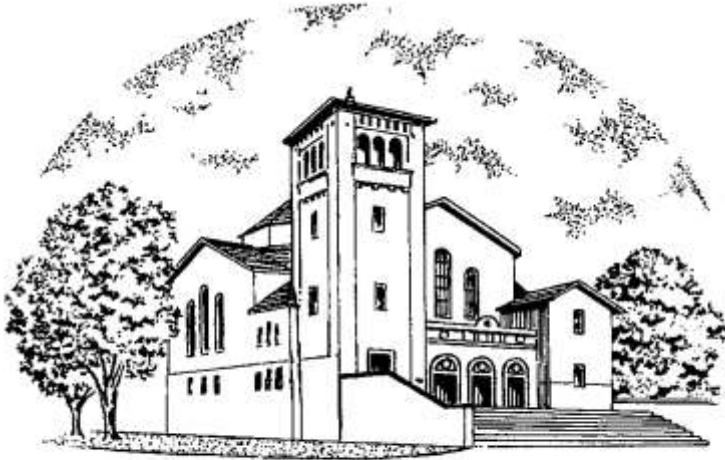


Cochrane Street United Church

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



September 17th, 2023 **16th Sunday after Pentecost** **CREATION SUNDAY 2**

Guest Presider: Rev. John Maich
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 SEPTEMBER

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

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Thursday	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Friday	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

Please see your congregational email for detailed announcements.

*INTROIT MV #10 Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom (vs. 1)

1. Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
she who danced when earth was new.
Follow closely what she teaches,
for her words are right and true.
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
Showing us what love must do.

LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE & PASSING OF THE PEACE:

We light the Christ candle to remind ourselves that Jesus is the light of the world.

Let this light shine around us and through us that the shadows be put to flight and we can dwell in the Lord's day.

Let the light of love be kindled in your hearts and may your presence be light and warmth to all you meet. Grace and peace to you.

And also with you.

Let us turn to our neighbours and seek the image of God within them.

May the Spirit open our eyes as wide as our hearts as we welcome one another. Amen.

***REFLECTIVE MUSIC MV #145 Draw the Circle Wide (refrain)**

Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.

Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Your Spirit, O Lord, calls out to our spirits, come and praise the maker of heaven and earth; come and testify of the one who formed you and calls you to purpose.

Our Lord is the God who has fashioned and created us into the image of God's very self. The Almighty who has created us also gives to us talents and abilities to fulfil our purpose.

We follow in the footsteps of Christ Jesus and seek to emulate his servant way.

We aspire to be merciful and just, generously sharing the truth we have received and loving the children of God we have been set amongst. Let us go up to the house of the Lord and sing God's praise. Amen.

PRAYER OF APPROACH: (Unison)

We bow our heads and open our hearts to you our Covenant Friend. We quiet our thoughts that we might hear you speak without interruption or competition. We plead you to come among us and to remove from us all doubt that we are alone. Your Spirit empowers us and encourages us to come before your throne of mercy and to lay our burdens before you so that we may more readily take up the yoke Christ offers. Amen.

***HYMN:**

God Is Here

389 VU

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

We are mindful, O Lord, of all the requests you make of us to honour you. We are mindful of your instructions and commands to make truth, justice, and mercy the touchstone of all our interaction with your children in the world. Forgive us for our faults and our failures to follow you. Pardon us for our sins and shortcomings in living the lives you call us to. Cleanse us, make us new and empower us to reflect your grace and mercy more faithfully. Amen.

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Hear the good news of Christ's Gospel. Jesus was not sent into the world to condemn and to destroy. Our Lord Jesus the Christ has come into the world to redeem and to restore. You are now new creations in Christ Jesus.

We are forgiven by our God. Amen.

LEARNING TOGETHER

OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY

***OFFERTORY HYMN VU 537 Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands**

- 1 Your work, O God, needs many hands
to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve
unless our gifts we share.
- 2 Because we love you and your work,
our offering now we make:
be pleased to use it as your own,
we ask for Jesus' sake.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

All these gifts we offer this morning, as well as the gifts we have rendered through the week, are tokens of our gratitude for your graciousness O Lord. We do not hoard the blessings you have bestowed but find ways to multiply them and use them to bless the world around us. Receive these gifts and direct them to the service of your children here on earth. Amen.

