

## **Saint James United Church**

**January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

**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: Nigel and Carolyn Drake, Ron Murray.**

**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**

#### **Centering Words**

*Who is able to stand in the face of the storm and not be moved? Who is able to kneel before the Lord and not be put to shame? Those who walk blamelessly and speak truthfully with gentleness from their whole heart. Those who are not afraid to appear foolish in the pursuit of peace.*

#### **Prelude**

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

#### **Welcome**

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Jan. 29	Morning Worship Sunday School Soup, Rolls and Fellowship in C.E. Centre	10:30 a.m.
Jan. 30	Fellowship Unit Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Jan. 31	Games Sparks / Pathfinders	1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 1	Ministerial Quilting Choir	8:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.
Feb. 5	Morning Worship Sunday School Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room	10:30 a.m.

REMINDER: Annual Congregational Meeting, February 12, 2017 after morning worship.

#### **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.*

**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.**

## 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 Joey and Heather Voutour.*

*A memorial donation has been made to the Building Fund in loving memory of Bill Scott by Charles and Gloria Calhoun.*

*A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Allison Swan by Fran Grzesik, Betty Wilson, John and Mary Wheelan, Bert and Joyce Opie, Phyllis Robinson*

*A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Don Field by Ruby MacNabb.*

*A memorial donation has been made to the Children's HealthFund in loving memory of Marie Page by Lana McKay.*

## *Call to Worship*

What does the Lord require of you?

**To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.**

With what shall we come before the Lord?

**With speech that is gentle, and words that build up. With actions that bring peace, and works that lift up the lowly.**

Come, let us worship the Lord our God in spirit and truth.

**All are welcome here!**

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## *Opening Prayer*

**Let the hills hear your voice, O Lord, let the mountains quake before you. Let all who call on your name walk in the ways of righteousness and peace. Let all who look to you for help be blameless and do what is right. May our words be gentle and may our hearts be free from guile and deceit. May our actions be rooted in justice and mercy, and may we be known as peacemakers, the blessed children of God. Amen.**

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## *Hymn*

MV#1 – Let Us Build a House

## *Children's Time*

### *Prayer of Confession*

**Holy One, we often feel beaten down by the world. Numbed by our sorrow and grief, we seek blessings for ourselves rather than for those you call us to serve. Wounded by careless words, we lash out in our suffering and hurt the very ones we love. Weary of seeming weak and foolish, we forsake humility and gentleness and seek approval from those who need us to be peacemakers and bridge builders.**

**Bless us, Holy One, that we might be a blessing for others. Fill us with a hunger and thirst for righteousness that we may be pure in heart, merciful and kind, and walk humbly in your ways. Amen.**

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*(silence for private confession)*

*Words of Assurance*

The God who blessed us to be a blessing is stronger than our weaknesses, and greater than our failings. Even when we fall short, God's love embraces us and sets us on our feet again.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Response* VU#958 – Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

**WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

*Anthem* May We Rise

*Scriptures* Micah 6:1-8  
Psalm 15, VU p.736  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
Matthew 5:1-12

*Message*

*Music for Meditation*

*Hymn* VU#512 – Lord, You Give the Great Commission

**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 of mercy and compassion, may these offerings be for the world: peace and justice, love and kindness, comfort and hope; may these offerings be for our church: honour and openness, gratitude and thankfulness, inspiration and expectation. Blessed are those who seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God. Amen.**

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*Minute for Mission*

*Announcements*

*Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern and the Lord's Prayer*

*Hymn* VU#560 – O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

*Blessing and Sending Forth*

See justice and discover God's blessings.

**We go forth to walk humbly before our God.**

Practice kindness and touch Christ's presence within.

**We go forth to follow the way of peace.**

Show mercy and abide in the Holy Spirit.

**We go forth in the footsteps of compassion.**

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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*

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

### ANNOUNCEMENTS CONT'D

**COMMUNITY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** *Saint James will be hosting a FREE COMMUNITY Pancake Breakfast on Saturday morning, February 25, 2017, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. Joan is looking for volunteers to help with this. Set up crew, Clean up crew, Pancake Cookers, Sausage Cookers, Coffee Makers. You are needed! Sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board.*

### 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.*

**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*

### ***Micah 6:1-8***

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. <sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. <sup>3</sup>“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! <sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. <sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

<sup>6</sup>“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? <sup>7</sup>Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

### ***1 Corinthians 1:18-31***

<sup>18</sup>For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” <sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

<sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.<sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

#### ***Matthew 5:1-12***

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying, <sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. <sup>5</sup>Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. <sup>7</sup>Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. <sup>8</sup>Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. <sup>9</sup>Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. <sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup>Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

#### ***Scriptures for Sunday, February 5, 2017***

Isaiah 58:1-9a; Psalm 112:1-9; I Corinthians 2:1-12; Matthew 5:13-20

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** *Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for Feb. 12, 2017. There will be coffee and a light snack before the meeting at noon. Please bring a snack food to share with everyone. Thankyou.*

**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 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.*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** *The Sunday School needs 16 cake mixes to complete 16 birthday party packages for the Food Bank.*