

Saint James United Church

June 4th, 2017 – Pentecost Sunday

120 Chapel St. Woodstock, N.B. E7M1H1

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Minister: Rev. Debra Baker

Music Director and Organist: Amy Anderson

Supply Organist: Marjorie Hewson

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

Ushers: Keith Fullarton, Ron Murray, Beverley Boone



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 C.E. Centre.

WE GATHER

Prelude

Introit VU#381 – Spirit of Life

Welcome

Question to Ponder What does it mean to be open to the Spirit?

Call to Worship

O God, the earth is full of the many creatures you have made!

Praise God forever!

All living creatures depend on you to survive. You give food, and they gather it and are filled with good things.

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 4 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Communion, Confirmation, Transfers
Sunday School
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room
Kirk Service 2:00 p.m.

June 6 Games 1:00 p.m.
Sparks / Pathfinders 6:30 p.m.

June 7 Study Group "The Trinity" 10:00 a.m.

June 8 Unity Group Luncheon 12:30 p.m.

June 11 Grad Breakfast 9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room

NOTE: SUNDAY June 18th Congregational Picnic, Sunday School Closing Morning Worship at Jellystone Park 10:30 a.m. Everyone Welcome . Come and bring the family for a Pot Luck Lunch, Hot Dogs provided. Bring your favourite summertime dish, knives, forks, spoons, plates and beverages.

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.

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

Acts 2: 5-21

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ ‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

Scripture Readings for Sunday, June 11, 2017

Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

Praise God forever!

When you hide your face, they are afraid. When you take their breath away, they die. But when you breathe life into them, they live and you give new life to the whole world.

Praise God forever!

We will sing to God forever! As long as we breathe, we will sing praises to God.

Praise God forever!

May our words please God. Our joy comes from God’s presence.

Praise God forever!

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Prayer of Opening

Breathe on us, breath of God, and fill us with life anew. Help us love what you love and do what you would do. As we worship this day, may we glow with the fire divine, that we may become like Jesus, bringing healing and hope to a hurting world. Amen.

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Hymn

VU#375 – Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Story Time

Prayer of Confession

We confess, O God, that the fire of your Spirit does not always glow as brightly within us as it could. Sometimes we almost blow out the fire

by wanting comforts instead of your compassion;

by seeking power over others instead of your passion for justice;

by holding on to our own judgements and opinions

instead of listening for your truths.

Forgive us, God, and open our hearts to you, that we may celebrate the Spirit within and among us, and so help bring your realm of peace on earth. Amen.

(time for silent confession)

Words of Forgiveness

Like a gentle breeze, God fans the flames of our spirits within.

Like a strong wind, God wakes us up to the need to forgive and be forgiven.

Like a mighty storm, God cleans away the past and forces us to look at the future anew.

Awakened, forgiven, renewed, we are free to dance with the Spirit. Thanks be to God! Amen.

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CONFIRMATION AND TRANSFERS

Kyle Young – confirmation

Karen Elliott – transfer

Terri MacFarlane – transfer

Betty Wilson – transfer

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

<i>Anthem</i>	Like a Healing Stream
<i>Scripture</i>	Numbers 11:24-30 John 20:19-23 Acts 2:1-21
<i>Message</i>	Mary, sister of Martha tells the story of Pentecost
<i>Hymn</i>	VU#205 – Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song

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.*

TODAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Numbers 11:24-30

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua, son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!” ³⁰And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

John 20:19-23

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

Acts 2:1-21

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Minutes for Mission

A Call to Leadership

Our gifts for Mission & Service support theological schools like St. Andrew's Theological College in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Let us hear the reflection of Principal Lorne Calvert.

“Our United Church of Canada has initiated a new campaign to attract people to ordered ministry under the theme ‘God’s World Needs Leaders.’ As a college whose mission is to offer justice-driven education for Christian leadership, we welcome this undertaking.

“Our ministers are responsible for leading, guiding, and supporting the community of faith in the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ. They touch people’s lives at various points of joy, pain, celebration, and vulnerability in a variety of ways—by leading in worship, by providing pastoral care, by standing with those who suffer, and by working for justice and peace.

“With the help of St. Andrew’s alumni the college is being equipped with new technology to provide our students with the best possible options for online and distance learning. We are reaching out to establish new partnerships locally and internationally for educational opportunities. Through the work of our faculty beyond the classroom we offer cutting-edge theology and scholarship.

“We seek to be the affirming, justice-driven, and welcoming community that we are called to be. All of this we strive for because God’s world needs leaders.”

