

Saint James United Church

July 23rd, 2017 – 7th 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

Ushers: Mary Dimock, Andrea Dimock

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 23 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room

July 25 Games 1:00 p.m.

July 30 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room

Sept. 10th Sunday School Opening for Fall



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.

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.

WE GATHER

Prelude

Introit Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face.
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Welcome

Question to Ponder: Jacob says, "Surely the Lord is in this place!"
Have you ever felt like this?

*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 memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Shirley MacDonald by Phyllis Robinson.

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Ruth Gartley by Alma Gartley.

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Pam Black by Alma Gartley.

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Eldora Atkinson by Phyllis Robinson.

Call to Worship

This is none other than the house of God. This is no less than the gate of heaven.

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

God hems us in, behind and before, and lays hands of blessing upon us.

Such knowledge is too wonderful to imagine. It is so high we cannot attain it.

Rejoice, for we are in the house of God. Give thanks and sing, for this is the gate of heaven.

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

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Prayer of Opening

Loving God, we thank you for all those who have planted your word and grown in faith before us. Bless us in our ministries of service and word. Guide us as your church. Plant your word in our hearts and your faith in our lives, that we might carry your message of love and hope to a world in need. Nurture us with your Spirit, that we might grow into a strong and mighty forest of faithful discipleship. Live in us, that we might be your people and honour your holy name. By the grace and love of Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.

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Hymn

VU#391 – God Reveal Your Presence

Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance

God of the heavenly stair, we are imperfect people, longing for a glimpse of your glory. We are like Jacob, praying for a fresh start after a past that still makes us blush. When we consider the field of our hearts, we hope to be deemed more *wheat* than *weed* when the day of reckoning comes. With the psalmist, we ask you to examine our hearts, and make our imperfections known to us, that we might have the courage to change and become the people you envision us to be. Amen.

(time for silent confession)

Receive the good news: God, who is faithful and just, forgives those who sincerely confess their sins. Hear this good news: We worship a God of forgiveness, not condemnation.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

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WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem

Scripture Genesis 28:10-19a
 Psalm 139, VU p.861
 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Message

Music for reflection

Hymn MV#172 – God Says

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, just as you received Jacob's gift of oil poured on the stone that had been his pillow, receive our humble gifts today as an act of worship. May our offering make your name known in places where you are needed. Amen.

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Minute for Mission

Announcements

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

The Lord's Prayer VU#960

Closing Hymn VU#497 – Nearer My God to Thee

Blessing and Sending Forth

God promised that every family of the earth would be blessed through God's people. You are blessed to be a blessing. You have been blessed. Now go and *be* a blessing! Amen.

Choral Postlude VU#963 – May the Grace of Christ

Postlude

LOVE CHILDREN? LOVE GOD?

WANTED: *Men or Women interested in being
 Sunday School Teachers*

Nursery Workers

Classes Ages 5 - 7 yrs.

8 - 12 yrs.

*At the most you need to prepare for 11 Sundays in 2017 –
 Whole People of God Curriculum is being used.
 Lessons, crafts etc. suggested and explained for you.*

SUMMER CONCERTS to Celebrate the 175th Anniversary of St. Gertrude's Parish, Woodstock, NB

You are invited to attend the noon hour concerts to be held at St. Gertrude's Church, 111 Union Street, Woodstock, NB in celebration of the 175th anniversary of the parish. The concerts feature local and parish musicians and singers.

All concerts with one exception, will begin at 12:05 pm and conclude at 12:45 pm.

The scheduled performers are:

Saturday, July 29—*Cameron and Sarah Slipp* (instrumental, vocal)
****7 pm start**

Friday, August 11—*Kathy Cox, Mary Hanson, Candido DaCunha*
(organ, piano)

Wednesday, August 16—*Alie Ross* (vocal)

TBA---**The Goodine Family** (vocal, instrumental)

The Bahar Children (instrumental)

Come and enjoy these concerts during your noon hour this summer.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 28:10-19a

¹⁰Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹²And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place – and I did not know it!" ¹⁷And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

¹⁸So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹He called that place Bethel.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴ [Jesus] put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.'

ANNOUNCEMENTS

³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Scriptures for July 30, 2017

Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Romans 8:26-39;
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

LENTEN CHALLENGE WE HAVE ARRIVED!

*Not only that, we have toured the city
for 199.5 km. Congratulations!!*

An Awesome Job well done!

*Keep on Walking! Participation is where it's at.
Healthy people equals a Healthy Church.*

*Congratulations to
Marion MacFarlane who walked the farthest - 1152 km.
and Wanda Phillips right behind with 1147 km.*

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
August 21st. 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.*

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. Thank you.*

UPPER ROOMS FOR JULY AND AUGUST *have arrived and are
located at the back of the church. (Cost 3.00.)*