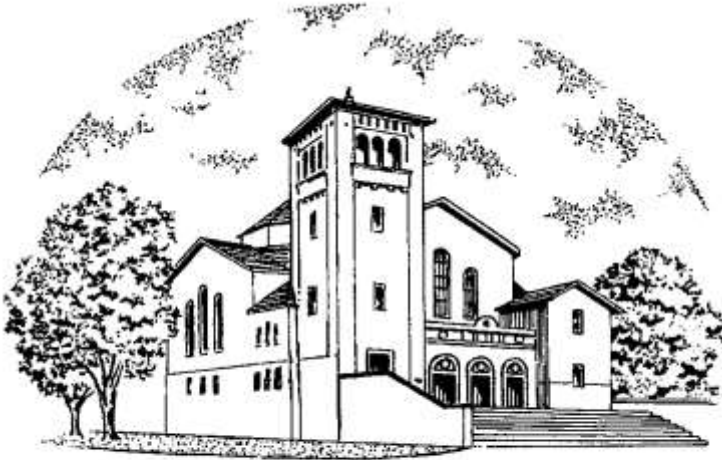


# Cochrane Street United Church

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



## October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

Guest Presider: Rev. Karen Burse  
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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# Welcome to Cochrane Street United Church

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Whether you are here for the first time or this is your church home – welcome to our community of faith.

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## USHERING TEAM FOR OCTOBER

Roger Crosbie, Jim Austin, Jeff Critch, Jim Oakley

## 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](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com)

Phone: 709-722-3023

Website: [www.cochranestreetuc.com](http://www.cochranestreetuc.com)

Cochrane Centre Contact information for bookings  
709-754-2532 or [info@cochranecentre.ca](mailto: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](http://www.facebook.com/Cochranestreetuc) and [@CochraneStreet](https://twitter.com/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 #516: Come, You Thankful People, Come (vs. 1)

1 Come, you thankful people, come,  
raise the song of harvest home!  
All is safely gathered in,  
safe before the storms begin;  
God, our maker, does provide  
for our needs to be supplied:  
come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest home!

## 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 #256: O God beyond All Praising (vs. 1)

1 O God beyond all praising, we worship you today  
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;  
for we can only wonder at every gift you send,  
at blessings without number and mercies without end:  
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,  
we honour and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

## **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

**We glorify our God with songs of thanksgiving and joy.**

God has done great things for us, filling us with grace.

**God fed our ancestors in the wilderness, God clothes us with hope.**

We will offer our hearts to God, always saying,

'Thank you!' to the One who loves us.

**We will sing our praises, shouting of God's presence in our lives.**

## **PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

Creating God, we come before you today singing a song of thanksgiving. We pause in the midst of all that is unholy, unthinkable, and undeniable, to look within, and offer our gratitude for a day that has dawned anew, and for the breath that gives us life.

We rejoice that we have voice and head and heart so that we can love one another, love You, and love all of your people. We celebrate the abundance in our lives, and that we can share it with the world. We offer ourselves and all that we are and have to be your justice and peace. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

\*HYMN:

**We Plough the Fields**

**# 520 VU**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Because we live in this modern, tech-driven, twittering age, we often forget what you have done for us, God of every blessing. We pat ourselves on the back for our ability to learn new computer skills, but have forgotten that life is more than a machine. We have more than we could ever use yet, like squirrels, store up more and more. Our faith is often pushed to the back of the closet, to make room for all the fears we wear so easily.

Forgive us, Restorer of life. As you clothe us with your grace and mercy, may we share with those who have so little. As our hearts overflow with your love and wonder, may we offer them as gifts to everyone we meet. As you feed us with your joy and hope, may we welcome to the Table all those whose lives are filled with tears and pain. As we gather with family and friends during this season, may we continue to give thanks for the gift of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

*Silence is kept*

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

This is the good news: as God dresses creation in wonder, so you will be clothed in grace; as God pours out abundance upon the earth, so you will be blessed with peace and joy.

**We don't say it often enough, but thanks be to God for healing, for life, for wonder, for mercy. We are blessed, for we are forgiven. Amen.**

## **LEARNING TOGETHER**

### **OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY**

#### **OFFERTORY HYMN VU #518:**

#### **As Those of Old Their First-fruits Brought (vs. 1, 3)**

- 1      As those of old their first-fruits brought  
          of vineyard, flock, and field  
          to God, the giver of all good,  
          the source of bounteous yield;  
                  so we today our first-fruits bring:  
                  the wealth of this good land,  
                  of farm and market, shop and home,  
                  of mind and heart and hand.
- 3      With gratitude and humble trust  
          we bring our best to you,  
          not just to serve your cause, but share  
          your love with neighbours too.  
                  O God, who gave yourself to us  
                  in Jesus Christ, your son,  
                  help us to give ourselves each day  
                  until life's work is done.

