Group will be our Hostess for Coffee Hour the month of April.*

UPPER ROOMS FOR MARCH AND APRIL *Cost \$ 3.00*
Both Small and Large Print are here.

SALVATION ARMY GARAGE SALE

*Woodstock Community Church
100 Eastwood Drive, Woodstock New Brunswick
Saturday April 7, 2018
8 am to 2:00 pm to support our Self Denial Program.*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

April 13, 2018 Eighth Acts 7:00 p.m.
with Silent Auction
April 21, 2018 Fashion Show and Tea 2:00 p.m.
April 27, 2018 Yard Sale 9:00 a.m. – 4:00m p.m.
April 28, 2018 U. C. W. Rally
at Forest Hill United Church
May 3, 2018 Drive Through Roast Beef Supper

Call to Worship

(Written by David Lander. *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2018, page 39. Used by permission.)

Opening Prayer

We turn to you, O God, our minds filled with fresh memories of the miracle of resurrection.

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

The previous hardships of our Lenten journey are all but forgotten in the miracle of the resurrection.

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

We are eager to learn about Jesus' new way of life made possible through the miracle of the resurrection.

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Fill our hearts, minds, and lives, we pray with the miracle of your resurrection.

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

(Written by Fern Gibbard. *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2018, page 42. Used by permission.)

Hymn

VU# 179 – Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks

Sunday School Easter Presentation

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, in the twilight just before dawn, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb. So also do we seek life in shadowed places, within us and in our world. Help us to see miracles, where now we see only loss. Let us find the risen Christ within our hearts and within the world.

(Written by Wanda Winfield. *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2018, page 43. Used by permission.)

(silent confession)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Words of Assurance

Jesus Christ is risen! New life abounds!

Jesus speaks to us in tender invitation, transforming weeping to laughter, tears to joy.

Jesus rises not with angel armies or heavenly choirs, but in the soft words of gardeners, in the vagrant laughter of children, and in the rich smells of creation awakening.

Thank you God, for these gifts, and for the openness to accept your welcome. Now we can live resurrection lives in joyous hope.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

(Written by Gord Dunbar. *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2018, page 43. Used by permission.)

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Ministry of Music

Prayer of Illumination

As we read your Holy Scripture, loving God, may our hearts and voices be filled with joy, knowing that the Lord has risen, giving us new hope as he makes all things new. Amen.

Scripture Sharing

Acts 10:34-43

Psalms 118, VU p.837, Pts 1,2,3 (remain seated)

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

John 20:1-18

Meditation

Hymn

VU#157 – Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

PENTECOST-May 20th Transfers and Confirmation

Anyone who wishes to become a member of Saint James, through transfer of membership from another church or by confirmation, please contact Rev. Deb, as soon as possible, so that we can include you at our Pentecost service.

8th ACTS VARIETY SHOW This year's date for our 8th Acts is **Friday, April 13, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** here in the C. E. Centre. We will also be having a **Silent Auction** at this time.....so get your Acts fine tuned, and your items gathered for the Auction. **Let Joan know if you have either of these. Thanks!!**

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 **April 16, 2018**. 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.

ZINK & CO. BLUEGRASS BAND will be returning to the area

Friday, April 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

at the Woodstock High School McCain Theatre.

Joining them again this year will be the Speerville's own "phiddling phenome," Layla Cantafio (and Friends)- another "must-see" entertainer who is well on her way to a great musical career! Advance tickets are \$ 18.00 and will be available until April 3rd at MES Music, Newnham & Slipp Pharmacy, and Ayr Motor Center in Woodstock. Rush tickets will be \$ 20.00 at the door. For more info, contact Gary Beatty at 328-8340 or gbeatty@nbnet.nb.ca

Choral Benediction

Because He Lives

God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus,
He came to love, heal, and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Saviour lives.
Because He lives I can face tomorrow,
Because He lives all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future.
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

Postlude

+++++

Scriptures for Sunday, April 8, 2018

Acts 4:32-35; Ps 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31

**The bulletin today has been dedicated in loving memory
of Kimberly (Buckingham) Green by the Family.**

DONATIONS

*A donation has been made to the Choir Fund
in loving memory of Donna White by Phyllis Robinson.*

*A donation has been made to the Kirk Cemetery Fund
in loving memory of Walter Neil by Shirley Blue.*

*A donation has been made to the General Fund
in loving memory of David Drake by John and Mary Wheelan.*

*A donation has been made to the Roof Fund in loving memory of
Kimberly (Buckingham) Green by Gail Lipsett..*

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

**Rejoicing! Uprising! Shouting our praise! We joyfully offer the
gifts that are here for others, for ministry, for healing for all.
Alleluia! Amen!**

(Written by Kate Crawford. *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2018, page 45. Used by permission.)

Minute for Mission *(printed)*

Announcements

Communion Hymn MV#195 – Long Ago and Far Away

EASTER COMMUNION LITURGY

This is the table of the risen Christ. In this feast comes the root of our joy. In this feast gleams the promise of the earth and the glory of all creation. In this feast comes the Christ, Saviour and Friend to all.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In his ministry, Jesus invited people to roll the stones of fear, limitation, and death away from their lives. He healed those whose lives had become defined by what they could not do: the blind and lame, the fearful and biased, and the deaf and “unclean.” He called all people away from the path of brokenness, and set people truly free to be truly alive.

We are like the people who Jesus walked with. Many rocks entomb us. But we can be set free. We, too, can come to life.

There are times when we are blind to the needs of others; times when we choose not to see the reality of their existence.

May this stone be rolled away, that we may see our own needs and the needs of others in a balanced way.

There are times when we are fearful, paralyzed by ambivalence. We let others make decisions for us, unable to expose our thoughts and feelings.

May this stone be rolled away; may we walk on the paths of our own choosing, trusting that there will be companions on our journey.

There are times when we feel contaminated or “unclean” because of the experiences that form our past.

May this stone be rolled away and reveal the possibilities of our future. May the light of forgiveness shine into the tomb of the past and call us into new beginnings.

There are times when we are dead to human feelings and emotions, dead to the joys of living, and dead to the love that others offer us.

May this stone be rolled away so that we may experience all the feelings of joy, defeat, sorrow, love, and acceptance.

As the bread we break and eat becomes a part of every fibre of our bodies, so may we embody this spirit which refuses to be entombed. May we yearn for and expect freedom from constrictions and obstructions for ourselves and others.

As we drink from the cup of the new covenant, may we feel the life-giving energy that flows through our bodies, and calls us to radiate new life and new love as we leave the tomb.

As we open ourselves to God’s spirit, may we be enabled to see, hear, and feel the needs and agonies of our world. May we experience joy and wonder, and may others be encouraged by our example.

On the night before Jesus died, he welcomed his followers to a table of bread and wine. Taking the loaf, he broke it, saying, “In the sharing of this bread, remember and see all that I am and have been for you, and come into the fullness of God’s world.” Offering a cup of wine to his gathered friends, Jesus said, “In the sharing of this wine, remember and know all that I have given and give to you, and come into the joy of God’s love.”

Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

Distribution of communion elements

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life

Jesus Christ, the Cup of Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

God of life, the empty tomb confronts us with a wild new possibility: that even death cannot defeat your power to bring a resurrection of new possibilities and new hope out of the shattered remains of old visions and abandoned dreams.

Thank you, O God, for this gift of Easter. May its reality become part of us, that our own “black Friday” experiences become not threats to our faith or full living, but challenges to deeper commitment and closer understanding of you. May your resurrecting power move through us for the renewal of our world. Amen.

Closing Hymn VU#164 – The Day of Resurrection

Blessing and Sending Forth