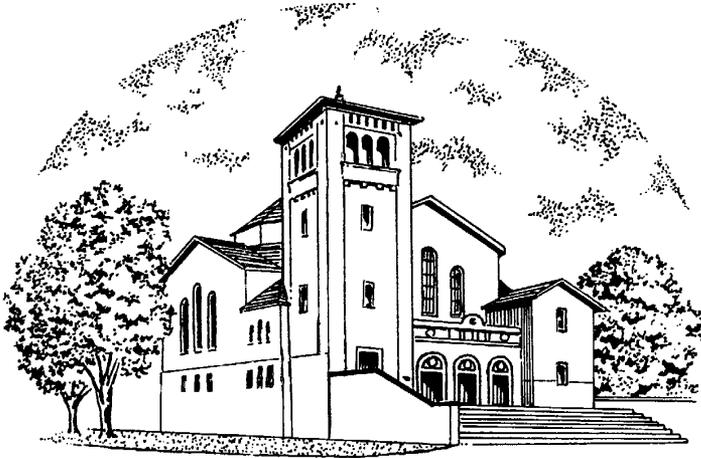


Cochrane Street United Church

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



January 7, 2024 First Sunday after Epiphany

Guest Presider: Rev. Peggy Johnson

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

Welcome to Cochrane Street United Church

Whether you are here for the first time or this is your church home – welcome to our community of faith.

USHERING TEAM FOR JANUARY

Jalna McMaster, Jo-Ann Kelly, David Molyneux, Fraser Ellis

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesdays	9:00 am	–	3:00 pm
Wednesdays	9:00 am	–	3:00 pm
Thursdays	9:00 am	–	3:30 pm

Email: info@cochranestreetuc.com

Phone: 709-722-3023

Website: www.cochranestreetuc.com

Cochrane Centre Contact information for bookings
709-754-2532 or info@cochranecentre.ca

PASTORAL EMERGENCIES AND FUNERALS

Rev. Peggy Johnson will cover all pastoral emergencies and funerals. She can be reached at (709) 685-9223

Like us on Facebook or Follow us on Twitter!
www.facebook.com/Cochranestreetuc and [@CochraneStreet](https://twitter.com/CochraneStreet)

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:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

*INTROIT:

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*REFLECTIVE MUSIC: Behold, I Make All Things New #115 MV

Behold, Behold, I make all things new,

beginning with you and starting from today.

Behold, Behold, I make all things new,

my promise is true, for I am Christ the way. (Repeat)

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: The Magi came from far away, following a star.

People: We come to worship and the star sheds light on our lives.

Leader: The Magi brought gifts to offer the Christ Child.

People: We too bring gifts—ourselves, our hopes, and our dreams.

Leader: Shepherds and Magi—the meek and the mighty—all came to worship and were welcome in Bethlehem.

People: We too come to the manger, seeking guidance and direction, as we journey into the unknown territory of another year.

***PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

Around the world this day, we come from the East, and we come from the West, walking on different paths but following the same star.

May the light from that star illuminate each of our lives, as we share the love that came to earth that night so long ago.

May we learn from each other on our journey, as we struggle to serve you more faithfully in a very complex and demanding world.

We pray in the name of the Christ Child. Amen

***HYMN: Arise, Your Light Is Come (vs. 1, 3, 4) #79 VU**
Tune to St. Michael, Page 688

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

God of compassion, have mercy upon us as we bow before you. Through Christ you show us light, yet we still choose the shadows. Through your Word you offer us guidance, yet we often choose to ignore your counsel. Through your Holy Spirit you promise renewal, yet we are reluctant to change our ways. Hear us now as we confess our sins: those things which we have done as well as those we have left undone.

(Silent prayer)

Forgive us. Restore us. Place our feet once again on the right path.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

God comes in Jesus, son of Mary, to show us his Love in human form. In Christ, God forgives us, encourages us, and frees us to love others.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen

LEARNING TIME

***HYMN: I Have Called You By Your Name #161 MV**

OFFERING INVITATION AND OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

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

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

Generous God, may our offerings be used to share with others the gifts you bring to us at Christmas: the gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love...a love which knows no bounds. With these gifts, we bring ourselves, O God, in response to the greatest gift of all, in whose name we pray. Amen

GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Holy God,

Open our hearts and minds to the power of your Holy Spirit. As Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, may we hear with joy what you are saying to us this day. Amen

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 60: 1–55

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 72, Part One (pg. 790 VU)

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Ephesians 2: 17–20

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2: 1–12

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God

SOLO:

SERMON: Us and them...or just us?

HYMN: In Christ There Is No East or West #606 VU

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: A Litany

Response: *Lord Hear Our Prayer.*

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: As With Gladness Men of Old #81 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:

CHORAL BENEDICTION: Go Make A Difference

#209 MV

Go make a difference. We can make a difference.

Go make a difference in the world.

Go make a difference. We can make a difference.

Go make a difference in the world.

POSTLUDE:

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday,	JANUARY 7	Rev. Peggy Johnson
Wednesday,	JANUARY 10	Putting Away Christmas Decorations
Sunday,	JANUARY 14	Bert Riggs
Sunday,	JANUARY 21	Bert Riggs
Sunday,	JANUARY 28	Rev. Peggy Johnson

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 create a safe environment in which we can all fully participate.

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.

2024 CHURCH CALENDARS : There are 9 left at a cost of \$10.00. If anyone is interested, please contact the Church Office (722-3023, info@cochranestreetuc.com) to place an order.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS – TAKING DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS: Council is seeking volunteers to assist in removing and storing Christmas Decorations from the Sanctuary on Wednesday, **January 10, 2024, 10:00am**. Anyone who wishes to volunteer and help out is asked to be at the church at 10am. Many hands make light work.

MEMORIALS

*In Memory of Jean Fuller, long-time member of
Cochrane Street United Church and the UOW,
who passed way in August 2021. In support of her church,
From Brenda Abbott & Family*

*In Memory of Mother, Ida Pomeroy,
From Frank & Celeste Hawkins*