

DATES TO REMEMBER

Saint James United Church

February 26^h, 2017 – Transfiguration Sunday

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: David and Sandra MacNally, Randy Leonard

Reader: Evelyn Clark



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 Soup, Rolls and Fellowship in the board room.

WE GATHER

Centering Words

Transfigured by light, Jesus was changed. James, John, and Peter saw it and were changed. Come away to the mountaintop; be still, be yourself, be who God intends you to be. Be changed.

Prelude

Introit MV#13 – O Let the Power Fall on Me (2x)

Welcome

- Feb. 26 Morning Worship **Communion** 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School
Sunshine Singers
Soup Rolls and Fellowship in C.E. Centre
Family Fun Sliding Party 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Come and bring your sleds for an afternoon of sliding. Hot Chocolate and Hot Dogs to follow at Debbie and David Daye's.
- Feb. 27 Fellowship Unit 7:00 p.m.
- Feb. 28 Games 1:00 p.m.
Sparks / Pathfinders 6:30 p.m.
- Mar. 1 Lenten Study Group 10:00 a.m.
Ash Wednesday Lenten Service 12:05 p.m. St. Gertrude's
Quilting 1:00 p.m.
Choir 7:15 p.m.
- Mar. 2 Unity Group U.C.W. 2:00 p.m.
- Mar. 4 (Saturday) World Day of Prayer Service 2:30 p.m.
Salvation Army
- Mar. 5 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School
Handbells and Sunshine Singers
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room

SCENT FREE ENVIROMENT: *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.*

Matthew 17:1-9

¹Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

Scriptures for Sunday, March 5, 2017 – 1st Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15-17,3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

*If you have noticed someone missing from our congregation,
please contact them by phone or visit them in person.*

You may be their “angel.”

Call to Worship

Climb the mountain of God and wait ...
wait for God’s glory, which shines like the sun.

We will climb the mountain of God and wait for the dawn.

Climb the mountain of God and wait ...
wait to see Jesus as he truly is.

**We will climb the mountain of God and wait for Christ to reveal
the heart of God.**

Climb the mountain of God and wait ...
wait to gain courage for the terror of the night.

**We will climb the mountain of God and wait for the Spirit to
dispel the darkness.**

Climb the mountain of God and wait ...
wait to behold God’s glory.

**We will climb the mountain of God and wait to see God’s light
shining like the sun.**

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Opening Prayer

Light of God, shine upon us this hour. We bring to you all that we are – both our strengths and our weaknesses. We lift our prayers for your world in all its beauty and its pain, trusting in your Spirit’s power to redeem. As your light once made Jesus appear radiant on a mountaintop with Moses and Elijah, transform us as we worship here today. Let us encounter your Holy Spirit, undeniably present among us, that we may bear Christ’s light to a world that longs for peace. Amen.

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Hymn

VU#345 – Come, Children, Join to Sing

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we have seen your light and glory: in the work of your church, in the faces of loved ones, and in the life of Jesus Christ. Yet our memories are short, and we soon start complaining that you feel far away.

Forgive us when we descend from life's mountaintops only to quickly forget how you have loved us. Pardon us for the times we have neglected to seek you in the faces of lonely or suffering neighbours. Open our eyes and ears, Lord. Teach us to seek you and to listen as you call.

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(silence for private confession)

Words of Assurance

The light of God's grace shines upon us and through us. Knowing us completely, God accepts and loves us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response VU#958 – Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem Bread of Life

Scriptures Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2, VU p.725
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

Message

Music for Meditation

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

Exodus 24:12-18

¹²The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

2 Peter 1:16-21

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the mountain.

¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Blessing and Sending Forth

Do not fear to climb the mountain of God.

We will walk in the light and truth of God.

Do not fear the voice that calls from heaven.

We will hear the call to follow Jesus.

Do not fear the glory of God that appears like a devouring fire.

We will bathe in the wonder of our God.

Do not fear to shine the light of Christ in the world.

We will be like lamps shining in the dark.

Do not fear, for God goes with us.

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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 George and Allen Cliff by Jolene Caverhill and Mary Cliff.

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.

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

Dear God, Source of light and love, all things belong to you. You generously share with us the blessings of home, food, friends, and life itself. Receive a portion of what you have given us in our morning's offering. May our gifts and joyful service strengthen your church, that we may share good news and compassion with those in need. Amen.

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Minute for Mission (*see insert*)

Announcements

Communion Hymn

VU#104 – We Have Come

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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 Spirit of God be with you.

And also with you.

Turn to God, the source of life.

We lift our hearts in prayer.

Let us give thanks.

We offer joyful thanks to God.

