

Saint James United Church

October 2nd, 2016 – 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Worldwide Communion Sunday

120 Chapel St. Woodstock, N.B. E7M1H1

Phone: 328-6114 Email: stjames@nb.aibn.com

Website: saintjamesunited.ca Fax: 324-9349

Minister: Rev. Debra Baker Music Director: Amy Anderson

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

Ushers: Raymond Kierstead, Michael Connell, Glen MacDonald



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 VU#405 – New Every Morning (vs. 1-2)

Welcome

Call to Worship

In a world of uprooted peoples – over 100 million migrants and refugees and displaced persons,

Where is God?

In a world in which one quarter of our planet's people live in absolute poverty, and 14 million children die of hunger each year,

Where is God?

In a world of land mines and civil wars and ethnic tensions and environmental harm,

Where is God?

In a busy life of our own stresses and strains and responsibilities,

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Oct. 2nd Morning Worship World Wide Communion 10:30 a.m.
FOOD BANK SUNDAY
Sunday School – Children go directly to classes
Helpers to carry up items for Yard Sale from
Sunday School Room See Lana
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship 11:30 a.m.
- Oct. 4th Games 1:00 p.m.
Pathfinders 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Sparks 6:30 p.m.
Sunday School Teacher's Meeting 7:00 p.m.,
- Oct. 5th Quilting 1:00 p.m.
Choir 7:15 p.m.
- Oct. 6th Unity Group Pot Luck 12 :00 p.m.
- Oct. 9th Morning Worship Thanksgiving 10:30 a.m.
Combined Sunday School

PAR REMITTANCE PROGRAM

*This is a great time of year to sign up for our **PAR REMITTANCE PROGRAM!** If you have automatic debits from your bank account to pay your bills, then you understand the PAR principle. It means regular contributions throughout the year. Even when we are away, our church has commitments every week. This is a convenient way to support both the local church and M&S. **CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE DETAILS.***

PIE MAKING *Special thanks to Gail Lipsett for coordinating our annual pie sale and to all the workers who helped in our daily working teams. We have still pies for sale. Please check after church if your wish to purchase.*

COFFEE HOUR *Each week we are looking for volunteers to look after lunch and coffee after church.*

READERS - SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

BOOK CLUB *The book club will be reading “Brooklyn” by Colm Toibin. Meeting will be announced later in Nov.*

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.*

**CHECK YOUR OCTOBER CALENDAR FOR
UPCOMING EVENTS.**

Where is God?

God is here, in our midst, crying with us.

God is here, celebrating with us in every act of compassion and love.

God is here, calling us to bring about a world of peace.

God is here, now, inviting us to become renewed in worship and in the sharing of communion this day.

Thanks be to God!

(From *Whole People of God* worship resources ©Wood Lake Publishing 2016.)

Hymn

MV#195 – Long Ago and Far Away

Prayer of Approach and Confession

We come before you, God, unable to fully understand the sufferings of the people closest to us, let alone all around the world. Yet on this Worldwide Communion Sunday, we would stand side by side, heart to heart, with all our brothers and sisters of the planet. We stand, recognizing you as the Lord of all life, the God of us all. We are in awe of you and the healing work you call us to do.

Yet, we know how easily we give up or become discouraged or just plain forget. Forgive us, God, and light a fire so deep within us that we burn with the same love and passion as your son, Jesus. We pray in his name. Amen.

(silence for private confession)

Words of Assurance

God loves us. God forgives us. God renews us. Be assured that by seeking God’s loving forgiveness, we can find new life, new hope, and new vigor to be faithful followers of Jesus.

Thanks be to God!

(From *Whole People of God* worship resources ©Wood Lake Publishing 2016.)

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem "The Welcome Table"

Responsive Reading Lamentations 3:19-26 (paraphrased)

The thought of my pain and my homelessness is a bitter pill to swallow.

I think of it all the time; it wears me down.

But this I remember, and because of it, I have hope:

God's love is never ending; God's tenderness lasts forever.

God's love and tenderness are there for us, new every morning. Great is God's faithfulness.

I receive much good from the Lord, says my soul.

Therefore will I hope in God.

To those who wait for God, goodness comes.

To those who seek God, goodness comes.

It is good to wait quietly for God's healing to come.

