

Saint James United Church

April 16, 2017 – Easter Sunday

120 Chapel St. Woodstock, N.B. E7M1H1

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Minister: Rev. Debra Baker

Music Director and Organist: Amy Anderson

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

Ushers: Bob and Bonnie Stokes, Peter and Janet Clark

Reader: Joan Hall



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 (handbells)

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Welcome

Call to Worship

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

This day God calls us to be people of the resurrection! Let us take our place in the procession of all who have celebrated Christ's resurrection through the centuries.

Amen! Alleluia!

Let us live out the power of Christ raised from the dead.

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Let us worship God! **Amen!**

DATES TO REMEMBER

Apr. 16	Sunrise Service	7:00 a.m.
	Easter Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
	Easter Sunday Worship with Communion	10:30 a.m.
	Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room	
Apr. 18	Games	1:00 p.m.
	Sparks / Pathfinders	6:30 p.m.
Apr. 19	Quilting	1:00 p.m.
	Choir	7:15 p.m.
Apr. 23	Holy Humour Sunday	10:30 a.m.
	Sunday School	
	Handbells and Sunshine Singers	
	Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room	

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.*

If you have noticed someone missing from our congregation, please contact them by phone or visit them in person.

You may be their "angel."

In faith we proclaim, “Christ will come again!”

Gracious Lord, this Easter morning we gather in humility and celebration before this table to share in the bread and cup. We break the bread to remember Christ broken for us. We drink this cup to remember the blood of Jesus shed for us.

For in faith we proclaim, “Jesus Christ is Lord.”

Living Lord, this Easter morning we rejoice and wonder at the great things you have done and continue to do for us through Jesus Christ. For through your Son we know mercy, grace, and hope.

For in faith we proclaim, “Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.”

Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit upon this bread and cup that we might share in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. May this bread be for us the bread of life. May this cup be for us the cup of salvation. Through your grace and mercy, let us be your people through our risen Saviour who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

And now, as our Saviour Christ taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

The bread of life, broken for you.

The cup of salvation, poured out for you.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, for the bread of life and for the cup of salvation, we thank you. Allow us to go forth from this table and live as your holy people, rejoicing in the power of your Holy Spirit and walking in the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer of Opening

God of renewed presence, on this Easter day we know that with you all things are possible. May the Good News of Easter joy fill our lives and make our hearts glad. Hallelujah! Amen.

Hymn VU#179 – Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks

Sunshine Singers Like a Rock
 Hey Now Hallelujah

Story Time

Prayer of Confession

Easter morning takes us by surprise, awakening us to the doubt and despair that have been rooted in our lives. Let us now confess to God.

If, at times, we deny you, God forgive.

When the risks of discipleship are high, and we are nowhere to be found: God forgive.

When we wash our hands of responsibility: God forgive.

When we cast our lot with powerful oppressors and seek to buy freedom with silver: God forgive.

When fear keeps us from witnessing to your truth, or prejudice keeps us from believing it: God forgive.

In the bright light of Easter morning, O God, our sin is exposed, and your grace is revealed.

Tender God, raise us in your love so that, with joy, we may witness to your awesome deeds, in the name of Jesus the Risen One. Amen.

(time for silent confession)

Words of Forgiveness

The stone is rolled away – we are released!

The tomb is empty – we can be free!

Christ is risen – life can be full!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem We Rise Again

Scripture Acts 10:34-43
Colossians 3:1-4
John 20:1-18

Message

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

Presentation of the Offering

Anthem Revive Us Again

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

You, O God, are the Easter One. You are the holy source of resurrection. You are the dancing spirit of life. We offer these gifts in gratitude for hope returned, for the mystery of your grace, and for the promise of resurrection. Amen.

Minute for Mission (see insert)

Announcements

Hymn VU#173 – Thine Is the Glory

Sacrament of Holy Communion

As we come to this table, we are reminded that this is not the table of this congregation; nor is it the table of The United Church of Canada, or any particular denomination. It is the table of Jesus Christ, the family feast of the whole people of God. All who seek to be nourished and sustained in the journey of faith and long to live justly and in peace with their neighbour, are welcome here. Let us eat and drink together for our strengthening in the faith, and for the sake of the world.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise.

