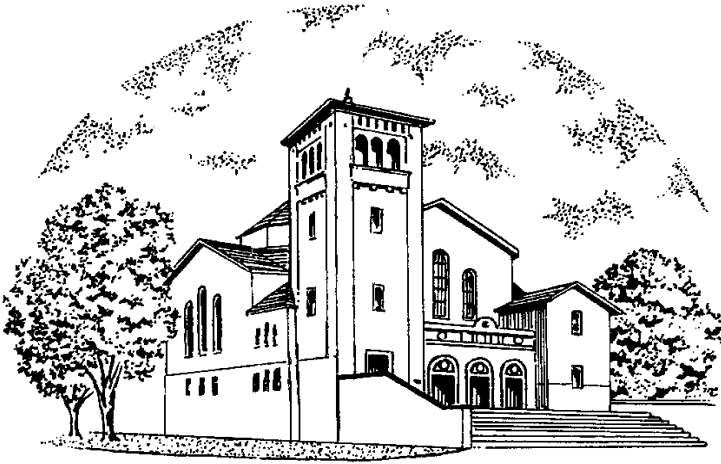


Cochrane Street United Church

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



February 19th, 2023 Transfiguration Sunday

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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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: *Bridge Over Troubled Water, by Simon & Garfunkel*

INTROIT VU #389: God is Here (v. 1)

**1 God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see your congregational email for detailed announcements.

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

Jesus' face shone like the sun.

Let this Candle be a light to our mountain moments.

And Jesus' clothes became dazzling white.

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 VU # 409: Morning Has Broken (vs. 1)

**1 Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Be still, for the presence of the Holy One is here.

We come together and find that this is holy ground.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

We stand on this holy ground, renewed by awe.

Be still, for surely God is moving in this place.

We stand on this holy ground, waiting, listening, watching, hoping. Be still and know that God is here.

Come, let us worship.

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

Holy One, Light of light, God of all creation, long ago you came to the disciples in the brilliance of Jesus' mountaintop gathering, his face glowing like the sun off the bay on a bright, spring morning.

Shine in us, around us, and through us, that the world may see your divine aura in the faces of your people, faces transfigured in the light of your love. Amen.

HYMN: A Light is Gleaming

82 VU

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, when you call us to hope and to act with great boldness, we tremble at your presence and cover our eyes. We are afraid of what we will see, for your greatness unveils our weakness, your justice unveils our brokenness, and your holiness unveils our stained past.

O Lord, hear our prayer.

Giver of all grace, forgive us our sins. Give us the strength to renounce that which hides you from us. Give us the wisdom to execute justice and righteousness. Give us the courage to uncover our hearts, that we might see the grace of your Son and not lose heart.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, hear the Good News of the Gospel: the brilliance of Christ's presence before us outshines the darkness of our sin. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen!

LEARNING TOGETHER:

OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY:

OFFERTORY HYMN VU #542: We Give You But Your Own
We give you but your own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is yours alone,
we give it gratefully.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of the Universe, thank you that your promises are sure, you are faithful, we can rely on you. Your word says that we will find joy in offering our time, talents, and money to meet the needs of others. Help us to give freely, sacrificially and cheerfully towards the work of your kingdom. May you cause the seeds that we sow to grow into well-watered, fruitful trees of life. Lord, bless us and keep us, make your face shine upon us. Turn your face towards us and give us peace. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Reveal your presence to us this day, O God of light, love, and glory. As you did to your servants at the foot of the mountain, send your Spirit to show us your story. May the brilliance of your face illuminate this place as we dare to proclaim your Word and may we, your people, be never unable to tell all of that we have heard. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING **Exodus 24: 12-18**
The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

***RESPONSIVE PSALM** **Psalm 2 (pg. 725 VU)**

SCRIPTURE READING **Matthew 17: 1-9**
The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM: True Light, *spiritual set by Keith Hampton*

SERMON: Go, Tell it on the Mountain
Reflective Music: Go Tell It On The Mountain

HYMN: **I am the Light of the World** **# 87 VU**

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: **Fairest Lord Jesus**

341 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

SUNG BENEDICTION VU #512: Lord, You Give the Great Commission (v. 5)

5 Lord, you bless with words assuring:

'I am with you to the end.'

Faith and hope and love restoring,

may we serve as you intend,

and, amid the cares that claim us,

hold in mind eternity;

with the Spirit's gifts empow'r us

for the work of ministry.

POSTLUDE: Postlude in C, by *H Willan*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FEB 19:	CSUC – Bert Riggs	APR 02:	Palm Sunday
FEB 26:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey	APR 02:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey
FRI, MAR 03:	World Day of Prayer Service	APR 07:	CSUC – Good Friday Service
	CSUC to join First United	APR 09:	Easter Sunday & Communion
	<i>PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE</i>	APR 09:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey
MAR 05:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey	APR 23:	CSUC – Rev. Oliver Dingwell
MAR 12:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey	APR 23:	Cowan Heights to join CSUC
MAR 19:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey	APR 23:	COMMUNION & ACM
MAR 26:	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey		

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.