Scriptures 2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

Message

Hymn MV#194 – Bread of Life

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED: Pumpkins for our Sunday School Children for Oct. 23, 2016 (Rainbow Sunday)
Please let Joan know.

FALL YARD SALE

The fall yard sale will be held on Thursday, October 6, 2016 from noon to 6:00 p.m. and Friday October 7, 2016 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. On Sunday, October 2, 2016, immediately after church, sale items from a Sunday school room need to be moved to the C. E. Centre. Please give a few moments of your time to get this little job completed. Sale items will be accepted from Monday, October 3, 2016 to Thursday, October 6, 2016 noon. All help will be gratefully appreciated. Please call Lana McKay 328-6736, if you are able to help.

COAT SALE. *The Fellowship Unit will not be having a coat sale this fall so you might want to bring these items to the yard sale.*

CHURCH DIRECTORY. *The church directories have been ordered and I will let you know when they arrive.*

GAMES *On Tuesday, Oct. 4th at 1:00 p.m.*

UPPER ROOMS FOR September and October .
*They are located at the back of the church.
Cost is \$ 3.00.*

Blessing and Sending Forth

The world needs the spirit of community we have shared around this table. This town needs the spirit of hope we have shared around this table. Our friends and family need the spirit of joy which we have shared around this table. Let us share with our world, our neighbourhood, and our loved ones the blessings we have received in our worship today.

Amen.

Choral Benediction VU#424 – May the God of Hope

Postlude

DONATIONS

A donation has been made to the Kirk Cemetary in loving memory of Paul Bull by Michael and Heather Seca.

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Elma Sanders by Viola Greer.

Offertory prayer

Loving God, may these gifts bring hope to those who are despairing, comfort to those who are grieving, nurture to those who are growing, and inspiration to those who are striving to answer Christ's call. Amen.

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Minute for Mission (*Printed on back of Bulletin*)

Announcements

Communion Hymn VU#459 – Here, O My Lord (vs.1-3)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The table is ready. It is the table of bread and wine, the table of Christ, the table of the world. We will share one loaf and cup and the life of Jesus will be in us. So come, with whatever sadness and loss you are experiencing, with whatever longing and hope you know, with the life you are living, for Christ welcomes us, and blesses us, and touches us with hope.

The Holy One is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

The Holy One is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Eternal God, Maker of heaven and earth,
we join with all your people to give you thanks and praise.
You formed the universe in your wisdom
and created all things by your grace.

We praise you for all your good gifts:
the witness of saints and prophets;
the work of faithful women and men;
this earth in all its blessing and promise;
and this bread, once scattered, now brought together and made one.
In the hope that your people
may be brought together from the ends of the earth
into your reign of justice and compassion,
we gather with those of every time and every place
to give you praise and glory:

**Holy, holy, holy God,
Power of life and love!
Heaven and earth are full of your glory!
Hosanna through the ages!
Blest is the One who comes to bring your justice to earth!**

On the last night he spent with his friends,
Jesus took an age-old tradition of his people
and transformed it into something new.
He took bread, staple food of his land,
blessed and broke it, and gave it to those around him saying,
“Take, eat, this is my body, broken for you.
Whenever you do this, remember me.”
After supper he took a cup of wine, common drink of his people,
and gave it to them, saying,
“Drink this, all of you, this is the new covenant in my blood.
Each time you do this, remember me.”
By remembering Jesus in this way now,
we claim our common heritage
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Send, O covenant God, your Holy Spirit
upon us and what we do here,
that we and these gifts, empowered by your Spirit,
may become signs of shalom
to one another and to all peoples of the earth.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours everywhere, now and forever.

Amen.

Remembering those of our community who cannot be with us today,
we gather all of our prayers into the prayer Jesus taught us saying,
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Jesus is the Bread of our Living (*loaf is broken*)
Jesus is the Cup of our Joy (*wine is poured*)

Prayer after Communion

**Holy One, may we who have been fed at this table remember that
we are the body of Christ in the world today. May our hearts be
open, our words grace-filled, and our actions life-giving. May all
that we do and say reveal the presence of Christ, who has met us
at this table. Amen.**

Hymn

VU#459 – Here, O My Lord (vs.4-5)

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

2 Timothy 1:1-14

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus.

²To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I am grateful to God – whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did – when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearance of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹²and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Luke 17:5-10

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷ “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

Scripture readings for October 9, 2016

Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 100; Philippians 4:4-9; John 6:25-35