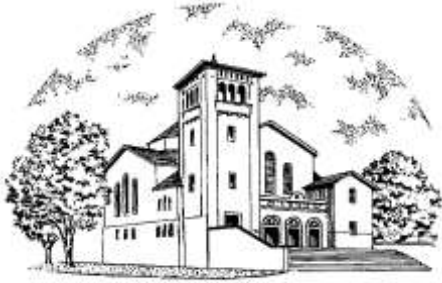


Cochrane Street United Church

(in Partnership with St. James United Church)

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



April 21st, 2024

4TH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

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

(t) 709-722-3023 (f) 709-722-3260
info@cochranestreetuc.com
www.cochranestreetuc.com

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*please stand as you are able

****bold** indicates 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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see the email of each congregation for detailed announcements.

* **INTROIT: "Come All You People" (MV #2)**

Come all you people, come and praise your maker. (x3)
Come now and worship the Lord.

* **ACKNOWLEDGING CHRIST CANDLE & PASSING THE PEACE:**

The light of Christ is with us. **Here. Now. In this place.**

In Christ, although we are many, we are one.

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: "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters" (VU #442, vs 1)**

1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters,
where your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among your people;
bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Weave them garments bright and sparkling;
compass them with love and light.
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit,
holy dove and heart's delight.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come, O Easter people, sharing together in God's love.

We come from many places, joined as siblings in Christ.

Come, O Easter people, renewed in the promise of resurrection.

We come with diverse experiences, each of us a gift in Christ.

Come, O Easter people, to honour the one who renews our hearts.

We come to give praise, each of us reborn in the grace of Christ.

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

O Resurrecting God,

you sent Christ into the world

to gather the nations together

that we might all live through him.

May we abide in his risen life,

bearing the fruit of love for one another

and knowing the fullness of resurrection joy.

We pray in the grace of your Spirit. Amen.

* **HYMN:** "The Day of Resurrection" (VU #164)

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Statement of Purpose and Presentation of Families

We welcome Tenika Brooking and Krista and Sheldon Smith as they present Everleigh Brooking and Christopher Smith to be baptized.

Profession of Faith

Promise of the People

Let us pledge our support and care for those being baptized:

As a baptized and baptizing people, we commit ourselves to support and uphold you as we worship God, love and serve others, seek justice and resist evil.

May God grant us all the grace to live out our baptism.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Act of Baptism

Baptismal Song (*sung after both baptisms, before the laying on of hands*)

In God's circle of love, we hold on to each other;
I can see God's love through you.
In God's circle of love, we learn to love each other;
Each of us is special, in God's circle of love.

Oh children did you know that you are very special?
You're so special to us all
Oh come if you will to our circle of love.
Each of us is special, in God's circle of love.

In God's circle of love, we hold on to each other;
I can see God's love through you.
In God's circle of love, we learn to love each other;
Each of us is special, in God's circle of love.

Blessing, Laying on of Hands, Lighting of Baptismal Candles

* **HYMN:** "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise" (**VU #444**)

LEARNING TOGETHER – PRESENTATION OF STOLE

OFFERING INVITATION AND VOLUNTARY

* **OFFERTORY HYMN:** "Hallelujah, Hallelujah" (**VU #179, v 4**)

Hallelujah, hallelujah, Give thanks to the risen Christ;
hallelujah, hallelujah! Give praise to God's name.
Come let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Saviour;
Hallelujah, hallelujah, Give thanks to the risen Christ;
hallelujah, hallelujah! Give praise to God's name.

* **PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

**We give thanks, Holy God, for the movement of your Spirit,
calling us to extend your love in our community and world,
to share your compassion and care with everyone we meet.
Accept not only these gifts but our hearts and mind,
that through the inspiration of your Living Word,
we may be joined to you and to one another. Amen.**

GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 8:26-40

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

READER: Jalna McMaster

* **RESPONSIVE PSALM:** Psalm 22:19-31 (**Parts 2–4, VU p. 745**)

READER: Heather McMaster

SCRIPTURE READING: John 15:1-8

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

READER: Heather McMaster

POETIC READING: Excerpt from *Praises of the Cross*, by Abba Giyorgis of Segla (16th c. Ethiopian monk). Trans. Getatchew Haile

