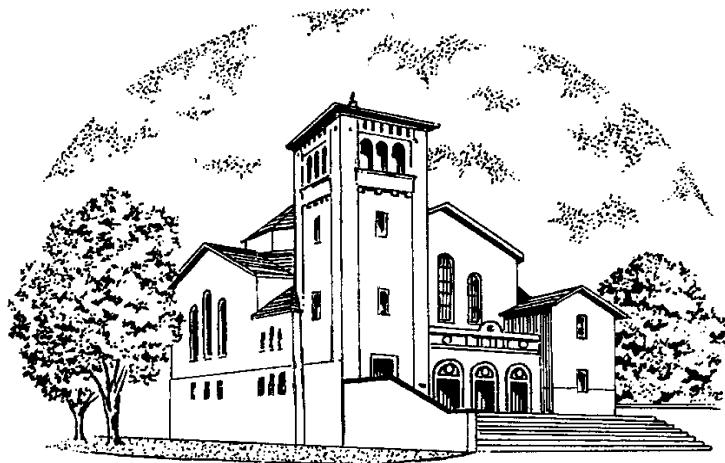


# Cochrane Street United Church

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



## February 27<sup>th</sup>, 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

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## **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:**

O God, you call us out of our ordinary lives;  
**to see your glory.**

You call us to reach beyond the known  
**to hear the wonder of your word.**

You call us to worship together  
**to touch your grace.**

Come let us worship  
**worship the God of glory, wonder and grace.**

## **PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

**Guiding God,**

**be with us in our going out and coming home,  
in our journeying and returning,  
in our decision making and organizing.**

**Guarding God,**

**be with us through the calm  
and through the storm,  
be our comfort when we're hurting,  
be our helper when we're falling.**

**Gracious God,**

**walk with us every moment  
of this new day. Amen.**

## **HYNM VU #104: We Have Come At Christ's Own Bidding (vs. 1–3)**

1      We have come at Christ's own bidding  
          to this high and holy place,  
          where we wait with hope and longing  
          for some token of God's grace.

Here we pray for new assurance  
      that our faith is not in vain,  
      searching like those first disciples  
          for a sign both clear and plain.

2      Light breaks in upon our darkness;  
          splendour bathes the flesh-joined Word;  
      Moses and Elijah marvel  
          as the heavenly voice is heard.  
      Eyes and hearts behold with wonder  
          how the Law and Prophets meet:  
      Christ, with garments drenched in brightness,  
          stands transfigured and complete.

3 Strengthened by this glimpse of glory,  
    fearful lest our faith decline,  
we like Peter find it tempting  
    to remain and build a shrine.  
But true worship gives us courage  
    to proclaim what we profess,  
that our daily lives may prove us  
    people of the God we bless.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of Transfiguration,  
you meet us in the ordinary  
as well as the extraordinary moments of life.**

**We seek you in the valleys  
and on the mountaintops.**

**Yet we admit**

**that too often our eyes are blind to your presence,  
too often our ears are deaf to your call.**

**When you reach out to us  
through the cries of the hungry and homeless,  
too often our hearts shrink from your touch.**

**Forgive us, we pray  
and set us free to love and serve you. 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

Exodus 34:29 - 35

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

### \*RESPONSIVE PSALM 99 VU page 819

**REFRAIN:** You rule with justice in delight, and faithfulness maintain.

You reign, O God, and the peoples tremble,  
you sit enthroned upon the cherubim, and the earth is quaking.

**You, O God, are great in Zion,  
you are exalted over all the nations.**

Let them praise your great and awesome name:  
holy are you and mighty, a ruler who delights in justice.

**You have determined what is fair,  
you have done in Jacob what is just and right. R**

Moses and Aaron were among your priests,  
Miriam among those who called on your name;  
they called to you, God, and you answered.