PASTORAL COVERAGE FOR CSUC: While Cochrane Street United Church is without a minister, Rev. Oliver Dingwell will be covering all pastoral emergencies and funerals. He can be reached at (709) 640-4632 or by email at: odingwell@cowanheightsunited.ca. If Rev. Oliver is not available, please contact Paula Reynolds pt2reynolds@gmail.com.

TAX RECEIPTS will be mailed out early this week. A big thank you to our volunteers for all the work involved!

LOST AND FOUND: Several gloves, hats, and glasses have been found in the sanctuary. If you think an item may be yours, please contact the church office at 722-3023 or drop by Sunday morning.

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 February, we are suggesting canned beans.** Of course all donations of any kind are very much appreciated. Thank you for your support!

INVITATION FROM THE GOWER STREET SERVICE CLUB: The Gower Street Service Club has invited us to their next dinner which will take place on Tuesday, February 21, starting at 6:00pm in their community space. The Gower Street Service Club is open to both men and women and both men and women are invited to attend the dinner. Contact Bert Riggs by Sunday, February 19, if you wish to attend at email briggs@mun.ca or telephone number 726-6169.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE: The Mount Pearl churches are holding their World Day of Prayer service on Friday, **March 3, at 7:00pm at First United Church on Park Avenue.** The service was written by women of Taiwan. As the hosts, the UCW is extending an invitation to the Cochrane Street congregation.

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING is scheduled for **April 23, 2023**, after the Worship Service. Deadline for all reports of church groups and committees to be included in the annual report is February 24, 2023. Please submit your reports including financial reports to Harold Grandy preferably in an electronic format via email hgrandy@nf.sympatico.ca.

COFFEE TIME HOSTS: We are looking for people to volunteer as hosts for Coffee Time after church. Just tea and coffee is fine – no need to provide juice or snacks. We have a volunteer for February. If you are willing to help host, please contact the office (722-3023). Don't know what to do? No problem. We can help you out by pairing you with someone who has done it before or just giving you an orientation. Your help is very much appreciated!

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

Regional Council Annual Meeting: The Closing Motion of the 4th Annual Meeting of the region on May 15, 2022, named that the 5th Annual Meeting of the Regional Council be held **virtually**, using zoom video conferencing, on **May 12-14, 2023**. The Celebration of Ministries Service will be held on **May 14, 2023**, at a location to be determined. Additionally, the President, Rev. Nancy Mojica-Fisher, announced that the theme for the meeting will be "*Created in God's Image*", based on Psalm 139. Watch for updates and information at <https://ucceast.ca/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-16/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-annual-meeting-2023>. Please know that we continue to hold you all in our prayers as we continue the work of this United Church of ours.

United in Learning – Good Courage Lenten Study: Starting Tuesday, February 28, 2023, join the Rev. Stephen Fetter for a six-week Lenten study series exploring devotional readings from [*Good Courage: Daily Reflections on Hope*](#), the newest Lenten devotional from United Church Publishing House. Ponder the kind of courage that God calls out of ordinary people, contemplate their stories, reflect on how they connect, to your own and reimagine how our lives can contribute to God's healing of the world. Register for the Lenten study and you'll also receive 20% off your book purchase. [**Sign up today!**](#)

ReVITALize 2023: A special learning event for lay people and people serving in ministry, will be held on June 7-9, 2023, in Halifax, Nova Scotia. All are invited and welcome! For more information, visit: <https://www.revitalizeconference.ca/>

Lenten Learning Lunches: Join us on Thursday's during March for our online (zoom) **Lenten Learning Lunches** (March 2,9,16, and 23) from 12:30-1:30pm in Newfoundland and 12-1pm in most parts of Labrador. Our speakers will be members of FDEE Staff speaking on their areas of work as Lenten Practice. More details will follow as we get closer to Lent.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER will be held by **St. James United Church** on Tuesday, **February 21** at 6pm. Come enjoy all the favourites! Pancakes, berries, beans and sausages, coffee, tea and juice for just \$10 per person (12 years and under \$5). Tickets are now available for purchase at the church office. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

BRIDGES TO HOPE BENEFIT CONCERT: A Songwriters Circle Benefit Show in support of Bridges to Hope will take place on Thursday, March 16th, at 7 pm at Gower Street United Church. The show will feature Alan Doyle, Rachel Cousins, Kelly McMichael and Nick Earle. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased through the Bridges to Hope web site at www.bridgestohope.ca, or by calling 709-722-9225.

February is Black History Month: The celebration of February as Black History (or African Heritage) Month begins this week. Officially recognized in Canada since 1996, this is a time to honour the contributions and struggles of peoples of African descent. Check out all the latest [worship resources](#), [anti-racism webinars](#), [books](#), and [newsletters](#) available. Be sure to also read our [Black History Month worship blogs](#) when you scroll down on the worship page.