#### **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**We cannot begin to express our gratitude to you, Giver of all, for your gifts poured into our lives. But let these offerings be used to bring hope, healing, and peace to all your children, so we may all give thanks to you forever. Amen.**

# GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

In our struggle to hear your Word, O God, bless our doubts, our wonderings, our wanderings, our soul-struggles, life's deep questions, and even deeper mysteries. Teach us to love our questions as well as our answers. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE READING Deuteronomy 8:7–18

Reader: David Peters *God will bring you to a bountiful land*  
The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

## \*RESPONSIVE PSALM # 65 (VU p. 782)

Reader: Jalna McMaster *God provides; the valleys shout and sing*

## SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Corinthians 9:6–15

Reader: Jalna McMaster *God loves a cheerful giver*  
The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God

## GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 17:11–19 *Ten healed; one returns to offer thanks.*  
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ – Thanks be to God

\*HYMN: **Pass Me Not, O Gentle Saviour** # 665 VU

## SERMON:

ANTHEM: For the Beauty of the Earth, *by Andrew Carter*

## GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

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

\*HYMN: **Now Thank We All Our God** # 236 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

The God of laughter sends you out.

**So we can share joy with everyone.**

The Brother of the poor sends you out.

**So we may bring hope and healing to the broken and despairing.**

The Spirit of wonder sends you out.

**So we may join all creation in offering thanks.**

### \*SUNG BENEDICTION VU #425: God, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing (vs. 1)

1 God, dismiss us with your blessing;  
fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
let us each, your love possessing,  
triumph in redeeming grace;  
O refresh us, O refresh us,  
travelling through the wilderness.

### POSTLUDE:

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

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Saturday,	OCTOBER 07	Fall Harvest & Plant Sale 10:30am-1pm
Sunday,	OCTOBER 08	THANKSGIVING SUNDAY CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey
Sunday,	OCTOBER 15	WORLD FOOD DAY CSUC – Rev. Karen Bursey
Tuesday,	OCTOBER 17	ZOOM CSUC Council Mtg, 7PM

**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](mailto:peggyjoanjohnson@hotmail.com). If Rev. Peggy is not available, please contact Paula Reynolds at [pt2reynolds@gmail.com](mailto:pt2reynolds@gmail.com).

**Worship service is back in the sanctuary!** The furnace is fixed, so we are returning to worship in the sanctuary. We extend our thanks to First Light not only for taking on this enormous task, but also for having the driveway repaired and this amazing permanent ramp created at the middle doors on Cochrane Street.

**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 College of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador (CRNNL).

**Decorating the front of the sanctuary for Thanksgiving:** This Sunday, October 8, is Thanksgiving Sunday. It would be great if we could have the front of our sanctuary decorated. If you have some fruit, vegetables, pickles, jams, or bread, that could be placed at the front of the church, it would be appreciated. After the service, feel free to take home the things you placed.

**GEORGE STREET UC "CELEBRATION OF LIFE" CLOSING WORSHIP SERVICE:** The congregation of George Street United Church are extending an invitation to anyone who would like to attend our closing worship service on Sunday, **October 29, 2023, at 2 p.m.** The service will be presided by the President of First Dawn Eastern Edge, Amanda Barnes. We are also expecting various special guests and dignitaries to be in attendance. A reception will follow the service in our Jimmy Pratt Memorial Outreach Centre. While it is with sadness that this service will be marking the disbandment of our congregation, it is the congregation's hope to highlight and celebrate the legacy of George Street United Church's ministry to our community over the past 150 years. For this historic service, we are looking forward to it being well attended by as many folks as possible from our Communities of Faith in the United Church.

**GEORGE STREET UC "OPEN HOUSE":** For those who may or may not be able to attend the worship service, the congregation will also be having an "Open House" on **Saturday October 28, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** for folks to drop by and stroll through the church and sanctuary. Welcoming all to attend both events!

**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. Brian Johnston and Sandy Stavlo are reviewing the lists of persons on the Roll and contributing valuable additional information to Council. Anyone interested in assisting with the project should contact Sandy Stavlo, who is the lead for Council with this project, through the church office at 722-3023 or [info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto: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. For the month of **OCTOBER** we are suggesting canned milk. Of course other nonperishable items are always welcome!