**In the pillar of cloud you spoke to them,  
they kept your teachings and the law that you gave them.**

O God, our God, you answered them;  
**to them you were a forgiving God,  
though you punished their offences.**

Proclaim the greatness of God  
and worship on God's holy hill;  
**for God, our God, is the Holy One. R**

### SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 9:28 - 36

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

**SOLO: "In the Garden"**

**William Austin**

## SERMON:

### HYMN VU 378: Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart (vs. 1, 3, 4)

- 1      Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;  
          wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;  
          stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,  
          and make me love you as I ought to love.
- 3      Have you not bid me love you, God and King;  
          all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength and mind?  
          I see your cross: there teach my heart to cling.  
          O let me seek you and O let me find!
- 4      Teach me to love you as your angels love,  
          one holy passion filling all my frame,  
          the baptism of the heaven-descended dove,  
          my heart an altar and your love the flame.

### 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 MV #154: Deep in Our Hearts (vs. 1, 3, 4)

1.     Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
          deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
          deep in our hearts there is a common story,  
          telling Creation that we are one.
3.     Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;  
          deep in our hearts there is a common theme;  
          deep in our hearts there is a common current,  
          flowing to freedom like a stream.
4.     Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
          deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
          deep in our hearts there is a common story,  
          telling Creation that we are one.

## **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 United Church, 7:30pm

March 6: 1st Sunday of Lent

**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.

**THANK YOU!** A Big Thank You to our volunteers who helped with the recent mailout. Your gifts of time and enthusiasm are very much appreciated.

**ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE:** Join the United Church congregations at **Cowan Heights United Church**, 141 Frecker Drive, for a special service of worship on **March 2, at 7:30 p.m.** We will reflect upon the fragility of life and look towards our Lenten journey to the cross. We will receive the imposition of ashes, complying 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, call (709) 745-2871 or click here: <https://rsvp.church/r/mJ5WOUph>.

**St James United Church Affirming Celebration:** On Sunday, March 13, at 3 pm, St. James United Church will have their Affirming celebration making them the third Affirming congregation in Newfoundland & Labrador. The guest preacher for the celebration will be Rev. Dr. Bob K. Fillier. You can watch the celebration live stream on the St. James Youtube channel.

**Nominations:** The United Church has launched a call for nominations (<https://united-church.ca/opportunities>) for the next Executive, the Board of Vocation and a wide range of committees. These groups will carry out the work of the General Council after the 44<sup>th</sup> General Council in August. Lay people and ministry personnel are needed with a variety of skills who hold a commitment to supporting the work of the United Church. This is a great way to connect with other members, deepen your faith, and concretely support the call and vision of this United Church of ours.

**The Generosity Matters 2022 Playlist Link** is now live on YouTube. These are eight stories of the amazing work our Mission & Service supports. We will feature these, and other stories, throughout the year in our efforts to engage, inspire, and give concrete examples of how our gifts make a difference. For more information visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjJACPvWEs&list=PLQDu-SgFb3Ri6qP8WEABHeID1bCj4vxB>

**Understanding Antisemitism with a Critical-Thinking Lens:** The Justice, Mission and Outreach Committee invites members of Communities of Faith in the regions of UCC East to this workshop. It will be conducted by Independent Jewish Voices Canada on Zoom on March 5, at 10:00am. See details here: <https://ucceast.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Fighting-Antisemitism-with-a-Critical-Thinking-Lens.pdf>. This is a learning opportunity offered as a follow-up to a proposal passed by Region 15 in September 2020 on antisemitism. Register here: <https://ucceast.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Zoom-link-to-antisemitism-workshop.pdf>.

**LET'S PLAY OUTDOORS!** Junior Forest Wardens is focused on outdoor adventure for school-aged children and their parents, guardians, & friends. In partnership with Guide to the Good, JFW is reaching out to gauge interest with a short survey, starting on the Avalon. For more info please email [juniorforestwardens@gmail.com](mailto:juniorforestwardens@gmail.com). The survey can be found here: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeYvZE0VWb371jOOjtnFFic-a9VDefitMUGAMTLI6w9sEt2dA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeYvZE0VWb371jOOjtnFFic-a9VDefitMUGAMTLI6w9sEt2dA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

## NOTES FROM THE ARCHIVES

You may remember that our first minister in the first church was Rev George Bond. Another of our early ministers was Fred R Duffill. Born in England, he served several charges in Newfoundland, including Cochrane Street 1888-1892. Several years later Rev Duffill moved back to England and died at Plymouth in Jan 1931 at the age of 68.