Holy God of light and love,
by the light of your promise you guide your people
across the desert and through the night.
In the light of your presence
we behold your glory and offer you our gifts.
Through the light of your people
you claim us as your beloved, and joy is our banquet.
We give you thanks that you make manifest your glory:
lighting the way for every pilgrim,
gifting the earth with the Prince of Peace,
setting a table for all who hunger.
And so it is that we sing your praise:

Holy, holy, holy,

Lord God of Hosts!

Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

Heaven and earth praise you, O God most high!

We do what Jesus did the night before he died.
He took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread,
and gave it to his friends, and said,
“Take, eat; remember me.”
Then he took the cup, and said,
“Take, drink; remember me.”

Remembering your boundless love for us in Jesus Christ,
we offer you our praise, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray you, God of Love,
send your Holy Spirit upon us and what we do here,
that we, and these gifts,
touched by your Spirit,
may be signs of life and love to each other,
and to all the world.

Help us to love as Christ loved.
Knowing our own weakness, may we stand with all who stumble.
Sharing in his suffering, may we remember all who suffer.
Held in his love, may we embrace all whom the world denies.
Rejoicing in his forgiveness, may we forgive all who sin against us.

Praise be to God, the Source of Love!

Praise be to Christ, Love incarnate!

Praise be to the Spirit, Love’s power!

Praise be to God!

Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer

The body of Christ, broken for you.
The blood of Christ, poured out for you.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer after Communion

**Gracious God, may your gifts of love transform and enliven us
that we may live lives of thanksgiving. May your presence among
us provoke such longing for your realm, that we will never be
satisfied until the whole earth knows your justice, your peace, and
your love. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.**

Hymn

VU#103 – How Good Lord to Be Here

(vs.1,2&5) (tune:602)

Minute for Mission

DONATIONS

A donation has been made to the Memorial General Fund in loving memory of Dick Montgomery by Stan and Betty Kerr, Mac Caldwell Ralph and Avis Vail, The Dimock Family, Jolene Caverhill, Ralph and Marguerite Carson, Peter and Janet Clark, Frank and Gail Lipsett, Mary Leigh Webb, Glenn and Vivian Cummings

A donation has been made to the Memorial General Fund in loving memory of Gwyneth Roberts by Carol Norsworthy, Andrew and Joyce Miller.

A donation has been made to the Memorial General Fund in loving memory of Judy Scott by Charles and Gloria Calhoun, The Dimock Family, Ralph and Marguerite Carson, Doug and Lynda Swan, Frank and Gail Lipsett.

A donation has been made to the Choir Fund in loving memory of Dick Montgomery by Charles and Gloria Calhoun, Wayne and Shirley McCallum, Woodstock Y's Men Club.

A donation has been made to the Memorial General Fund in loving memory of Bill Scott by Frank and Gail Lipsett.

A donation has been made to the Memorial General Fund in loving memory of Don Beattie by Mary Leigh Webb, Ralph and Avis Vail, Robert and Marion MacFarlane.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMIT 4 *Be sure to pick up a copy of the Remit 4.*

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND *We have a new Youth Development Fund which donations would be greatly appreciated. Information will be in next week's bulletin.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY Rev. Deb will be offering a Lenten Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. beginning on March 1, 2017. The study is called *Practices of Releasing* and is from the prayerbench.ca. A Maritime based group. There is no cost to participate.

LENTEN CHALLENGE During Lent as a congregation let's pledge to walk to Jerusalem from Saint James. That's 8401 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.

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. We still need volunteers for setup and cleanup. Thank you

UPPER ROOMS FOR MARCH AND APRIL have arrived and located at the back of the church. WE ALSO HAVE LARGE PRINT. (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.

BOWL FOR KIDS SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2017

9:00 A.M. – 3:15 P.M.

Woodstock Bowlacade, Jacksonville

Simply put together a team of up to six people, register your team with BBBS, reserve your bowling time and start securing pledges, call Linda or Mary-Beth (506) 328 2094 for a Registration Form.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

St. Luke's Anglican Church Tuesday Feb. 28, 2017
4:00 – 6:30 P.M. Supper in support of Camp Brookwood and Youth. Pancakes, sausages, beans, cake buffet
\$7pp; \$4pchild; \$20pfamily

MAR. 1 Ash Wednesday Service St. Gertrude Ch. 12:05 p.m.

See back of February calendar for full Lenten Service Schedule

THE SANCTUARY for LENT DEVOTIONAL - 2017

Copies available at church office. \$ 2.00

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.

SPECIAL THANKS—Thank you to David and Debbie Daye for the Fun Fest last Sunday for our Sunday School.

LAST SUNDAY – AWESOME NEW SOCKS DAY! We were delighted to send 124 pairs of new socks to our area schools. WOW!! Our Sunday School thanks everyone so much!! AWESOME!