We sing thanksgiving for the commitment of United Church theological schools that our gifts for Mission & Service support! If Mission & Service is already a regular part of your giving, thank you so much! If you have not given for Mission & Service, please join me in making Mission & Service a regular part of your life of faith. In all our Mission & Service giving, with a willing heart, we sing thanksgiving to God!

Offertory prayer

Life-giving Spirit, bring to the bones of these gifts the flesh of our actions, and the breath of our caring, that our church and our service to others may come to life in your name. Amen.

Minute for Mission (printed)

Announcements

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Hymn

VU#456 – Now to Your Table Spread

As we come to this table, we are reminded that this is not the table of this congregation; nor is it the table of The United Church of Canada, or any particular denomination. It is the table of Jesus Christ, the family feast of the whole people of God. All who seek to be nourished and sustained in the journey of faith and long to live justly and in peace with their neighbour, are welcome here. Let us eat and drink together for our strengthening in the faith, and for the sake of the world.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give God thanks and praise.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We praise you, eternal God, for on the first day of the week you called creation into being. Through the movement of your Spirit, the heavens and earth were formed and shaped. You made each of the plants and animals in our world and gave them life and purpose. You made people to live for you and for each other.

So on this first day of the week, we give you thanks and praise for creation.

We praise you, merciful God, for on the first day of the week you caused the resurrection to take place. Through your will, Jesus who had been crucified and buried was raised from the dead. You shattered the power of death and sin and freed us to know your mercy and grace. In Jesus Christ, you have called us to a new life in this world and in the world to come.

So on this first day of the week, we give you thanks and praise for Jesus Christ our Saviour.

We praise you, wondrous God, for on the first day of the week you caused your Spirit to descend as tongues of fire for all to see. Through your gift of the Spirit, wonders took place to show the power and promise of your love. You moved the disciples to go out into the world to tell of salvation and hope. Through the Holy Spirit you have continued to bless Christians and your church.

So on this first day of the week, we give you thanks and praise for your Spirit.

As people of faith, we have come to this table. We take the bread and cup as signs of hope and life. For with his disciples Jesus took bread, broke it, and said, “This is my body which is given for you. Each time you do this, remember me.”

We remember Christ’s body broken for the forgiveness of sins.

He also took the cup saying, “This cup is the new covenant God has made with you in my blood. Each time you do this and drink from this cup, remember me.”

We remember Christ’s blood shed for the redemption of the world.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray, that as we take this bread and drink from this cup we might know again the living Christ among us.

Fill us with the hope and strength of your Spirit that we might respond with our complete lives. Send your Holy Spirit that as your holy people and your holy church we might transform the world in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Now we gather all of our prayers including the prayers of our hearts into that one prayer that Jesus taught us as we say, **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever, amen.**

The bread of life.

The cup of blessing.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer after Communion

Life-giving God, may we, who share Christ’s body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring new life to others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and all creation will live to praise your name. Amen.

Closing Hymn VU#198 – Come, O Spirit, Dwell among Us

Blessing and Sending Forth

God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us, may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us, may the gifts of your Spirit equip us to serve and worship you now and always.

Amen.

Choral Postlude

VU#963 – May the Grace of Christ

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN CHALLENGE During Lent as a congregation let's pledge to walk to Jerusalem from Saint James. That's 8942 Km. We have a lot of walkers here all we need to do is keep track of our km. and report in once a week during lent. A tally sheet will be posted on the Bulletin Board. The person with the most km. will receive a special prize. **TRAVEL LOG** The week of May 28 - 666.5 Km.

We have gone 6790.2 Km and have reached dry land.

With the enthusiasm we have decided to continue this journey until we get there. Keep Walking.

COFFEE HOUR This year we will be serving 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 located at the back of the church. (Cost 3.00.)

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND We have a new Youth Development Fund which donations would be greatly appreciated.

CAMP GRAMMIE July 16,17, 18th See bulletin board - brochures.

**FUNDRAISER DINNER—Philippine, Spanish and Canadian
Salvation Army June 9th 6:00 p.m.
See Bulletin Board for more information**

DONATIONS

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Roy MacNally by the family of the late Don and Val Stewart.

A donation has been made to the Youth Camp Fund in loving memory of Anne Carr by Mary Cox Price.

The flowers under the church sign have been supplied and planted by Beth Christie in appreciation of the congregations kindness to the family at the time of Bill and Judy's deaths