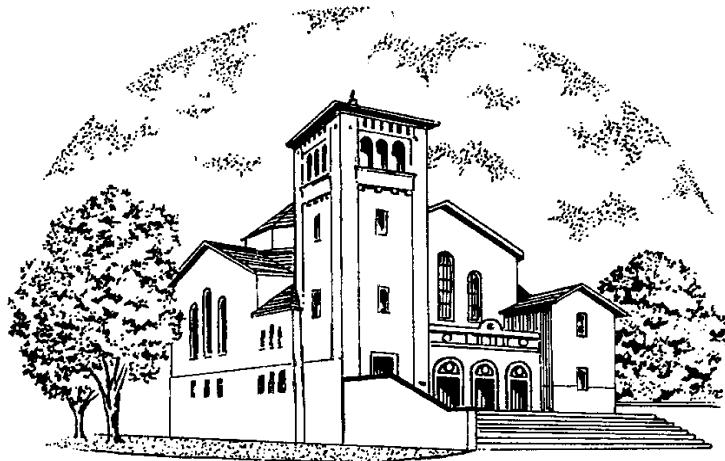


Cochrane Street United Church

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



February 20th, 2022

Minister: Rev. Miriam Bowlby, B.A. (Hons) M.Div, MBA-SEE

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Eric Hillier

Minister of Music: Patricia Young

Director of Music: Evan Smith

Technical Operations: John Williams, Jackabon Media

(t) 709-722-3023 (f) 709-722-3260

info@cochrانestreetuc.com

www.cochranestreetuc.com

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*please stand as you are able

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:

INTROIT: MV #4 All Who Are Thirsty

All who are thirsty, all who are weak,
come to the fountain.

Dip your heart in the stream of life.

Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away
in the waves of his mercy as deep cries out to deep.
We sing

Come, Lord Jesus, come. **(4X)**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see your congregational email for detailed announcements.

***LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE & PASSING OF 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 MV 14: Where two or three are gathered

Where two or three are gathered in my name;

I am there, I am there. **2X**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come, faithful people, and find that quiet centre
where God may enter in.

We gather as God's people:

**hungry for holy presence,
ready for God's Word to us.**

Let us worship God.

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

Ever-present God,

this day enfolds us and surrounds us:

be in our speaking and in our thinking;

be in our life and on our lips;

be in our hearts and in our souls,

today and forever. Amen.

HYMN VU 264: Immortal, Invisible God

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise;
 in light inaccessible hid from our eyes;
 most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
 almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
 nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
 thy justice like mountains high soaring above
 thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
 in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
 we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
 then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.
- 4 Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light;
 thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
 all praise we would render, O help us to see
 'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, Lord

when we are struggling with life,

searching for answers in vain,

relying on our own strength

and failing again.

**Remind us, Lord
that you are the strength
upon whom we can call,
the power to endure,
the answer that we seek,
the one in whose arms
we can safely fall.
Forgive us, Lord
when we forget. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Christ, God says to us, “Arise, shine, for your light is come.”
In Christ, God says to us, “Love one another as I have loved you.”
Thanks be to God for love and hope!

LEARNING TOGETHER

OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY:

OFFERTORY HYMN VU 581 When We are Living vs. 2)

2 Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
 Good works of service are for offering.
 When we are giving, or when receiving,
 we belong to God, we belong to God.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Holy God,
You speak to us in many ways,
through rushing wind or still small voice,
in Scripture's Word and through your Grace.
Help us hear your voice above the clamour of this world,
recognize the difference and follow only you. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 45:1 – 11, 15

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

*RESPONSIVE PSALM 37 VU #763

REFRAIN: Commit your way to God and trust the One who takes your part

Do not fret because of the wicked,
or envy those who do evil.

**For they soon wither like grass
and fade away like the green leaf.**

Trust in God and do good;

dwell in the land and there find safe pasture.

Find your delight in God,

who will grant the desires of your heart. R

God will make your vindication shine like the light,

the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.

Be still before God and wait patiently;

do not fret because some prosper in evil schemes.

Let go of anger and abandon wrath.

Do not fret - it can only do harm. R

Those who do evil shall be cut off,

but those who look to God shall inherit the earth.

