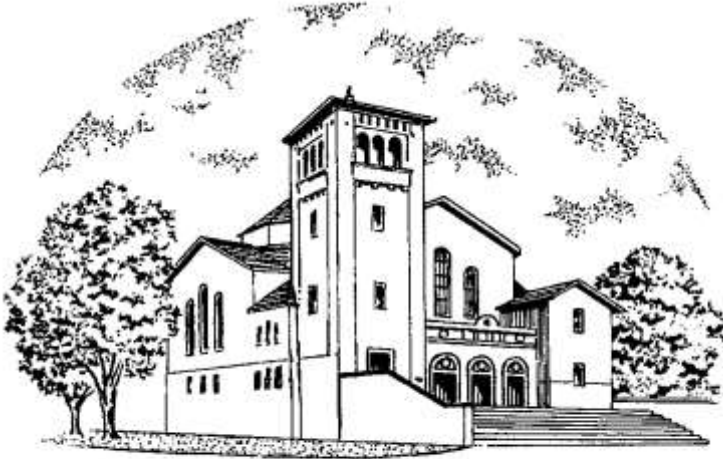


Cochrane Street United Church

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



July 30th, 2023
9th Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Presider: Rev. Karen Bursey
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 JULY 30

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

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 VU # 377: Holy Spirit Hear Us (vs. 1, 4)

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Holy Spirit, hear us,
help us while we sing;
breathe into the music
of the praise we bring. | 4 | Holy Spirit, help us
daily by your might,
what is wrong to conquer,
and to choose the right. |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

*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 VU # 361: Small Things Count (vs. 1, 2)

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Small things count, so Jesus said:
cups of water, crumbs of bread,
small things done because we're kind
count as big things in God's mind. |
| 2 | Small things make the big things grow:
grains of yeast inside the dough,
puffs that fill a big balloon,
notes that make a happy tune. |

CALL TO WORSHIP:

On this day of worship, we call on God's name,
and hear our own invitation to work for the good of all.
Gathered with neighbours and strangers, we call on God's hope,
and discover that a lifetime of service seems but a few days.
In this place of praise and prayer, we call on God's love,
and receive that grace which is as old as creation,
yet as fresh as each morning.

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

You shape us in your image, loving God, not so we would puff up with pride, but we might humbly serve others. You have chosen us, not because we are so special, but that we might become hope to a world bloated on despair. We would tell of all your wonders.

You went and sold your life, so you could buy us back from sin and death. You planted seeds of grace, so that the lost, the little, the least, the last, and even we could make our homes in you. We would tell all your stories.

You offer sighs from the depths of the very heart of God, when we cannot shape words. With peace in your hands, you step in to help resolve all of our broken relationships. We would listen to your hopes.

Holy God, we would tell of your presence in us, even as we pray this day. Amen

***HYMN: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise # 264 VU**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

What then are we to say about our lives, Searcher of our hearts? We know how often we have duped others with our deceit. We remember how often we promise one thing, only to do the opposite. We struggle to trust you, while we so easily listen to the promises of those who would pull us away from you.

Forgive us, with your Heart that is overflowing with mercy. Your Grace is more powerful than any of our sins, your Hope is more durable than our silly choices, your Love will traverse anything, and everything, which separates us from you. In Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, we are forgiven!

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Hear the good news: the One who could accuse us, saves us from sin and death. The One who could condemn us, cradles us in grace. The One who could punish us, prays for us.

Now we know, there is nothing, not a thing, that can separate us from God. Thanks be to the One who forgives us. Amen.

LEARNING TOGETHER:

OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY

OFFERTORY HYMN VU # 540: Grant Us God, the Grace

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

We offer our gifts to you, God of steadfast love, not because you need them, but so others might be as blessed as we are by your presence, your power, and your peace. Amen.

GOD’S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

**O God, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that as the scriptures are read
and your Word is proclaimed,
we may hear what you are saying to us today. Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 29:15-28

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

RESPONSIVE PSALM 105:1-11, 45b

pg. 828 VU, Part 1

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:26-39

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

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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

HYMN:

Seek Ye First the Kingdom

356 VU

SERMON:

ANTHEM:

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

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

HYMN: **The Church's One Foundation**

332 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:

Now in this moment, God calls us to go forth.

**We will let nothing get in the way
of working for the good of all.**

Now in the place, Jesus sends us out.

**We will let nothing get in the way
of sharing hope and justice with all.**

Now as all of God's people, the Spirit scatters us.

**We will let nothing get in the way
of being that grace which is as old as creation,
as fresh as our next breath.**

SUNG BENEDICTION VU # 424: **May the God of Hope (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.

2023 MEMORIAL SERVICES

The dates for this year's Memorial Services are as follows:

Monday, July 31 7:00PM Memorial Gardens Cemetery (25 Beaumont Hamel Way)

*PLEASE NOTE: In the event of inclement weather,
the services will move ahead to 7:00PM the next evening.*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

JUL 30	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey		
AUG 6	No worship service at CSUC		
AUG 13	CSUC – Rev. Peggy Johnson	AUG 27	CSUC – Rev. Peggy Johnson
AUG 15	CSUC Council Meeting		COMMUNION
AUG 20	CSUC – Bert Riggs	SEP 03	No worship service at CSUC

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.

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

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.

The Office Administrator is on Vacation from JULY 31 to and including AUGUST 13. We have Tim Reynolds acting as back up during this time. Should you have any questions, please contact the office as per usual (722-3023 or info@cochranestreetuc.com). He will check email & voicemail remotely and collect the mail.

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

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

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 review the list of persons on the Roll and contribute valuable 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.

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 **JULY**, we are suggesting dry pasta. The item for **AUGUST** is Kid's snacks (applesauce, granola bars, juice boxes, etc). Of course other non-perishable items are always welcome. Thank you for your support!

BAG TO SCHOOL 2023: We have the wonderful opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young students in our community through Bridges to Hope's Bag to School Program, which we have supported for over a decade. Due to the extreme demand and rising costs to provide essential school supplies and equip over 350 students for a successful academic year, they need to raise over \$25,000. Let's come together as a church family to empower these students and demonstrate the true spirit of compassion and care. You can donate directly at www.bridgestohope.ca.

BURRY HEIGHTS DAY: Save the date of Saturday, September 16, 2023, for Burry Heights Day. A time of fun, friendship and music. A time to experience the magic as you reminisce with old friends and meet new.

Regional Council Office 2023 Summer Hours: If a required staff person is on vacation, please contact the office at 1-800-268-3781, ext. 6141, or/and another staff person will respond. Emergency number when office is closed is (709) 730-9415. Effective June 26 through to and including September 7, the summer hours for the office and bookstore staff will be:
8:30am - 4:00pm Monday to Thursday AND 8:30am - 12:00pm (noon) on Fridays

Due to staff vacations, you are also encouraged to place bookstore orders by calling Leona (1-800-268-3781 ext. 6141, l laundry@united-church.ca), or shopping online at <https://ucceast.ca/shop>. For safety purposes, the door may be locked. Unless a **closed** notice is posted on the outside door, the office is open. Please ring the doorbell for service.