

Saint James United Church

August 7, 2016 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

120 Chapel St. Woodstock, N.B. E7M1H1

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Presider: Cathy Scott Music Director: Amy Anderson

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

Ushers: Ron Murray

Reader: Gail Lipsett

Organist: Marjorie Heuson



Welcome all visitors and their families who may be worshipping with us this morning. We pray that you will feel free 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 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

Welcome

Introit: # 660 "How Firm a Foundation"

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come today because we have been summoned.

The call of God reaches out.

The call of God is joyfully persistent.

The call of God takes a lifetime to answer.

We now take another step together in praise, devotion, and service.

Our Lord of the lakeshore, the plains, the mountain and seas, calls us to worship.

Let us worship!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Aug. 7th & 14th Morning Worship -Cathy Scott 10:30 a.m.
Coffee, Tea and Fellowship 11:30 a.m.
in the Board Room

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOOK CLUB *Our book club will be reading over the summer "The Illegal" by Lawrence Hill.*

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

CHURCH DIRECTORY. *Those who had pictures taken at the church will automatically receive a church directory. If you sent in a picture it will be in the directory but if you want to purchase a directory it is \$ 20.00. Please contact the church office, if you have any further questions. Those who would like a directory please let me know as soon as possible. Be sure to tell others and they may not know about it. Thanks Mary 328-6114*

*If you have noticed someone missing from our congregation, please contact them by phone or visit them in person.
You may be their "angel."*

PAR REMITTANCE PROGRAM

*With summer fast approaching 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 FOR MORE DETAILS.

DONATIONS

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Grace Palmer by Jane and Neil Girdwood.

A donation has been made to the Building Fund in loving memory of Lou Beatty by Andrea Dimock, Keith and Lori Palmer, Hal and Cathy Simister, Janice and David King,

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Lou Beatty by Gordon Gaddas, John and Betty Lou Craig, Glenn and Vivian Cummings, Geraldine Lawrence, Donald and Myrna Cox, Brian and Jane Boyd, Doug and Lynda Swan, Helen Marston, Carol Everly, Raymond and Barbara Kierstead, Dr. Michael C. MacKelvie and Valerie MacKelvie.

A donation has been made to the Choir Fund in loving memory of Lou Beatty by Emily Clark, Leonard Wilson and Shirley Gates, Ron and Anne Murray.

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Neeltje (Nel) Pelkman, Mother of Catharina Lenehan by Jolene Caverhill,

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of David Wry by Jolene Caverhill.

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Joyce Hamilton, wife of Charlie Hamilton, by Phyllis Robinson.

A donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Joline Voye by Doug and Lynda Swan.

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.*

GATHERING PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Help us, God, to keep the faith, to be true to you and true to our best selves. Keep us from living as if the only thing that mattered was being among the privileged. On behalf of ourselves and this world, we ask forgiveness for letting differences lead to conflict, for ignoring the needs of our neighbours near and far, for failing to help those who suffer most. Forgive us all. Let your light never cease to shine upon us with its vision of life as it was meant to be lived. Amen.

Dianne Astle, Carman U.C., Chilliwack, B.C.

OPENING HYMN: 224 Sing a Happy Hallelujah

CHILDREN'S TIME:

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM:

SCRIPTURES:

Old Testament – Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

Psalms - 50:1-8, 22-23

New Testament - Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Gospel - Luke 12:32-4

HYMN: 308 Many and great, O God are your words

MESSAGE:

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN:

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:

MINUTE FOR MISSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN
& LORD'S PRAYER**

CLOSING HYMN: 220 Praise to the Lord, the almighty

SENDING FORTH

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 He 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

NEW TESTAMENT

Luke 12:32-40 New International Version (NIV)

³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Watchfulness

³⁵“Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. ³⁷It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. ³⁸It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. ³⁹But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

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.

TODAYS SCRIPTURES ISIAH 1:1,10-20 New International Version (NIV)

¹The vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem that Isaiah son of Amoz saw during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD,
you rulers of Sodom;

listen to the instruction of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!

¹¹“The multitude of your sacrifices—
what are they to me?” says the LORD.

“I have more than enough of burnt offerings,
of rams and the fat of fattened animals;

I have no pleasure

in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.

¹²When you come to appear before me,
who has asked this of you,
this trampling of my courts?

¹³Stop bringing meaningless offerings!
Your incense is detestable to me.

New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations—
I cannot bear your worthless assemblies.

¹⁴Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals
I hate with all my being.

They have become a burden to me;
I am weary of bearing them.

¹⁵When you spread out your hands in prayer,
I hide my eyes from you;

even when you offer many prayers,
I am not listening.

Your hands are full of blood!

¹⁶ Wash and make yourselves clean.
Take your evil deeds out of my sight;
stop doing wrong.

¹⁷ Learn to do right; seek justice.
Defend the oppressed.^[a]

Take up the cause of the fatherless;
plead the case of the widow.

¹⁸ “Come now, let us settle the matter,”
says the LORD.

“Though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red as crimson,
they shall be like wool.

¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient,
you will eat the good things of the land;

²⁰ but if you resist and rebel,
you will be devoured by the sword.”

For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Hebrews 11:1-3 New International Version (NIV)

Faith in Action

1 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ²This is what the ancients were commended for.

³By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Hebrews 11:8-16 New International Version (NIV)

⁸By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. ⁹By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she^[a] considered him faithful who had made the promise. ¹²And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

¹³All these people were promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. ¹⁴People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

WHAT'S A GREETING CARD

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

*It's a little piece of paper
That tells someone how you are
It can be a ray of sunshine
It can be a wish or prayer.*

*It can simply say "I love you"
Or just say "I understand"
It can be a little visit
Or the clasp of someone's hand.*

*It can be a word of comfort
When somebody's heart is sad
It can be a smile or chuckle
Making someone's heart feel glad.*

*It can help keep folks together
Even though they're far apart
It can show someone you're thankful
From the bottom of your heart.*

*It can travel any distance
In all kinds of weather, too
And it has the magic something
That some big things never do.*

*Yes, it's just a piece of paper
And it costs no big amount
But it proves that old, old saying
"It's the little things that count."*