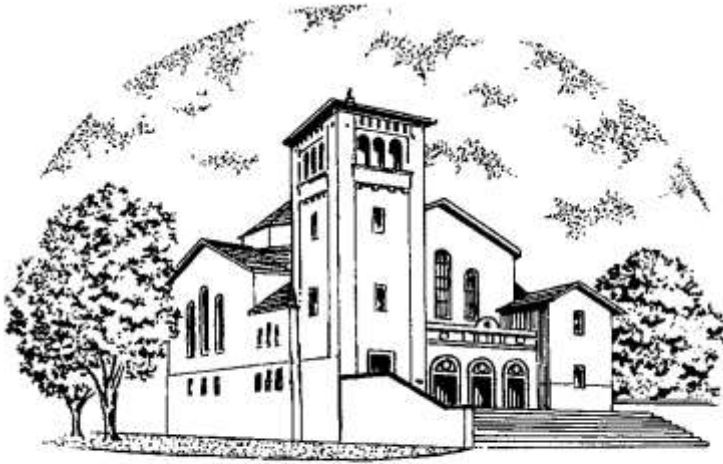


Cochrane Street United Church

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



February 4th, 2024 5th Sunday after Epiphany

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

info@cochranestreetuc.com

www.cochranestreetuc.com

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 MV # 82: Bathe Me in Your Light (vs. 1)

1. Bathe me in your light, O God of All, Creator;
let it shine upon my soul with healing and with grace.
Be to me a beacon bright through shadows of life's wounding,
showing me the way to live in faith, in your embrace.

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 #154 Deep in Our Hearts (vs. 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.

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:

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: We offer our confession for the pain we have caused others in our day-to-day living this past week. God of justice and mercy

People: receive our prayer.

Leader: We pray for those among us who lack the resources to enjoy a good quality of life, and we confess those times when we have been greedy, selfish, and insensitive God of justice and mercy,

People: receive our prayer.

Leader: We pray for the weak, the vulnerable, and the abused. We confess the times when we have ignored those most needy and focused on ourselves. God of justice and mercy,

People: receive our prayer.

Leader: We pray for the peacemakers, those who live daily in danger for their lives. We confess our own anger that sometimes takes away the peace in our own life space.
God of justice and mercy,

People: receive our prayer and forgive us, in Jesus' name. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

The God who challenges us is also the God who encourages us. The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us. Be assured that God is with us here and now, accepting us, guiding us, and forgiving us.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen

***HYMN: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace # 684 VU**

LEARNING TOGETHER:

OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY

There are many ways you can offer your financial gifts. As you enter the sanctuary you may lay your offering in the plate. You can send your offering by mail or drop them off in the mailbox. You can donate via eTransfer: csuctreasurer@gmail.com. You can sign up for PAR (Pre-Authourized Remittance) or use the donate button on our website.

***OFFERTORY HYMN MV #191: What Can I Do?**

What Can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

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. Amen.

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING **Micah 6: 1 - 8**
The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING **Romans 13: 8 - 10**
The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING **Matthew 5: 1 - 9**
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ – **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM: The Heav'ns sing praises to God, *by Beethoven*

SERMON: What does the Lord require of us?
Reflective Music

***HYMN:** **Blest Be the Tie That Binds** **# 602 VU**

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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:** **One More Step Along the World I Go** **# 639 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.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

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 VU #424: May the God of Hope Go with Us

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.

MEMORIALS

*In Loving Memory of Charlotte Johnson,
From Paula & Tim Reynolds*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, FEBRUARY 4

Sunday, FEBRUARY 4

CSUC – Rev. Peggy Johnson

CCOPC Mtg (2nd of two)

Event Space, immediately after worship service

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 Bannerme 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. If Rev. Peggy is not available, please contact Paula Reynolds at pt2reynolds@gmail.com.

PILOT PROJECT WITH ST. JAMES: We received approval this week to proceed with our pilot project with St. James United. We will be meeting with representatives from St. James next week to plan our next steps in the implementation of our collaboration project. More details will be provided as they become available.

Tim Reynolds
Chair, Church Council

REVISED NOTICE OF MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Cochrane Community Outreach and Performance Centre Inc.

January 28th, 2024 and February 4th, 2024

On Sunday, January 28, 2024, immediately following the morning worship service, a special meeting of the members of Cochrane Community Outreach and Performance Centre Inc. (CCOPC) will be held in the event space at Cochrane Centre. As of December 2023, the five-year management agreement between Cochrane Community Outreach and Performance Centre Inc. and First Light has officially ended. The CCOPC Board of Directors has received and unanimously moved to support an ownership proposal from First Light. First Light's proposal will be presented to the CCOPC membership at this special meeting by Breannah Flynn, Director of Business Operations for First Light, ***followed by a Q & A session and opportunity for discussion.*** It should be noted that the Cochrane Street United Church congregation's continuing access to worship in the building would be guaranteed by First Light.

The second membership meeting to be held on Sunday, February 4th, will provide an additional Q and A opportunity, after which a motion to support First Light's proposal will be presented to the membership for a vote.

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) to place an order.

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. Stay tuned for February items of the month! Of course other non-perishable items are always welcome.

FOUND: To claim, please contact the Church Office (info@cochranestreetuc.com, 709-722-3023): **watch** with black strap on January 21, **green scarf** on March '23, and white **scarf** edged in green from Tanzania National Parks on January 25.

6TH ANNUAL MEETING OF FIRST DAWN EASTERN EDGE REGIONAL COUNCIL: The closing motion of the 5th Annual Meeting of the Region on May 14, 2023, named the **6th Annual Meeting of the Regional Council to be held on June 7-9, 2024**. Location of the Annual Meeting will be 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>

STELLA'S CIRCLE: You're invited to our annual Pancake Breakfast for Homelessness by the [Hungry Heart Cafe](#) on Tuesday, **February 13**. Our friends at [Gower Street United Church](#) are hosting us in their lecture hall, 99 Queen's Road. Please arrive between 9:30-10:15am to be served. \$10.00 minimum donation, CASH ONLY at the door. Your breakfast will support the [#RealHomes](#) programs at Stella's Circle. Make your reservation here: <https://forms.gle/XEuSMHvYCakCTUqz5> and let us know of any dietary restrictions. Meal includes pancakes, syrup and bacon with juice, tea and coffee