

## **Saint James United Church**

**February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – 5<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: Kim Sylvester**



*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**

Wanted: *Light-Shiners*  
Application Deadline: *Always open*  
Job Description: *Feed the hungry,  
Clothe the poor,  
Shelter the homeless,  
Free the oppressed.*  
Salary & Benefits: *Living in God's light.*

#### **Prelude**

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

#### **Welcome**

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

- |        |  |                        |
|--------|--|------------------------|
| Feb. 5 | Morning Worship<br>Sunday School<br>Handbells and Sunshine Singers<br>Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room                                 | 10:30 a.m.             |
| Feb. 7 | Games<br>Sparks / Pathfinders  | 1:00 p.m.<br>6:30 p.m. |
| Feb. 8 | Quilting<br>Choir  | 1:00 p.m.<br>7:15 p.m. |
| Feb.12 | Morning Worship<br>Sunday School<br>Sunshine Singers<br>Coffee, Tea and Light snacks before our<br>Annual Congregational Meeting 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.*

**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.**

## 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 Gwyneth Roberts by Doug and Lynda Swan, Joan Hall, John and Mary Wheelan, Jolene Caverhill.*

*A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Betty Bunting by Robert and Marion MacFarlane.*

*A memorial donation has been made to the Building Fund in loving memory of Don Field by Wayne and Shirley McCallum.*

*A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Valerie Stewart by Mary Stewart.*

*A memorial donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Allison Swan by Joan Hall, Jolene Caverhill.*

## *Call to Worship*

Shout the good news aloud! Proclaim the good news with acts of justice!

**Then our light will break forth like the dawn!**

You are the light of the world. Shine God's light in your good works.

**Then our light will shine forth for all people to see!**

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

## *Opening Prayer*

**God of justice, you call us to shine the light of your abundance into our world. Equip us, we pray, to feed those who hunger for bread and thirst for love. God of compassion, you call us to shine the light of your grace into our world. Inspire us, we pray, to include the lonely, the marginalized, and the friendless in our circle of fellowship. God of liberation, you call us to shine the light of your joy into our world. Free us, we pray, from our fears, that we might enter into joyful service and join in your dance as we live in your light! Amen.**

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

*Hymn*            VU#232 – Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

## *Children's Time*

### *Prayer of Confession*

**Dear God, over and over again, you have taught us how to walk in your light. But we have sought to hide under a bushel, hoping you won't notice how we avoid your radical call to share our food with the hungry and our lives with those in need. You ask us to join your great dance of light, but we are reluctant to associate with those we judge to be unworthy.**

**God, open our eyes to the joy of your justice – a justice intended for all the world. Forgive our tendency to hide, our slowness to respond. Invite us once more, O God, into the warmth of your light, that we might shine brightly with your love. Amen.**

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

*(silence for private confession)*

### ***Words of Assurance***

Hear these words of comfort and assurance from the prophet Isaiah:  
“The Lord will guide you continually and provide for you, even in parched places. [The Lord] will rescue your bones. You will be like a watered garden, like a spring of water that won’t run dry.”

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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

### **WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

**Anthem** *Beyond the Beauty and the Awe*

**Scriptures** Isaiah 58:1-9a  
Psalm 112, VU p.834  
1 Corinthians 2:1-12  
Matthew 5:13-20

**Message**

**Music for Meditation**

**Hymn** MV#79 – Spirit, Open My Heart

### **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**

**Generous God, you shower us with blessings and call us to share. Thank you for this opportunity to shine your light into the world through our work of justice and compassion. We pray and live in the name of your true light, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

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**Minute for Mission**

**Announcements**

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

**Hymn** VU# 238 – How Great Thou Art

**Blessing and Sending Forth**

You are the light of the world! Now take that light into all the places that need the light and love of God. Take that light into all the places that need the light and grace of Jesus Christ. Take that light into all the places that need the light and inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Go and *be* the light of the world!

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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

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION SUNDAY — Feb. 19, 2017

*The children will be sharing some music with us. We want to make it a special Feel Good Day and to that end hope everyone will wear a pair of Brand New Socks that morning. Because wearing brand new socks just feels so darn good!! They will have a basket to collect new children's socks to share with our area schools.*

#### FAMILY FUN DAY Sunday, February 26, 2017 2 - 4 p.m.

*Old Fashion Sliding Party . Come and bring your sleds for an afternoon of sliding. Hot Chocolate and Hot Dogs to follow at Debbie and David Daye's Home. Sign up Sheet on Bulletin Board so we know how many dogs to get.*

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.

#### THE SANCTUARY for LENT DEVOTIONAL - 2017

*Copies available at church office. \$ 2.00*

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 58:1-9a*

<sup>1</sup>Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. <sup>2</sup>Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. <sup>3</sup>“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why do we humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. <sup>4</sup>Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. <sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

<sup>6</sup>Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? <sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? <sup>8</sup>Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. <sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

#### *1 Corinthians 2:1-12*

<sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him" – <sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

### **Matthew 5:13-20**

<sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot. <sup>14</sup>You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under a bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

### **Scriptures for Sunday, February 12, 2017**

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Ps 119:1-8; 1 Cor 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

## **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. Thank You.*

**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.*

### **VALENTINE'S BENEFIT SUPPER**

*Saturday February 11, 5 pm-7 pm, in the church hall. With the aid of the CWL., the youth are hosting a Ham and Bean supper after the 4 pm mass, in the church hall, to raise funds for their Mission Trip to Haiti in March. Please enjoy a wonderful supper, by donation, to support our youth, and Three Angels Children's Relief.*