

# Cochrane Street United Church

81 Cochrane Street

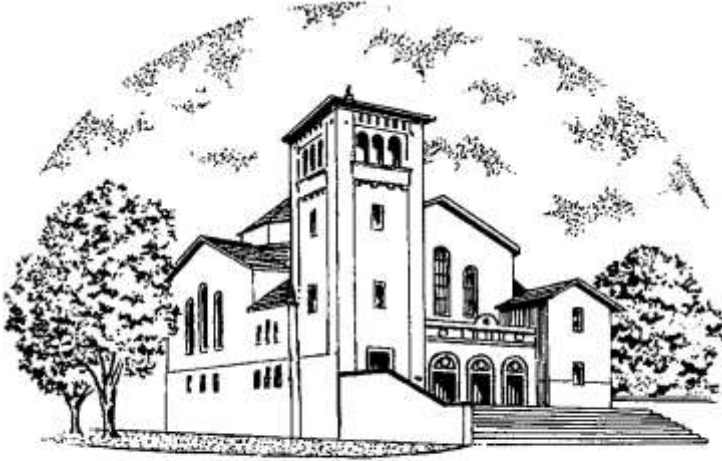


St. John's, NL



A1C

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**March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

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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# Welcome to Cochrane Street United Church

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

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## USHERING TEAM FOR MARCH

Ian McMaster, Blair Bradbury, Gerry Penney, Bill Squires

## NEW OFFICE HOURS

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Thursdays 9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Fridays 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

Email: [info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com)

Phone: 709-722-3023

Website: [www.cochranestreetuc.com](http://www.cochranestreetuc.com)

Cochrane Centre Contact information for bookings  
709-754-2532 or [info@cochranecentre.ca](mailto: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](http://www.facebook.com/Cochranestreetuc) and @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

*Please see your congregational email for detailed announcements.*

### \*INTROIT *MV* #62: **There is Room for All**

There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing;

there is room for all, sheltered in God's love.

And I rejoice and sing, "My refuge and my rock, in whom I trust."

There is room for all, there is room for all!

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

Lent is often viewed as a dark time as it leads to the death of our Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross. However, the light that shines eternal from the body of our Saviour is with us today.

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

The light that is Jesus Christ will show us the way.

**We are one.**

Let our love of the light be a reflection of God's love that is found in each of us.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

### REFLECTIVE MUSIC *MV* #114 **Behold the Face of Christ**

Behold the Face of Christ,  
O Jesus Christ, O Living Christ,  
You Rise among Your People.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Let us give thanks to our God!

**Let us proclaim God's goodness throughout all the world.**

Let all of us, gathered here, celebrate God's absolute love.

**Let us offer our lives in service to others.**

Thanks be to God for the blessings which have been poured on us.

**Lord, enable us to use our gifts to serve you in your world.**

**Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

Creator God, as we gather here, on this day of sharing, remind us that you have shared with us your most precious gift, our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to model our lives after his messages of compassion and service to you and to all your world. In Christ's Name, we offer this prayer. Amen.

**\*HYMN VU # 112: O God, How We Have Wandered**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

God of mercy and patience, be with us this day as we celebrate your Holy Name. Forgive us when we get so caught up in the details of living and when we become so overwhelmed by our current economic woes that we neglect to help others. Enlighten us again with your spirit and your words of healing love. Caring and sharing are the hallmarks of discipleship with Jesus Christ. Heal us and forgive us. Give us hearts for joyful caring and sharing; for it is in Jesus' name that we offer this prayer. Amen.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

Let God's love and mercy wash over you as the spring rains wash over the earth, bringing promise of new life and hope. Be at peace. Amen.

**LEARNING TIME: "Laetare Sunday"**

**\*HYMN VU # 635: All the Way My Saviour Leads Me**

**OFFERING INVITATION**

## **OFFERTORY 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 VU # 544: In Gratitude and Humble Trust**

In gratitude and humble trust  
we bring our best today  
to serve your cause and share your love  
with all along life's way.  
O God, who gave yourself to us  
in Jesus Christ, your Son,  
teach us to give ourselves each day  
until life's work is done.

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Help us to remember that the gifts we give go to help many people in need. Remind us again that our lives are meant to be gifts to others, for healing, hope, comfort, peace and love. Amen.**

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

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:**

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

**Numbers 21:4 - 9**

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

### **RESPONSIVE PSALM 107 page 831 parts 1 & 2**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

**John 3:14 - 21**

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

### **ANTHEM: Corpus Christi, by Benjamin Britten**

*sung today by Jenna and Ben*

**MEDITATION:** "Snakes: A Blessing or a Curse"

**\*HYMN # 266: Amazing Grace**

## **GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (sung VU #959)**

### **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**

Go in peace! May God so bless you that all who see you or hear you feel welcome in your presence; may the Spirit so touch you that others are comforted by your words and your actions; and may Jesus dwell in you so richly that others are drawn to God by you both now and forevermore.

