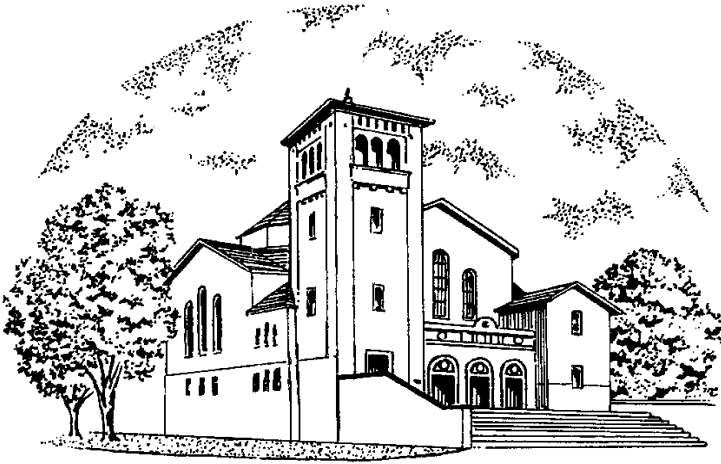


# Cochrane Street United Church

81 Cochrane Street ♦ St. John's, NL ♦ A1C 3L7



**February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

Guest Presider: Bert Riggs  
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Eric Hillier  
Minister of Music: Patricia Young  
Director of Music: Tristan Cleveland-Thompson  
Technical Operations: John Williams, Jackabon Media

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# GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*please stand as you are able

\*\*bold is in unison

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We respectfully acknowledge the territory in which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, and the island of Newfoundland as the ancestral homelands of the Mi'kmaq and Beothuk. We would also like to recognize the Inuit of Nunatsiavut and NunatuKavut and the Innu of Nitassinan, and their ancestors, as the original people of Labrador. We strive for respectful relationships with all the peoples of this province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation and honour this beautiful land together.

**PRELUDE:** Truly Madly Deeply

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please see your congregational email for detailed announcements.*

### \*INTROIT VU #333 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (vs. 1)

1     **Love divine, all loves excelling,  
          joy of heaven to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
          all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
          pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
          enter every trembling heart.**

### \*LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE & PASSING OF THE PEACE:

As we light this candle, may its warmth symbolize the love that radiates from our very being.

**Here. Now. In this place.**

This candle represents the light of the soul.

**We are one.**

It is also the light of life, the light of Christ, that inspires within us a state of grace. Let our hospitality towards each other reflect God's love.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

**\*REFLECTIVE MUSIC VU # 348: O Love, How Deep (vs. 1)**

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high!  
It fills the heart with ecstasy,  
that God, in Jesus Christ, should take  
our mortal form for mortals' sake.

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

When the ways of the world wear us down with constant demands or unrealistic expectations, we are invited to find refuge in God's grace.

**Together, in worship, this is where we find our home.**

When the morning sun is reflected off the snow and the skies open like a blue gift of joy, we are invited to notice God's creating presence.

**Together in worship, we are being made new.**

Come, find refuge, find hope. Experience the Spirit naming you Beloved.

**Together, in worship, let our souls sing praise.**

**PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

Holy God, Creator of all life, we give you thanks for the world that we are part of this morning: friends and family, music and poetry, comfort and challenge, promise and hope. We give you thanks for the wonder of the earth: the beauty of winter light on snow, the crunch of snow beneath our feet and wheels. We remain in awe of the power of nature to change from rain to ice, from day to night, from summer to winter. We are humbled by the immensity of the universe and the distance from the light of a star to our planet, where we are held in wonder. Amen.

**\*HYMN:                      Take Time to be Holy    # 672 VU**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, You shattered the power of sin and death. We celebrate Him! But we confess we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by ways that lead to death. We come, asking You to forgive our sins and eradicate evil in the world; by Your Word and Spirit, purify the good, and raise us from death to a life more abundant and free. Transform us into faithful followers of Jesus Christ, the One who rules the world and is Head of the Church. This we pray in the Name of our Risen Lord, Amen.

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

Christ died for our sins. He made a full atonement for us. We are forgiven and we have the promise of eternal life. Feel that forgiveness in your heart. We are His children.

