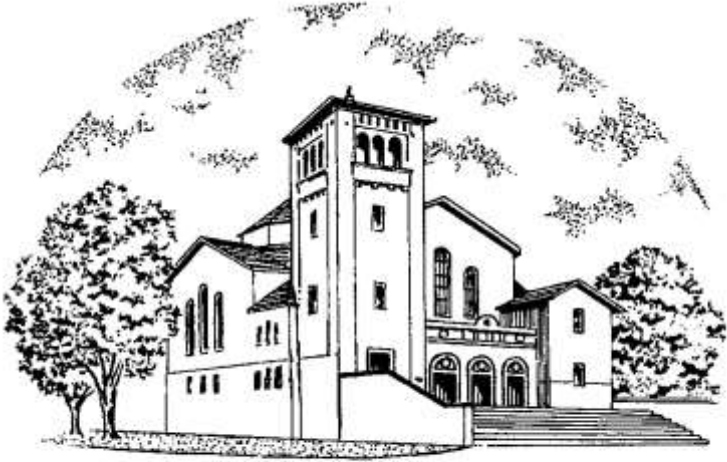


Cochrane Street United Church

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



March 17th, 2024

Guest Presider: Rev. Miriam Bowlby, B.A. (Hons) M.Div

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

*INTROIT MV #74: When Painful Memories, vs 1

1. When painful mem'ries haunt each day
and dreams disturb the night,
when life is washed with shades of grey
and phantoms fill our sight,
Christ, stay beside us
and embrace the child who dwells within;
come, Healer, touch our lives with grace;
restore our lives again.

*LIGHTING OF THE 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.

SOLO: Corpus Christi, *by Benjamin Britten*

CALL TO WORSHIP:

God, Bless to me this day,

God, bless to me this night.

Bless, O Bless, Thou God of grace

Each day and hour of my life;

God, bless the pathway on which I go,

God, bless the earth that is beneath my sole;

Bless, O God, and give me Thy Love,

O God of Gods, bless my rest and my repose;

Bless O God and give to me Thy Love.

PRAYER OF APPROACH: (Prayer by St. Bridgid of Gael)

I arise today

Through a mighty strength:

God's power to guide me,

God's might to uphold me,

God's eyes to watch over me;

God's ear to hear me,

God's word to give me speech,

God's hand to guard me,

God's way to lie before me,

God's shield to shelter me,

God's host to secure me. Amen

***HYMN MV #79: Spirit Open My Heart**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Forgive those things we have done

which have caused you sadness,

and those things we should have done

that would have brought you joy.

In both we have failed

ourselves, and you.

Bring us back to that place

where our journey began,

when we said that we would follow

the way that you first trod.

Lead us to the Cross

and meet us s there. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Like bees to nectar you draw us to yourself, the sweetness of your love bringing healing, comfort and peace; the power of your love transforming hearts, souls and lives.

**Spirit of love and power,
touch our lives with sweetness and grace,
touch our hearts with healing and peace. Amen.**

LEARNING TOGETHER – St. Patrick’s Breastplate

OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY

***OFFERTORY HYMN VU #538: For the Gift of Creation**

For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

**God of light and God of night,
Creator of seed and mountain,
raindrop and fountain,
We bring our offering of praise.
God of right and God of might,
Lover of child and childless, rich and homeless,
We bring our offering of praise. Amen**

GOD’S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

**Holy God,
You speak to us in many ways,
through rushing wind or still small voice,
in Scripture’s Word and through your Grace.
Help us hear your voice above the clamour of this world,
recognize the difference and follow only you. Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31: 31 – 34

Reader: Frances McNiven

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

***RESPONSIVE PSALM 119: VU 838, Part 2**

Reader: Ben James

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 5: 5 – 10

Reader: Ben James

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

GOSPEL READING

John 12:20 - 33

ANTHEM: Like as the Hart Desireth the Waterbrooks, *by H Howells*

SERMON:

Reflective Music

***HYMN VU #642: Be Thou My Vision**

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

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

***HYMN VU # 586: We Shall Go Out With Hope of Resurrection**

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, bless to me this day,

God, bless to me this night;

Bless, O bless. Thou God of grace,

Each day and hour of my life;

Bless, O bless. Thou God of grace.

Each day and hour of my life.

God, bless the pathway on which I go,

God, bless the earth that is beneath my sole;

Bless, O God, and give to me Thy love,

O God of gods, bless my rest and my repose;

Bless, O God, and give to me Thy love,

And bless, O God of gods, my repose.