### **SUNG BENEDICTION VU # 574: Come Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love**

1 Come, let us sing of a wonderful love,  
tender and true, tender and true,  
out of the heart of the Father above,  
streaming to me and to you:  
wonderful love, wonderful love  
dwells in the heart of the Father above.

### **POSTLUDE**

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

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Sunday, MARCH 10	CSUC – Bert Riggs
Sunday, MARCH 17	CSUC – Rev. Miriam Bowlby
Sunday, MARCH 24	CSUC Service @ St. James UC
	PALM SUNDAY
Sunday, MARCH 31	CSUC – Rev. Peggy Johnson
	EASTER SUNDAY / COMMUNION

**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.

**PARKING ON SUNDAYS:** If the Bannerman parking lot is full when you arrive, there MAY be parking available at Stewart Avenue that's behind the building previously known as the College of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador (CRNNL).

**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](mailto:peggyjoanjohnson@hotmail.com). If Rev. Peggy is not available, please contact Paula Reynolds at [pt2reynolds@gmail.com](mailto:pt2reynolds@gmail.com).

**PILOT PROJECT WITH ST. JAMES:** Our pilot project with St. James will partially commence on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. *Tim Reynolds*  
*Chair, Church Council*

**FROM YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL:** Many of you were asking to see a copy of the resolution that was passed at the recent Cochrane Centre membership meeting held on February 4<sup>th</sup>. I recently received a copy of the resolution from Jim Carscadden, a member of the Cochrane Centre board. Here it is:

Moved by Stephan Jewczyk and seconded by Charlie Pope Jr.

It is moved that approval be given to initiate discussions with First Light regarding its ownership proposal, with the goal of reaching an agreement between First Dawn Eastern Edge, Cochrane Centre, First Light and Cochrane Street United Church regarding the congregation's continuing access to worship in the building and identifying those sacred and significant items and elements within the sanctuary that will be protected while the congregation continues to worship in the building.

In Favour 33; Abstained 1

We will have a congregational meeting immediately after our upcoming AGM to reconfirm all of the significant items and elements within the sanctuary that need protection. *Tim Reynolds, Council Chair*

**BATHROOM RENOVATION Update:** First Light received a grant from Service NL to renovate the washroom near the Minister's office to make it fully accessible – lowered sink, leveled floor, button on the door, and a nice face lift! Renovations began on Monday, March 4, 2024. Due to an unexpected delay, this will take longer than the planned two weeks. In the meantime, there are washrooms available near the community hall / event space.

**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. For **MARCH**, we are suggesting beans. Of course other non-perishable items are always welcome.

**GOWER SERVICE & SOCIAL CLUB:** The March Dinner Meeting of the Gower Service and Social Club will be held on Tuesday, March 19, beginning at 6:00pm in the Gower Lecture Hall. The main course is fish and brewis. The after-dinner speaker is Colin Corcoran, Executive Director of the Community Sector Council. Please let Bert Riggs know if you plan to attend by 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 17. He may be reached at [briggs@mun.ca](mailto:briggs@mun.ca) or at 709-726-6169. All are welcome!

**March 14, National Affirming/PIE Day** is a time for Public, Intentional and Explicit inclusion of 2SLGBTQIA+ people. But what does this mean? It means showing up in solidarity, challenging hate, and reaching out beyond your community of faith. Check out the new National Affirming/PIE Day video on The United Church of Canada's YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=855omBrGWZM>) and share widely! You can find even more PIE Day resources on The United Church of Canada website: <https://united-church.ca/worship-special-days/national-affirmingpie-day>.

**GENDER INCLUSIVE CURRICULA MARCH 14, 5-7PM:** The Affirm Committees of Gower Street and St. James United Churches invite you to our education session at St. James United Church. The objective is to provide a safe and respectful space to address questions and concerns about the issue of gender inclusive curricula. There will be a panel of presenters with lived and professional experience of gender inclusive spaces, practices, and policies. A light meal will be provided. Please RSVP to Gail at [gwideman@mun](mailto:gwideman@mun) by Monday, March 11, so that adequate food can be prepared and dietary limitations accommodated.

**St. James – Reflective Thursdays at 12:30:** Each Thursday throughout Lent, (Rev.) James will lead an informal communion service in the Fellowship Room. Communion is at 12:30PM, followed by the the sharing of lunch. Bring a bag lunch if you wish and have lunch together!

**St. James – Make Your Lent Green:** This year we are using a green lens as we explore the readings for each Sunday in Lent. Why not make your whole Lent green? One way to do this is to follow the suggestions by A Rocha, a Christian environmental organisation started in the UK. Here is a link to their UK website: <https://arocha.org.uk/go-green-for-lent/>

**St. James Outreach and Action Committee** is discerning a future initiative of offering ESL/EFL classes (English as a second or foreign language conversation classes). This is an awesome opportunity to train for that! Call Tom Dawe for details at 738-397 or check the following website [www.teachersonwheels.ca](http://www.teachersonwheels.ca).