**Thanks be to God. Amen**

## **LEARNING TOGETHER: St. Valentine**

**\*HYMN: Open My Eyes, That I May See # 371 VU**

## **OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY**

*There are many ways you can offer your financial gifts. As you enter the sanctuary you may lay your offering in the plate. You can send your offering by mail or drop them off in the mailbox. You can donate via eTransfer: [csuctreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:csuctreasurer@gmail.com). You can sign up for PAR (Pre-Authourized Remittance) or use the donate button on our website.*

## **\*OFFERTORY HYMN MV 191 What Can I Do?**

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**

**We offer into Your mission, living Christ, these gifts rooted in our loving. Sometimes we become weary in the giving, so bless us with Your joy. Sometimes we are challenged by the enormity of the need, so bless us with Your generosity. Sometimes we wonder if they make a difference, so bless us with Your vision. In faith, we are inspired by Your call, so bless our gifts as you bless us in our giving in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY**

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:**

Holy One, bless us this day with confidence that Your presence in the world is alive in us and that the stories of Your people through the ages are part of the wonder we share as we ponder in our hearts the mystery of Your love. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READING Leviticus 19: selected verses**  
**The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.**

**\*RESPONSIVE PSALM 119: 1-8, Refrain 1 VU p. 838**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**1 Corinthians 13: 1-13**

The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM:** Set Me As A Seal, *by Rene Clausen*

**SERMON:** **No Greater Love**

Reflective Music: I Love You, *by Craig Hella Johnson*

**\*HYMN:** **Joyful, Joyful We Adore You** # 232 VU

**GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD’S LOVE**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy Kingdom Come, Thy will be done on earth as it is 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.

**\*HYMN:** **Take My Life and Let It Be** # 506 VU

**PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE**

Holy God, Dreamer of dreams, We offer Cochrane Street United Church to you. We are your people, this is your church. We come to you seeking your guidance, your purpose, your vision. Align our will with yours, so that we will be willing to do whatever it takes to carry out your plan. We ask you to break through in new ways in our church. Show us the great ministry you have in store for us. Help us dream your dreams. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, giving us the vision, boldness, and confidence to do all that you call us to do. Amen.

**COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

Let us go now, confident of our place in God’s heart. Let us go knowing that the arms of God hold us, strengthen us and encourage us in all challenges life gives us. Let us go in the comfort provided by our Creator God, Jesus the Son and the Holy Ghost.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*SUNG BENEDICTION: VU #964 Go Now in Peace (sung twice)**  
**Go now in peace, go now in peace.**  
**May the love of God surround you everywhere,**  
**Everywhere you may go**

**POSTLUDE:** O Love Divine

*Please take your bulletins with you when you leave the pew.*

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

FEB 12:	CSUC – Bert Riggs	MAR 05:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey
FEB 19:	CSUC – Bert Riggs	MAR 12:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey
FEB 26:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey	MAR 19:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey
FRI, MAR 03:	World Day of Prayer Service Led by Rev. Karen Bursey First United to join CSUC	MAR 26:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** If you wish to have an announcement included in the bulletin, please have it into the office by Thursday at noon.

**No SCENTS MAKES GOOD SENSE!** A friendly reminder that members of our congregation are sensitive to scented products. Thank you for helping.

**PASTORAL COVERAGE FOR CSUC:** While Cochrane Street United Church is without a minister, Rev. Oliver Dingwell will be covering all pastoral emergencies and funerals. He can be reached at (709) 640-4632 or by email at: [odingwell@cowanheightsunited.ca](mailto:odingwell@cowanheightsunited.ca). If Rev. Oliver is not available, please contact Paula Reynolds [pt2reynolds@gmail.com](mailto:pt2reynolds@gmail.com).

**LOST AND FOUND:** Several gloves, hats, and glasses have been found in the sanctuary. If you think an item may be yours, please contact the church office at 722-3023 or drop by Sunday morning.

**Congratulations to our Music Director!** Tristan's vacation in January wasn't an ordinary trip to Ontario. He was on a 2-city tour with the Canadian Chamber Choir; of which he has been a proud member since 2008. The choir's mandate is to build community through choral singing, and share that art with the rest of the country. Choir members are from across the country. They gather two to three times a year, in a different province, performing Canadian composers' music. The choir gave workshops to the University of Windsor and Western University, and performed new works by composer and artist Sheryl Sewepagaham. Sheryl shared how to engage with indigenous and First Nations communities through music education; and both Sheryl and the choir shared in concerts and workshops with choirs of all age ranges. Tristan extends a thank-you to Cochrane Street UC for allowing him the time to share his gift of music with his fellow choristers.