***SUNG BENEDICTION VU #633: Bless Now, O God, the Journey (vs 1)**

1 Bless now, O God, the journey
that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence,
the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert
and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters,
the road where faith is found.

POSTLUDE

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

Holy Week Services:

- Maundy Thursday, MAR 28 - Gower United Church - **7:00pm**
- Good Friday, MAR 29 - Wesley United Church - **12:00 noon**
- Holy Saturday, MAR 30 - St. James United Church - **7:00pm**
Easter Vigil (Plus Adult Baptism and Confirmation)
- Easter Sunday, MAR 31 - St. James United Church (Infant Baptism & Communion)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- 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
- Sunday, APRIL 07 CSUC – Rev. James Ravenscroft
- Sunday, APRIL 14 CSUC – Rev. Peggy Johnson
- Sunday, APRIL 14 ACM (refreshments provided) ~ 12:45pm
Congregational Meeting Re: Pilot Project
- Sunday, APRIL 21 CSUC – Rev. James Ravenscroft
CSUC Service @ ST. JAMES UC
- Sunday, APRIL 28 CSUC – Rev. Peggy Johnson
- Sunday, APRIL 28 Congregational Mtg Re: Pilot Project after 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.

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.

PILOT PROJECT WITH ST. JAMES: Our pilot project with St. James will partially commence on Sunday, March 3rd, 2024.

*Tim Reynolds
Chair, Church Council*

BATHROOM RENOVATION UPDATE: First Light received a grant from Service NL to renovate the washroom near the Minister's office to make it fully accessible – lowered sink, leveled floor, button on the door, and a nice face lift! Renovations began on Monday, March 4, 2024. Due to an unexpected delay, this will take longer than the planned two weeks. In the meantime, there are washrooms available near the community hall / event space.

OUR EASTER MAILOUT is ready for pick up, located in the back of the church. Please help us save on delivery costs by bringing envelopes to those who live in your neighbourhood. Thank you for your assistance 😊

A BIG THANK YOU to our volunteers who recently helped stuff envelopes! Your time and effort is always appreciated.

FROM YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL: Many of you were asking to see a copy of the resolution that was passed at the recent Cochrane Centre membership meeting held on February 4th. I recently received a copy of the resolution from Jim Carscadden, a member of the Cochrane Centre board. Here it is:

Moved by Stephan Jewczyk and seconded by Charlie Pope Jr.

It is moved that approval be given to initiate discussions with First Light regarding its ownership proposal, with the goal of reaching an agreement between First Dawn Eastern Edge, Cochrane Centre, First Light and Cochrane Street United Church regarding the congregation's continuing access to worship in the building and identifying those sacred and significant items and elements within the sanctuary that will be protected while the congregation continues to worship in the building.

In Favour 33; Abstained 1

We will have a congregational meeting immediately after our upcoming AGM to reconfirm all of the significant items and elements within the sanctuary that need protection.

Tim Reynolds, Council Chair

PASTORAL VISIT ANYONE? Rev. James Ravenscroft has offered to do pastoral visits to any of our members who would like a visit from clergy. If you're interested in this, please call the office and leave your name and we will pass your request on to Rev. James.

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 **MARCH**, we are suggesting BEANS. Of course other non-perishable items are always welcome.

GOWER SERVICE & SOCIAL CLUB: The March Dinner Meeting of the Gower Service and Social Club will be held on **Tuesday, March 19**, beginning at 6:00pm in the Gower Lecture Hall. The main course is fish and brewis. The after-dinner speaker is Colin Corcoran, Executive Director of the Community Sector Council. Please let Bert Riggs know if you plan to attend by 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 17. He may be reached at briggs@mun.ca or at 709-726-6169. All are welcome!

ST. JAMES MEN'S CLUB monthly meeting will be next Wednesday, **March 20**, commencing at 12:30. All men from Cochrane Street are invited.

St. James – Reflective Thursdays at 12:30: Each Thursday throughout Lent, (Rev.) James will lead an informal communion service in the Fellowship Room. Communion is at 12:30PM, followed by the the sharing of lunch. Bring a bag lunch if you wish and have lunch together!

ST. JAMES RECORDED SERVICES: To access their website, go to www.stjamesuc.org and click on 'Digital Worship' and then click on 'Live' to view the most up to date worship or visit their Facebook page (St. James United Church) click 'Videos' in the left side menu.

