

## **Saint James United Church**

**April 9, 2017 – 5<sup>th</sup> Palm/Passion Sunday**

**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: Bob and Bonnie Stokes, Peter and Janet Clark**

**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**

Hosanna, Christ enters our lives! Blessings are here. Yet haunting truths lurk in the shadows: Jesus does not survive the Jerusalem pilgrimage. Death comes even to the most innocent and loving of humanity. Celebration and sorrow intermingle in our world.

#### **Prelude**

#### **Welcome**

Welcome, everyone, to our Palm/Passion Sunday service! Those seated along the centre aisle have been given a piece of cloth to represent a cloak. During the procession, please place your cloth on the floor before Jesus passes by. First, however, let us hear Matthew's story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Then we too will join together in a joyous welcome!

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Apr. 9	Palm/Passion Sunday Sunday School Handbells and Sunshine Singers Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room Meet and Greet Syrian Newcomers Tea	10:30 a.m.    2:00 p.m.
Apr. 11	Games Sparks / Pathfinders	1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
Apr. 12	Lenten Study Group Quilting Choir	10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.
Apr. 16	Sunrise Service Easter Breakfast Easter Sunday Worship with Communion Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in Board Room	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.  

**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."***

*Hymn* “Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?”

*Stone*

*Hymn* “Were you there when the women stayed and cried?”

*Silence for personal reflection*

## **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*

**Blessed are you Christ Jesus, as you come to us this day. Blessed are you, as you work through the gifts we bring you now. Blessed are you as you live in our lives, helping us become faithful disciples and stewards of your love. Bless and strengthen our gifts, that they may bless and strengthen others. With gratitude and joy, we pray. Amen.**

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

*Minute for Mission*

*Announcements*

*Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern*

*The Lord's Prayer (Paraphrase)* VU#916

*Hymn* VU#135 – Beneath the Cross of Jesus

*Scripture* Mathew 21:1-11

*Hymn & Palm Procession* VU#123 – Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

*Call to Worship*

Hosanna to the Son of David!

**Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God!

**Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

(From *The Whole People of God* curriculum © Wood Lake Publishing 2017.)

*Lenten Candle Lighting*

We light this candle as a symbol of our love for Jesus and our joy in welcoming him into our lives.

(From *The Whole People of God* curriculum © Wood Lake Publishing 2017.)

*Hymn* VU#127 – Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!

*Children's Time*

*Prayer of Confession*

**We praise you this day, O God, with singing and palm branches waving. We join with all creation and all God's people in praising your name! We seek to follow Jesus in joyful service. Yet it's much easier to just celebrate the good times: the parades, the healings, the teachings, the comforting hand; and ignore the tough times: the risk-taking that goes with a commitment to peace and justice, the risk-taking that follows Jesus to the cross. Forgive us, God, and fill us with the same passion of Jesus, your beloved son and servant. We pray in his name. Amen.**

*(silence for personal confession)*

### ***Assurance of Pardon***

God understands how difficult it is to live as Jesus did. God forgives us and encourages us to turn our lives around and make this the first day of a new beginning.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

(From *The Whole People of God* curriculum © Wood Lake Publishing 2017.)

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

***Anthem*** Open the Gates

***Scriptures*** Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 31, VU p.758  
Philippians 2:5-11

***Scripture Sharing*** Drama based on Matthew 26:14-27:66

***Scene One*** Judas agrees to betray Jesus  
Matthew 26:14-16

***Hymn*** “Were you there when his friend betrayed his trust?”

### ***Silver***

***Scene Two*** The Passover meal with the disciples  
Matthew 26:17-30

***Hymn*** “Were you there when they shared the bread and wine?”

### ***Bread/Wine***

***Scene Three*** Jesus prays in Gethsemane  
Matthew 26:36-46

***Hymn*** “Were you there when he knelt and prayed to God?”

### ***Palm***

***Scene Four*** The betrayal and arrest of Jesus  
Matthew 26:47-56

***Hymn*** “Were you there when his friends betrayed and fled?”

### ***Sword***

***Scene Five*** Trial and Peter’s denial  
Matthew 26:57-75

***Hymn*** “Were you there when they sentenced him to death?”

### ***Wind***

***Scene Six*** Pilate hands Jesus over to be crucified  
Matthew 27:1-26

***Hymn*** “Were you there when they screamed for him to die?”

### ***Water***

***Scene Seven*** Jesus is crucified  
Matthew 27:27-55

***Hymn*** “Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?”

### ***Earth***

***Scene Eight*** Jesus is buried  
Matthew 27:62-66

**CONFIRMATION AND MEMBERSHIP** *Anyone interested in becoming a member of Saint James Untied 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.*

## **DONATIONS**

*A Memorial Donation has been made to the Kirk Cemetery Fund in loving memory of Sharon Wright by Susan (Patterson) Quinn.*

*A Memorial Donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Shirley Kitchen by York Funeral Home Ltd.*

*A Memorial Donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Don Beattie by Dr. Jaroslav and Ellen Frei.*

*A Memorial Donation has been made to the General Fund in loving memory of Kimberly Green by Jolene Caverhill,  
John and Mary Wheelan*

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

We have heard and seen and experienced the passion of our Lord.

**We have followed him and witnessed his death.**

Now let us hear and see and experience and follow Christ into our own lives.

**We will follow.**

And let us go knowing that death could not contain him.

**We go, knowing that joy and new life is to come. Amen.**

*(From The Whole People of God curriculum © Wood Lake Publishing 2017.)*

## ***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**

### ***Isaiah 50:4-9a***

50<sup>4</sup>The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens – wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. <sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. <sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. <sup>7</sup>The Lord God helps me; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; <sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9</sup>It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

### ***Philippians 2:5-11***

2<sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### ***Scriptures for Sunday, April 16, 2017 – Easter Sunday***

Jer 31:1-6; Ps 118:1-2,14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**YARD SALE ATTENTION:** *Another reminder that Saint James needs your donations for the Spring Yard Sale. Donations may be brought to the Church beginning on May 1 until noon on May 4, 2017.*

### **MEET AND GREET SYRIAN NEWCOMERS TEA**

*Join us at 2:00 p. m. on Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> to meet our Syrian Families in Woodstock.*

**7<sup>th</sup> ACTS VARIETY SHOW** *This year's date for our 7<sup>th</sup> 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 2 Km. We 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.*