**BRIDGES TO HOPE ITEM OF THE MONTH:** For each month of 2023, Bridges To Hope will be suggesting a much needed food item for members of our partner congregations to consider for donation. These items are staples and will go a long way to ensuring that hampers can be filled. **For the month of February, we are suggesting canned beans.** Of course all donations of any kind are very much appreciated. Thank you for your support!

Two good specials for Bridges To Hope items this week (valid Feb 9 - 23):  
Walmart - Campbell's Soup - \$0.97  
Sobeys - Catelli Pasta or Garden Select Pasta Sauce - 2/\$3.00

**ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING** is scheduled for **April 23, 2023**, after the Worship Service. Deadline for all reports of church groups and committees to be included in the annual report is February 24, 2023. Please submit your reports including financial reports to Harold Grandy preferably in an electronic format via email [hgrandy@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:hgrandy@nf.sympatico.ca).

**COFFEE TIME HOSTS:** We are looking for people to volunteer as hosts for Coffee Time after church. Just tea and coffee is fine – no need to provide juice or snacks. We have a volunteer for February. If you are willing to help host, please contact the office (722-3023). Don't know what to do? No problem. We can help you out by pairing you with someone who has done it before or just giving you an orientation. Your help is very much appreciated!

**VOLUNTEER REQUEST:** Council has started the updating of the Historical Roll for CSUC. This project is a requirement for all pastoral charges. Linda Bowden, CSUC's archivist, is providing invaluable information and leadership for the project. Volunteers are reviewing the lists of persons on the Roll and contributing valuable additional information to Council. Anyone interested in assisting with the project should contact Brian Johnston who is the lead for Council with this project, through the church office at 722-3023 or [info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com).

**Regional Council Annual Meeting:** The Closing Motion of the 4th Annual Meeting of the region on May 15, 2022, named that the 5th Annual Meeting of the Regional Council be held **virtually**, using zoom video conferencing, on **May 12-14, 2023**. The Celebration of Ministries Service will be held on **May 14, 2023**, at a location to be determined. Additionally, the President, Rev. Nancy Mojica-Fisher, announced that the theme for the meeting will be "*Created in God's Image*", based on Psalm 139. Watch for updates and information at <https://uceast.ca/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-16/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-annual-meeting-2023>. Please know that we continue to hold you all in our prayers as we continue the work of this United Church of ours.

**ReVITALize 2023:** A special learning event for lay people and people serving in ministry, will be held on June 7-9, 2023, in Halifax, Nova Scotia. All are invited and welcome! For more information, visit: <https://www.revitalizeconference.ca/>

**United in Learning – Good Courage Lenten Study:** Starting Tuesday, February 28, 2023, join the Rev. Stephen Fetter for a six-week Lenten study series exploring devotional readings from [Good Courage: Daily Reflections on Hope](#), the newest Lenten devotional from United Church Publishing House. Ponder the kind of courage that God calls out of ordinary people, contemplate their stories, reflect on how they connect, to your own and reimagine how our lives can contribute to God’s healing of the world. Register for the Lenten study and you'll also receive 20% off your book purchase. [Sign up today!](#)

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**Bridges to Hope Benefit Concert:** A Songwriters Circle Benefit Show in support of Bridges to Hope will take place on Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm at Gower Street United Church. The show will feature Alan Doyle, Rachel Cousins, Kelly McMichael and Nick Earle. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased through the Bridges to Hope web site at [www.bridgestohope.ca](http://www.bridgestohope.ca), or by calling 709-722-9225.

**February is Black History Month:** The celebration of February as Black History (or African Heritage) Month begins this week. Officially recognized in Canada since 1996, this is a time to honour the contributions and struggles of peoples of African descent. Check out all the latest [worship resources](#), [anti-racism webinars](#), [books](#), and [newsletters](#) available. Be sure to also read our [Black History Month worship blogs](#) when you scroll down on the worship page.

## MEMORIALS

*In Memory of Thomas Russell Hayden, From Courtney Hayden*

*In Memory of Rose O'Driscoll, From Courtney Hayden*