

Saint James United Church

January 15th, 2017 – 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

120 Chapel St. Woodstock, N.B. E7M1H1

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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: Nigel and Carolyn Drake, Ron Murray.

Reader: Randy Leonard



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

Centering Words (1 Cor 1)

Grace and peace. Jesus has been born. Wise and royal visitors have come. Wait now for more to be revealed – revealed in prayer, in word, in warm welcomes.

Prelude

Introit VU#87 – I Am the Light of the World (chorus only 2x)

Welcome

DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan. 15	Morning Worship Sunday School Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room	10:30 a.m.
Jan. 17	Games Sparks / Pathfinders	1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
Jan. 18	Quilting Choir	1:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.
Jan. 23	Morning Worship Sunday School Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room	10:30 a.m.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES AND HOME ADDRESSES

We are working on updating all our mailing and email addresses in the church office. If you could give Mary a call and let her know your updates, it would be very much appreciated.

JUST A REMINDER *Due to many people suffering from allergies, 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.*

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.

DONATIONS

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Bill Scott by Joan Hall.

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

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

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

A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Marjorie Urban by Mary Dimock.

Call to Worship

Happy are those who place their trust in God, who sing God's praise with a new song.

God's wondrous deeds are many and great. Their number is greater than the stars in the sky.

Happy are those who wait patiently for God, who cry out to God with their whole heart.

For God hears our pleas and listens to our requests.

God is steadfast and faithful.

Let us worship the One for whom we wait.

(From The Abingdon Worship Annual 2017 © 2016 Abingdon Press.)

Opening Prayer

Transforming God, leader of life's journeys, teach us what we need to learn – the ways and graces, of creative, active waiting; the cry and the confidence of the psalmist; the honest testimony of the prophet; the clarion vision and the voice of the mystic.

Labour may sometimes seem in vain, yet surely you are present; surely you are here to deliver. Grant us eager hearts, that we may delight to do your will. Amen.

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Hymn

VU#415 – God, We Praise You for the Morning

Children's Time

Prayer of Confession

O God, we find it hard to wait. A good work done, a season accomplished, a list completed, a celebration: these we love, and we ask your blessings be upon them.

Yet we know more deeply that the wait is never completely over. Your reign has come, and yet we wait for you to be more fully revealed. Strengthen us in this, we pray, and help us to wait faithfully. Sharpen our knowledge, bless our spirits, enhance our vision and ready us for action. Amen.

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Words of Assurance

God is faithful. All who are called by God, and all who call upon God will be strengthened, not blamed.

In Christ Jesus, all are loved and forgiven. Amen.

Response VU#958 – Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem **Strength for the Journey**

Scriptures Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40, VU p.764
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

Message

Music for Reflection: Scott Palmer
“And Now My Lifesong Sings”

Hymn VU#573 – Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

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

Sacrifices and offerings you do not desire, O God, but the transformation of our hearts and minds. This we know. As we await your revelation in the world, fashion us and all that we offer this day into a living testimony of your glory. Amen.

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Minute for Mission

Announcements

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn VU#378 – Spirit of God, Descend upon my Heart

Blessing and Sending Forth

Go forth with open ears and eyes, awaiting the ongoing revelation of Jesus. May God strengthen you, guide your steps, and put a new song in your heart.

Amen.

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Choral Benediction Go Now in Peace

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Postlude

The bulletin today has been dedicated in loving memory of my musical colleague, Leonard Orser, by Amy Anderson.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

COMMITTEES 2017

Nominating Committee *Eleanor Leonard*
Andrea Dimock
Mary Dimock

The above committee will be looking for volunteers to serve on committees for 2017.

Sign-up sheets have been put on the bulletin board for the following committees---Board of Stewards, Session, M & P and the CDC Committee.. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact one of the above members. They have a list of the responsibilities, if you would like a copy.

FUNDRAISER

Sunday, January 15, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. Knoxville, N.B. Come out and enjoy an afternoon of gospel music and support the Knoxville Praying Band Church in their fundraising efforts.

Performers will be Side Effects (Barb & Ray Kierstead, Gary Beatty, Ed & Becky Betts), Jack McAfee, Andrea Weston, and Tammy & Gary Morris.

DIVORCE CARE – *At the home of Keith and Jane Bull—For further information please contact 323-9876.*

GRIEF SHARE – *Woodstock Baptist Church 694 Main St. For further information please contact Pastor Leonard 324-8020 or Wanda Porter 272-2070.*

WORKSHOP *Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training*
See Bulletin Board

Isaiah 49:1-7

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. ³And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." ⁴But I said, "I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward is with my God."

⁵And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength – ⁶he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." ⁷Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ²to the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind –

⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you –
⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 1:29-42

²⁹The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³²And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.”

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

Scriptures for Sunday, January 22, 2017

Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL REPORT TIME *January is here! The meetings for 2016 have ended. Don't forget to get your reports into Mary by January 15th. This is a great way to tell everyone what has been happening over the past year. Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for Feb. 12, 2017.*

OBSERVER SUBSCRIPTION : *Now is the time for renewal of your Observer Subscription for 2017. The cost is \$ 25.00. If you are not receiving a copy and would like to subscribe, please contact Mary at the church office.*

CHURCH CALENDARS 2017 *Have arrived. Check at the office, if you wish to purchase one. Cost \$ 7.00*

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. Thank you*

UPPER ROOMS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY *have arrived and located at the back of the church. Cost is \$ 3.00.*

CHURCH ENVELOPES *The offering envelopes for 2017 are located in the lobby. If you wish envelopes for the up coming year, please contact Mary at the church office.*

RECEIPTS FOR 2016 ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH LOBBY OUTSIDE THE CHURCH OFFICE.