ANTHEM: Psalm 150, *by Bob Chilcott*

SERMON

***HYMN:** “Let Us Build a House” (*MV #1, vs 1, 2, 4-5*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SUNG LORD’S PRAYER (*Voices United, p. 960*)

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD’S LOVE

* **HYMN:** “We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection” (*VU #586*)

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

Holy God, dreamer of dreams, we offer Cochrane Street United Church and St. James 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

Risen with Christ, **we trust in the gift of the Spirit's peace.**

Risen with Christ, **we accept the call to embody his way.**

Risen with Christ, **we are proof that God's life will never die.**

So go in joy! Christ is Risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

* SUNG BENEDICTION: "May the God of Peace" (MV #224)

May the God of peace and of all good,

May the god of peace and of all good be always with you. Amen!

May God's peace be with you. Amen!

POSTLUDE

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, APRIL 21

CSUC – Rev. James Ravenscroft

CSUC Service @ ST. JAMES UC

Tuesday, APRIL 23

CSUC Council Meeting, 7PM (ZOOM)

Sunday, APRIL 28

CSUC – Bert Riggs

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

PASTORAL COVERAGE FOR CSUC: Rev. Peggy Johnson is covering all pastoral emergencies and funerals. She can be reached at (709) 685-9223 or by email at peggyjoanjohnson@hotmail.com. If Rev. Peggy is not available, please contact Paula Reynolds at pt2reynolds@gmail.com.

NEXT MEETING OF CSUC CHURCH COUNCIL is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 7PM. If anyone has a matter they wish to bring to the attention of Council, please contact Tim Reynolds at pt2reynolds@gmail.com.

BRIDGES TO HOPE ITEM OF THE MONTH: For each month of 2024, Bridges To Hope will be suggesting a much needed food item for members of our partner congregations to consider for donation. **APRIL'S** suggested item is canned fruit. Of course, other non-perishable items are always welcome.

RECYCLABLES: Drop off your recyclables at any Green Depot and use the Cochrane Street Code (our phone number) 7223023. Your empty containers will support the ministries of our congregation! Don't forget to drop off your eligible tetra or gable containers and glass containers (including beer & wine bottles) for a refund. Thank you in advance for your help.

ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH – AWAY FOR SCHOOL: Rev. James will be away in Toronto from May 4 through to May 17. Rev. Rebecca will be covering pastoral emergencies while he is away.

SJUC– Recorded Services: Please access our website www.stjamesuc.org and click on 'Digital Worship' and then click on 'Live' to view the most up to date worship or visit our Facebook page (St. James United Church) click 'Videos' in the left side menu.

SJUC – Eventide Worship: Every Sunday at 7PM we have our Eventide Worship service. This Sunday is Celtic Vespers. Celtic Vespers is a new take on an old service. One of several daily “offices” developed in the early years of Christianity, vespers is a service of readings, prayers and candle-lighting as evening begins. This version celebrates Celtic spirituality through the music traditions of Ireland, Scotland and Newfoundland.

ST. JAMES – AOTS FISH & BREWIS DINNER: Tickets are available from any member of the AOTS Men's Club or Aubrey Hill - 709-726-8306. Join us Friday, **April 26**, 2024 at 6pm. Cost \$25.

United Church of Canada E-ssentials – Remit 1 Vote Results:

Remit 1: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization has passed. All 16 voting regional councils, the National Indigenous Council, and just over 80% of pastoral charges in The United Church of Canada voted in this process.

*National Indigenous Council and Regional Councils: **Yes: 17; No: 0***

*Pastoral charges: **Yes: 1482; No: 93***

The decision on enacting the remit will take place at the Annual Meeting of General Council, on October 19, 2024. Once enacted, the change will be included in the next edition of *The Manual*. (The process for remits is outlined in the United Church Manual, in section F, on pages 108-111.). On the General Council 44 website, you can find more detailed information about the remit result, as well as a statement from the National Indigenous Council (<https://generalcouncil44.ca/news/>) in response to the vote results.



Create
in me a
clean heart,
O God,
and renew
a right spirit
within me.
Psalm 51:10