In a little while the wicked will be no more;

**you will look where they were
and their place will be empty.**

But the meek shall inherit the earth;

they shall enjoy fullness of peace.

Salvation for the righteous comes from God,
their refuge in time of trouble.

**God helps and delivers,
and rescues from the wicked those who seek shelter. R**

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 6:27 – 49

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

SOLO: "In the Garden"

William Austin

SERMON:

HYMN MV #176: Three Things I Promise (vs. 1, 3, 4, 6)

1. Three things I promise, Holy God,
in age and youth, in life and death:
to bless your Name, and cling to Christ,
and listen for the Spirit's breath.

3. I follow, serve, and cling to Christ amid out culture's tides and trends, for here your Name is most revealed: Majestic Love, and Best of Friends.
4. Enlivened as the Spirit moves to cleanse, awaken, and renew, I pray that justice, peace, and truth, may seed and grow in all I do.
6. Revive and guide me, Living God, as day by day, until my death, I bless your Name, and cling to Christ, and listen for the Spirit's breath.

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 VU 296: This Is God's Wondrous World (vs. 1–3)

- 1 This is God's wondrous world,
and to my listening ears
 all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world;
I rest me in the thought
 of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
God's hand the wonders wrought.
- 2 This is God's wondrous world:
the birds their carols raise;
 the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world:
God shines in all that's fair;
 in the rustling grass or mountain pass,
God's voice speaks everywhere.

3 This is God's wondrous world:
O let me ne'er forget
 that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world:
why should my heart be sad?
 Let voices sing, let the heavens ring:
God reigns, let earth be glad!

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

SUNG BENEDICTION MV 214 May God's Sheltering Wings

May God's sheltering wings, her gathering wings protect you.
May God's nurturing arms, her cradling arms sustain you,
And hold you in her love, and hold you in her love.

POSTLUDE

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 2: **Ash Wednesday** Joint Worship Service
Cowan Heights, 7:30pm
March 6: 1st Sunday of Lent

OUR TAX RECEIPT MAILOUT is ready for pick up at the back of the pews on Sunday, February 20. Please help us save on delivery costs by bringing envelopes to those who live in your neighbourhood. Your help is very much appreciated!

ANNOUNCEMENTS: If you wish to add an announcement, please have it into the office by Wednesday at noon.

No Scents Makes Good Sense! A friendly reminder that members of our congregation are sensitive to scented products. Thank you for helping.

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA: We have provided over 8,360 full vaccinations to those living in the Global South and East. Thank you so much for your generosity! We can do more to support our friends and neighbours living in Canada. Support families by giving the gift of a meal through our Mission & Service partners. A gift of just \$25 will provide a family of four with a warm, nutritious meal. \$175 will ensure a family can eat a good, healthy meal every day of the week. [Make a gift](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/70143/donation) today at this website: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/70143/donation>.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE: Join the United Church congregations in the St. John's Metro Area at **Cowan Heights United Church**, 141 Frecker Drive, for a special service of worship on Ash Wednesday, **March 2, at 7:30 p.m.** After a tumultuous year, we will reflect upon the fragility of life and look towards our Lenten journey to the cross. We will receive the imposition of ashes in a safe way to comply with Covid-19 protocols and share together at the communion table to be strengthened and sustained for our Lenten journey. To register for the service, click here: <https://rsvp.church/r/MJ5WOUph> or call the Cowan Heights church office at (709) 745-2871

FROM OUR PARTNERS AT GUIDE TO THE GOOD

Let's Play Outdoors! **Junior Forest Wardens** is focused on outdoor adventure for school-aged children and their adults (parents, guardians, friends...). In partnership with Guide to the Good, JFW is reaching out to gauge interest in their program with a short survey, starting on the Avalon. They will follow up with those who express interest and hopefully hold more info events in the spring. For more info please email juniorforestwardens@gmail.com. The survey can be found here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeYvZE0VWb371jOOjtnFFic-a9VDefitMUGAMTLI6w9sEt2dA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

NOTES FROM THE ARCHIVES

Several pulpit Bibles are stored in the Archives. One of these was presented to Cochrane Street Methodist Centennial Church by Mrs H J B Woods and is dated June 18, 1916. You may remember that Mr Woods was our first Sunday School Superintendent from 1882 when our first church was built until his death in 1914.