GOD'S WORD FOR USTODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

We thank you O God for your Word made flesh and for the words shared by your servants in the Holy Scriptures and the lessons shared with us in the fullness of Creation. We open our hearts to your instruction and lean on your understanding. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 50: 15-21

Reader: Linda Facey *Joseph forgives his brothers.*

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

PSALM:

Psalm 14: 1–8 (Reading from the Bible)

Reader: Linda Facey

God's wonders during the Israelite exodus from Egypt.

EPISTLE READING: Romans 14: 1-12 (New Century Version)

Reader: Cheryl Briggs

Why do you pass judgment?

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God

GOSPEL LESSON:

Matthew 18: 21-35

How often shall I forgive my brother who sins against me?

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ – Thanks be to God

***HYMN:**

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

364 VU

SERMON: If You Do Not Forgive

ANTHEM: Fairest Lord Jesus

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (VU #960)

***HYMN:**

This is God’s Wondrous World

296 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 (based on Matthew 14:22-33):

Send us out now, O God, in twos and threes

to be the grace and compassion the world needs.

Send us out now, O Jesus, alone and together,

to work for justice for all the forgotten.

Send us out now, O Spirit, as your people

to bring peace to the brokenness around us.

*SUNG BENEDICTION VU #424 May the God of Hope Go with Us (vs. 1)

1 May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

POSTLUDE:

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SEP 17	CSUC – Rev. John Maich	OCT 01	WORLD WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY
SEP 19	ZOOM CSUC COUNCIL MTG 7PM		CSUC – Rev. Peggy Johnson
SEP 24	ORANGE T-SHIRT SUNDAY	OCT 07	Harvest Sale 10:30am-1pm
	CSUC – Bert Riggs	OCT 08	THANKSGIVING SUNDAY
			CSUC – Rev. Karen Burse

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.

Worship service back in the sanctuary: As the temperature in the sanctuary is more pleasant, now, we will return to worship in this space.

PLEASE BE CAREFUL

*when walking through the Cochrane Street entrance.
Basic work has started for repairing a portion of the driveway
and to install a ramp at the middle doors.*

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 College of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador (CRNNL).

FALL PLANT AND HARVEST SALE: Our fall plant and harvest sale is Saturday, October 7, 2023, from 10:30am–1:00pm. Drop off your indoor and outdoor plants and chutneys, relishes, jams and marmalades at 81 Cochrane Street on October 7, from 9:30–10:30am. If you need your plants picked up, please contact the church office by Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at info@cochranestreetuc.com or 722-3023.

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. Brian Johnston and Sandy Stavlo 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 Sandy Stavlo, who is the lead for Council with this project, through the church office at 722-3023 or info@cochranestreetuc.com.

SABBATICAL SCHEDULE / Acting Executive Minister: Effective July 1, through to and including September 30, 2023, the Executive Minister, Faith March-MacCuish will be taking sabbatical. From September 1–30, Rev. Heather Sandford will be serving as Acting Executive Minister. She can be reached at 1-800-268-3781, Ext. 6155; hsandford@united-church.ca

FROM THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA E-SENTIALS: On September 30, people all across Canada will [wear orange shirts](#) to remember and honour Indigenous children who were taken from their communities and families to residential institutions. This year, Indigenous communities across the country continue to share the truth they have always known: that many of the children who never returned home remain on the grounds of those institutions in unmarked burial sites. These communities are now seeking to honour the missing children. On Orange Shirt Day we also observe the **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**. For non-Indigenous Christians in particular, this is a time to reflect on their role in colonialism and the ongoing responsibility to make reparations.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY SEPTEMBER 30: To find out more about Orange Shirt Day and activities, visit: <https://firstlightnl.ca/resources/orange-shirt-day/>

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 **SEPTEMBER** we are suggesting canned soup. Of course other nonperishable items are always welcome. Thank you for your support!

THE GOWER SERVICE AND SOCIAL CLUB will hold its first dinner meeting for the 2023-2024 year on Tuesday, **September 19**, in the downstairs Lecture Hall at the church. Dinner will be served around 6:00 p.m. The menu is Baked Ham with pineapple, mashed potato, green beans and carrots, with a vegetable juice appetizer and pie and ice cream for dessert. The after-dinner speak is Dr. John FitzGerald, President of the Basilica Heritage Foundation. The cost is \$15.00 per person. All are welcome. If you plan to attend, **please let Bert Riggs know by mid-afternoon** on Sunday, **September 17**, so that he knows how many to prepare food for. You can contact him by e-mail at briggs@mun.ca or by telephone at 709-726-6169.