

## Saint James United Church

March 6, 2016 Lent 4

120 Chapel St. Woodstock, N.B. E7M1H1

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Minister's Cell Phone No: 323-1304

Ministers: Rev. Debra Baker

Music Director and Organist: Amy Anderson

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

Reader: Kim Sylvester

Ushers: Randy Leonard, Ruby MacNabb, Heather Voutour



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

*Prelude*

*Introit* MV#18 – Lord, Prepare Me to be a Sanctuary (2X)

*Welcome*

*Call to Worship*

O God, you are our God.

**We seek you, thirsting for you, as we would for a stream in a scorching desert.**

We come to behold your power and glory.

**We come to hear of your love – a love that means more than life itself.**

We come as guests to your rich banquet.

**You are our God. We seek you and are satisfied!**

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Mar. 6 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School  
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship 11:30 a.m.  
Handbells after church  
Youth Group 7:00 p.m.

Mar. 8 Games 1:00 p.m.  
Pathfinders 6:30 p.m.  
Sparks 6:30 p.m.

Mar. 9 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.

**Mar. 9, 2016 4<sup>th</sup> week of Lent**

Presider Major Sandoval, Salvation Army

Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 101

Reflection Rev. Shirley Noseworthy, St. Luke's – Mark 8:11-26

Quilting Group 1:00 p.m.  
Scouts 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Choir 7:15 p.m.

Mar 11 Coffee and Conversation 10:00 a.m.  
World day of Prayer St. Lukes 2:00 p.m.

Mar.13 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School  
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship 11:30 a.m.  
Sunshine Singers and Handbells after church  
Youth Group 7:00 p.m.

## **LENTEN SERVICES 2016**

Lenten services will be held this year at St. Luke's Anglican Hall, 104 Church Street, Woodstock, beginning at 12:05pm and concluding at 12:30pm., followed immediately by a soup luncheon.

**Mar.16, 2015**          **5<sup>th</sup> week of Lent**

Presider          Rev. Wendy MacWilliams, St. Paul's Presbyterian  
Jeremiah 25:30-38; Psalm 128

Reflection      Rev. Dana Dean, Parish of Richmond - Mark 10:1-16

### **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.*

### ***Opening Prayer***

**O God of Plenty, you set a banquet before us that is generous and life-giving. You serve us the very best foods – your love and loyalty, your faithfulness and strength, your work that satisfies, your deep wisdom, and your abundant mercy. You call us to this feast: “Everyone who thirsts! Everyone who hungers! Everyone who seeks! Come! Come! Come!”**

**You promise that this feast will satisfy us as nothing else can. And so we call out to you, O God, for you are near, and we come!**

**Amen.**

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### ***Lenten Candle Liturgy***

Today is the third Sunday of Lent. Lent is a time to think about the things that block us from following God's way of loving and caring for this world and one another. Today we will extinguish our third Lenten candle. This candle represents fear. As the candle is extinguished, let us pray in silence for God to remove fear within us and in our world that stops us from trusting God.

*(candle is extinguished followed by silence)*

Knowing that God accepts us for who we are, but loves us into who we can be, let us stay seated as we join together in singing:

MV#85 – Take, O Take Me as I Am (2X)

***Hymn***          VU#356 – Seek Ye First the Kingdom

### ***Children's Time***

### ***Prayer of Confession***

*(silence for private confession)*

### ***Assurance of Forgiveness***

The prophet Isaiah tells us that we need only return to the Lord our God, for God is merciful, and forgives our sins.

**Your love means more than life to us, O God; we praise you!**

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

***Anthem*** Joy Returns in the Morning

***Scriptures*** Isaiah 55:1-8  
Psalm 63, VU p.781  
Luke 13:1-9

***Meditation***

***Hymn*** VU#271 – There's A Wideness in God's Mercy

## **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***

**Loving God, in gratitude for your kindness and mercy, receive our thanks and offerings. Accept our hearts into your keeping, that our lives may bear good fruit as we may enter into your glory.**

**Amen.**

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***Minute for Mission*** (printed)

### ***Announcements***

***Prayers of Thanksgiving & Concern & the Lord's Prayer*** (VUp.921)

***Closing Hymn*** VU#653 – Come, Let Us to the God of Love

### ***Blessing and Sending Forth***

Go. Pray. Serve.

Be persistent in the things of God.

God's blessing goes with you. Amen.

(Written by Elaine Bidgood Sweet. ***Gathering***, Lent/Easter 2016, page 34. Used with permission.)

***Choral Benediction*** MV#215 – Peace Be with You

***Postlude***

## **DONATION**

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

## **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.*

**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.*

## **CALENDAR DATES TO MARK** **CHECK BULLETIN BOARD**

**CHURCH DIRECTORY**---*Universal Studios will be here for family photos March 15-19 to take pictures.*

*Check display in the lobby outside the church office.*

*Universal Studios will be calling directly from the church list starting February 29<sup>h</sup> to set up appointments*

### **BOWL FOR KIDS March 19, 2016**

*Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Woodstock Bowlcade*

*1 Hour can change the life of a child.....FOREVER!!!!*

*It's easy to participate!! Simply put together a team of up to five friends, family and co-workers. Register to bowl during one of the time slots. Collect pledges, each team member is asked to try to raise \$50, there are prizes for teams and individuals who raise the highest amount!! Come out on March 19th for bowling fun, friends, food and prizes .....*

### **MARITIME MEN'S SPRING RALLY April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Amherst, N.S.**

*See Bulletin Board for Brochure and Information.*

### **ALZHEIMER SOCIETY ANNUAL WALK May 29<sup>th</sup>**

## **TODAY'S SCRIPTURES**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**March 24** Maundy Thursday Service with Communion

**March 25<sup>th</sup>** Good Friday Service hosted by Woodstock  
United Baptist Church 10:30 a.m.

**BIBLE STUDY** Rev. Debra will be having a Lenten Bible Study  
entitled "Near the Cross" beginning February 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.  
Please let Rev. Debra know, if you are interested.

**BOOK CLUB** Our book club will be reading  
"Blue" by Danielle Steele. Our next gathering will be  
March 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL** available at the church office. Cost \$ 1.50

**UPPER ROOMS FOR March and April** have arrived and located at  
the back of the church. Cost is \$ 3.00.

**DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDES** are available at the back of the  
church along with the Upper Rooms.

### ***Scripture readings for March 6, 2016***

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 5:1-3, 11b-32