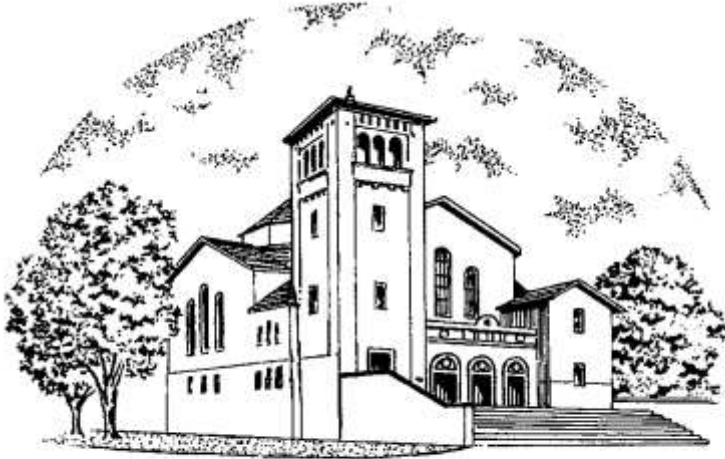


Cochrane Street United Church

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



August 27th, 2023 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Presider: Rev. Peggy Johnson
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
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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: The Lord is My, *by Goodall*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see your congregational email for detailed announcements.

INTROIT MV #161: I have called you by your name

I have called you by your name, you are mine.

I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.

I will not abandon you, all my promises are true.

You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.

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, here, we are one.

Let our actions 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 #18 Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary (vs. 1)**

Lord, prepare me, to be a sanctuary,

Pure and holy tried and true:

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living-

Sanctuary for you.

CALL TO WORSHIP:(based in Psalm 19)

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.

People: The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.

Leader: The ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

People: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold. Sweeter are they than honey and the honeycomb.

Leader: Through those laws from Scripture is your servant warned.

People: But in keeping of them there is great reward.

All: **May the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.**

PRAYER OF APPROACH: (Unison)

**Lord God - as we gather today,
we ask that you would develop in us
an urge to understand your Word
and a commitment to apply it to our lives.**

**Grant to us the same Spirit that you gave to Jesus;
the Spirit of mercy and of compassion;
the Spirit of truth and of justice;
and the Spirit of love.**

**Place your Word in our hearts and upon our lips. To you, we
give everlasting praise - both now and forevermore. Amen**

***HYMN: How Firm A Foundation # 660 VU**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Leader: Merciful God, we confess our weakness and our lack of faith.

People: Forgive us Lord; help us see ourselves for what we are.

Leader: We confess that we have failed to follow your word. Our relationships suffer because we are not always loving, caring, people.

People: Forgive us and make us more sensitive to our actions.

Leader: Forgive us when we ignore your call to service, closing our ears and our eyes to the pain in the world around us – when, like the Priest and the Levite of Scripture, we pass by on the other side.

People: Have mercy on us, O Lord, and make us more like Christ

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Leader: Our God fulfils his promises and is true to his word.
If we truly confess, God truly forgives.

Response: Thanks be to God. Amen

***HYMN:** I've Got Peace Like A River

577 VU

LEARNING TOGETHER

OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY

***OFFERTORY HYMN VU #389: God Is Here vs. 4**

4 God of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive.
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

We bring our gifts to you, O God. Here is the work of our hands,
the fruits of our labors, and the love of our hearts. Accept them
and use them in your service. We pray through Christ our Lord.

GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Holy God, prepare our souls to hear your Word. Silence in us any
voices but yours. In hearing, may your voice implant your Word
into our hearts. In Jesus' name. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING

Nehemiah 8: selected verses

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

***RESPONSIVE PSALM 119:**

Part 3, Refrain 3, pg. 839 VU

GOSPEL READING

2 Timothy 3:14-17

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

SOLOIST: Abra Whitney

SERMON: "The Book That Guides our lives"

Reflective Music

**GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE
SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

***HYMN:**

Just as I Am

508 VU

The Invitation:

In the name of the One who said,
"I am the bread of life,"
I invite you to come and eat.
In the name of the One who said,
"I am the true vine,"
I invite you to come and drink.
In the name of the One who said,
"Love one another as I have loved you,"
I invite you to the table of Jesus Christ.
This is the table of the risen Christ.

The Great Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

It is indeed right that we should praise you
Gracious God, for you created all things.
You formed us in your own image:
male and female you created us.
When we turned away from you in sin,
you did not cease to care for us,
but opened a path of salvation for all people.
Therefore, with all your saints
who have served you in every age,
we give you thanks and raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us that this meal may be our communion in the body of Christ. Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast. Forgive us our sins, Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love, that we may serve as your faithful disciples until we feast at your table in glory. Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (VU #960)

Leader: *The Breaking of the Bread and the Filling of the Cup*

PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION

Gracious God, by the death of your child you have destroyed the power of death, and by raising him to life, you have given us life for evermore. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who come to this table may be one body, one holy people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

For the bread we have eaten, for the wine we have tasted, for the life we have received, we thank you, God. Grant that what we have done and what we have been given here may so leave its mark upon us that it may remain in our hearts forever. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN: I Love To Tell The Story # 343 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):

Let us go in peace to love and care for one another in the name of Christ Jesus. Let us remember that life is short and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be swift to love, quick to forgive and always be kind.

***SUNG BENEDICTION MV #209: Go Make a Difference (Refrain)**

*Refrain: Go make a difference. We can make a difference.
Go make a difference in the world. X2*

POSTLUDE: As Time Goes By

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

AUG 27	CSUC – Rev. Peggy Johnson COMMUNION	SEP 10	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey
SEP 03	No worship service at CSUC All UC members invited to join First UC Rev. Karen Bursey leading this service	SEP 17	TBA
		SEP 24	CSUC – Bert Riggs ORANGE T-SHIRT SUNDAY

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.

Worship service back in the sanctuary: As the temperature in the sanctuary is 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).

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023, WORSHIP SERVICE: Rev. Karen Bursey is leading worship service at First United Church on Sunday, September 3. Cowan Heights will be there as well. Everyone is welcome to join. Plenty of room!

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.

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.

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

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.

The Jimmy Pratt Memorial Outreach Centre Inc wishes to advise our patrons, volunteers, and sponsors that the Centre will continue its programs and services in the St. John's downtown area from its current location in the lower level of George St United Church. If the Centre must relocate, it will do so in a suitable location in the downtown core. Any relocation will be as seamless as possible with little disruption to our Cenovus Breakfast, Friday Soup Kitchen, or the Seniors Inclusion Program. Further information can be obtained, please contact Krista Koerner, Board Chari via Email: kristakorner@hotmail.com.