God of all creation, on this Easter morning we humbly stand before the cross. For on the cross Jesus was crucified not for any sin of his own but for the sins of the world. Jesus suffered and died to free us from death and suffering. The Son of God went to the cross to bring us light eternal and life everlasting.

In faith we proclaim, “Christ has died!”

Almighty God, this Easter morning we joyfully gather with the disciples around the empty tomb. The words of the angels spread through the community of believers that what Jesus foretold had come true. We have heard and believe that Jesus has been raised from the dead.

In faith we proclaim, “Christ is risen!”

God of grace, this Easter morning we look out into our world with renewed hope. For the Christ who suffered on the cross and rose from the grave has gone on before us. The power of sin and death has been shattered forever. We move into the world with new enthusiasm to teach and witness to Jesus Christ.

MINUTES FOR MISSION

Closing Hymn VU#164 – The Day of Resurrection

Blessing and Sending Forth

From this Easter festival, we go forth to live resurrection:

In the name of the God who makes us,

In the name of the Christ who makes us free,

In the name of the Spirit who makes us one.

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Choral Postlude VU#958 – Halle, Halle, Halle

Postlude

† † † † † †

*The bulletin today is dedicated by Phyllis Robinson
in appreciation for Amy and the Choir.*

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Colossians 3:1-4

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

John 20:1-18

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Scripture Readings for Sunday, April 23, 2017

Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

DONATIONS

A Memorial Donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Kimberley Green by Betty Wilson, Alma Gartley, Stan and Betty Kerr, Mary Dimock, Ralph and Marguerite Carson.

A Memorial Donation has been made to the Building Fund in loving memory of Kimberley Green by Wayne and Shirley McCallum

A Memorial Donation has been made to the Youth Development Fund in loving memory of Kimberley Green by Brenda Morley.

A Memorial Donation has been made to the Child Health Fund in loving memory of Kimberley Buckingham Green by Lana McKay.

A Memorial Donation has been made to the Kirk Cemetery Fund in loving memory of granddaughter, Kayla MacFarlane by Robert and Marion MacFarlane.

A Memorial Donation has been made to the Youth Development Fund in loving memory of Richard Bagley from the family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YARD SALE ATTENTION: *Saint James Spring Yard Sale will be held on Thursday, May 4, 2017 from noon until 7:00 p.m. and on Friday, May 5, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. If you are able to help, please sign up on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board.*

7th ACTS VARIETY SHOW *This year's date for our 7th Acts is Friday, April 28, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. here in the C. E. Centre. We will also be having a **Silent Auction** at this time.....so get your Acts fine tuned, and your items gathered for the Auction. **Let Joan know if you have either of these. Thanks!!***

LENTEN CHALLENGE *During Lent as a congregation let's pledge to walk to Jerusalem from Saint James. That's 8401 Km. We have a lot of walkers here all we need to do is keep track of our km. and report in once a week during lent. A tally sheet will be posted on the Bulletin Board. The person with the most km. will receive a special prize. **TRAVEL LOG** The week of April 9, 754 Km. We have gone 3074 Km and are still travelling over the Atlantic Ocean.*

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.*

CONFIRMATION AND MEMBERSHIP *Anyone interested in becoming a member of Saint James United Church, either through confirmation or transfer of Membership, please let Rev. Deb know.*

UPPER ROOMS FOR MAY AND JUNE *have arrived and located at the back of the church. WE ALSO HAVE LARGE PRINT. (Cost is \$ 3.00.)*

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND *We have a new Youth Development Fund which donations would be greatly appreciated.*

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.

THE WINDHAM CHAMBER SINGERS

The Windham Chamber Singers from Maine will be appearing in concert at St. Gertrude's Roman Catholic Church in Woodstock on Monday, April 17 at 8:00 pm . A 38 voice choir under the direction of Miramichi native, Dr. Rick Nickerson have captured the hearts of audiences everywhere from Carnegie Hall to the White House, Fenway Park to small towns throughout the Northeast.

There is no charge to attend the performance, but donations in support of Diabetes Canada welcomed.

For more information visit: www.windhamchambersingers.com

ROAST BEEF DRIVE THROUGH SUPPER

Thursday, April 27th

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Cost \$ 12.00

Looking for volunteers to help on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. and Thursday morning.