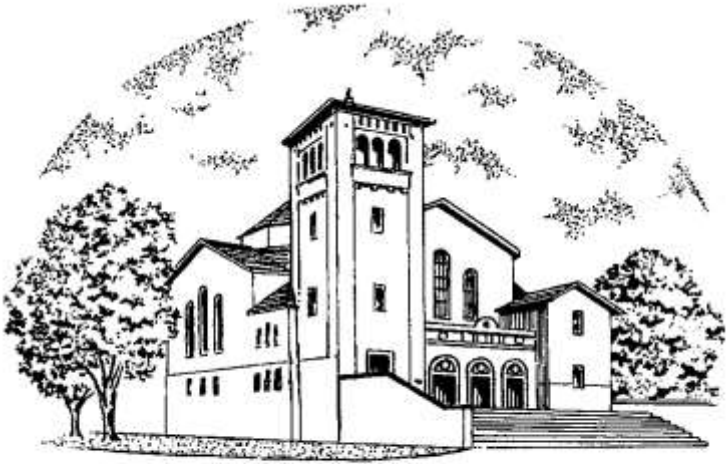


# Cochrane Street United Church

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



## February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Transfiguration Sunday

Guest Presider: Rev. Karen Bursej  
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:

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please see your congregational email for detailed announcements.*

## INTROIT VU # 391: God Reveal Your Presence (vs. 1)

- 1 God, reveal your presence: as we now adore you  
and with awe appear before you.  
Here in this your temple: all within keep silence,  
gather now with deepest reverence.  
You alone God we own,  
you, our God and Saviour: praise your name for ever.

## 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 # 44: Shadow and Substance (vs. 2)

2. We are your image, formed in community;  
sisters and brothers of Adam and Eve.  
You gave us colour, custom and history;  
teach us to honour what others receive.

## **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

You are with us, God of sunrises:

**you awaken us with each bright new day, overflowing with promise.**

You are with us, Inviting God:

**calling us to respond to share the spirit of grace and hope.**

You are with us, Glory of God:

**gathering us into the presence of your peace,**

**listening to the deep sighs of our hearts**

## **PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

Glory of all creation:

as the sun nudges us out of bed earlier each morning,

**so you gently lift the veil of doubts and fears from our hearts,**

**that we might see your joy.**

At the setting of the sun, you do not leave us alone,

**but you sit with us through the night, sharing stories of hope.**

**And we do not lose heart.**

Joyous Face of God:

on the peaks of promise, we discover your grace,

**sparkling with gentle delight as it comes to rest within our**

**weary lives.**

In the valleys of despair, as we trudge long,

our burdens dragging behind us,

**we turn to discover you, the gentleness of your compassion,**

**lighting the way to the kingdom.**

**And we do not lose heart.**

Listening Spirit:

in the hard times which life may offer, you are there with us,

**hearing not only our struggles,**

**but also the hopes singing silently in our souls.**

In the barren seasons through which we may walk,

we find you ahead of us,

**planting the seeds of joy which will once more blossom**

**in the springtime of God's love.**

**And we do not lose heart.**

**Holy One, we lift our hearts, our hopes, our voices**

**as we worship you this day Amen**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

The radiance of your grace is poured out in every moment, Shaper of mountaintops, but we dull its luster by living in the shadows. We indulge in fantasy games and watch shows which claim to be 'real', but we have trouble simply sitting in your presence, in your healing silence. We can become so infatuated with your love for us, we overlook those who hunger for acceptance and hope.

Revealer of mystery, forgive us. In silence, may we hear your whispers of grace. In mercy, may we feel your forgiveness lifting the burden of guilt from us. In trust, may we go forth to serve your world, filling it with the light and love of the One who is the Light of the world, Jesus Christ.

*Silence is kept*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

The promise is true--God's Light has come into the world, and into our lives. We are graced with glimpses of God's glory, even as we are filled with mercy and forgiveness.

**Here we find the peace and quiet we need; here we are set free from all that keeps us from serving; here we are given mercy and hope. Here we give thanks to our God. Amen.**

**LEARNING TOGETHER:**

**OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY**

**\*OFFERTORY HYMN VU #544: In Gratitude and Humble Trust**

In gratitude and humble trust  
we bring our best today  
to serve your cause and share your love  
with all along life's way.

O God, who gave yourself to us  
in Jesus Christ, your Son,  
teach us to give ourselves each day  
until life's work is done.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

We could remember the giants of the past, or serve the little ones of today; we could build grand facilities, or restore neighbours; we could stay on mountaintops, or go into the valleys of loneliness with our arms full of grace. May our lives and gifts we offer be used in your work of justice and hope, we pray. Amen.

## GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Eternal God, who caused all scriptures to be written for our learning: grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of your holy Word, we may embrace and hold fast the blessed hope of eternal life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

**SCRIPTURE READING**            2 Kings 2:1-12 (*Elijah Taken Up to Heaven*)

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

Reader: Ben James

**\*RESPONSIVE PSALM**            Psalm 50, VU page 775

Reader: Paula Reynolds

**SCRIPTURE READING**            2 Corinthians 4:3-6

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

Reader: Paula Reynolds

**GOSPEL READING**                Mark 9: 2 - 9

**\*HYMN:**                    **How Good, Lord, to Be Here**                    **# 103 VU**

### SERMON:

**ANTHEM:** The eternal gifts of Christ the King, by *Guidetti / Henry G. Ley*

## GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (VU #921)**

**\*HYMN:**                    **In the Bulb There Is a Flower**                    **# 703 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**

God sends us from this sacred space.

**We will go to share the good news of grace,  
to offer healing to the broken.**

Jesus would not have us stay here forever.

**We will go to find our sisters and brothers  
in the valleys of injustice and the neighbourhoods of addiction.**

The Spirit fills us with the gifts we need as we leave.

**We will go to help rebuild the lives of those around us,  
to share feasts of hope and peace with everyone.**

## **SUNG BENEDICTION #884(VU) You Shall go out with Joy**

You shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace;  
the mountains and the hills, will break forth before you;  
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field  
will clap, will clap their hands!

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands, (clap, clap)  
the trees of the field will clap their hands, (clap, clap)  
the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)  
while you go out with joy.

## **POSTLUDE**

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

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, FEBRUARY 11	CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY
Sunday, FEBRUARY 18	CSUC Service @ St. James UC
Sunday, FEBRUARY 25	CSUC – TBA
Sunday, MARCH 03	CSUC – Rev. James Ravenscroft COMMUNION
Sunday, MARCH 10	CSUC – TBA
Sunday, MARCH 17	CSUC – Rev. Miriam Bowlby
Sunday, MARCH 24	CSUC Service @ St. James UC PALM SUNDAY
Sunday, MARCH 31	CSUC – Rev. Peggy Johnson EASTER SUNDAY / COMMUNION

**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 create a safe environment in which we can all fully participate.

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

**PASTORAL COVERAGE FOR CSUC:** Rev. Peggy Johson is covering all pastoral emergencies and funerals. She can be reached at (709) 685-9223 or by email at [peggyjoanjohnson@hotmail.com](mailto:peggyjoanjohnson@hotmail.com). If Rev. Peggy is not available, please contact Paula Reynolds at [pt2reynolds@gmail.com](mailto:pt2reynolds@gmail.com).

**PILOT PROJECT WITH ST. JAMES:** Our pilot project with St. James will formally commence on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. *Tim Reynolds  
Chair, Church Council*

**2024 CHURCH CALENDARS:** There are still some left at a cost of \$10.00. If anyone is interested, **please contact the Church Office** (709-722-3023, [info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com)) to place an order.

**FOUND:** To claim, please contact the Church Office ([info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com), 709-722-3023): **watch** with black strap, **green scarf**, and white **scarf** edged in green from Tanzania National Parks.

**ST. JAMES UC PANCAKE SUPPER:** Our pancake supper will be held on Tuesday, February 13, 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 available at the church office or from Aubrey Hill at (709) 726-8306 or Clyde Flight at (709) 722-9935. *Tickets must be purchased in advance.*

**BRIDGES TO HOPE ITEM OF THE MONTH:** For each month of 2024, Bridges To Hope will be suggesting a much needed food item for members of our partner congregations to consider for donation. For **FEBRUARY**, we are suggesting 1L OF JUICE. Of course other non-perishable items are always welcome.

**6th Annual Meeting of First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council:** The closing motion of the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Region on May 14, 2023, named the **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Regional Council to be held on June 7-9, 2024**. The location of the Annual Meeting is Memorial University, St. John's Campus. The theme for the meeting will be **When We Say Yes**, based on scripture from John 6:66-69. Please use this link to watch the website for updates and information: <https://ucceast.ca/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-16/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-annual-meeting-2024>

**Burry Heights Camp:** Burry Heights United Church Camp on the east coast, is seeking the services of a treasurer/bookkeeper to keep the books of our camp and to submit the necessary government forms as required beginning Feb 1, 2024. If you have the skills to help us out in this regard, please contact Betty at [burryheights@hotmail.com](mailto:burryheights@hotmail.com)

**MISSION AND SERVICE:** Our Mission and Service partner, the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC), has been providing ongoing help to people in Türkiye and Syria living in the aftermath of the February 2023 earthquakes. A Cash Assistance program has been life-changing for families, especially those who do not have a steady or fixed income. Your gifts to Mission and Service extend a loving hand of peace and warmth to those in need. Thank you for your generosity. More information here:

<https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/get-involved/mission-and-service>

**OCEAN RANGER MEMORIAL PRAYER SERVICE:**

Gonzaga High School is holding its annual Ocean Ranger Memorial Prayer Service to remember those who lost their lives in the tragedy 42 years ago. The service will be held on Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist.

