Cochrane Street United Church

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



June 6th, 2021

Minister: Rev. Miriam Bowlby, B.A. (Hons) M.Div, MBA-SEE

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Eric Hillier Minister of Music: Patricia Young Director of Music: Evan Smith

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Welcome to Cochrane Street United Church

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

USHERING TEAM FOR JUNE

Ian McMaster, Blair Bradbury, Gerry Penney, Blair Squires

THIS WEEK AT COCHRANE STREET JUNE 7 – JUNE 13

Thursday: 10:00 AM Zoom Prayer Group

Sunday: 10:00 AM Choir Practice

OFFICE

Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

Thursdays 11:00 am - 4:00 pm Fridays 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Email: info@cochranestreetuc.com

Phone: 709-722-3023

Website: www.cochranestreetuc.com

Cochrane Centre Contact information for bookings 709-754-2532 or info@cochranecentre.ca

CONTACT REV. MIRIAM

Have a question or need to make an appointment? You can reach Rev. Miriam in the following ways: Email: revmiriam@cochranestreetuc.com or Cell: 709-728-8410

Like us on Facebook or Follow us on Twitter! www.facebook.com/Cochranestreetuc and @CochraneStreet

This Week's Bulletin is Dedicated In celebration of Will's confirmation. By Scott, Miriam & Carrie

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*please stand as you are able

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:

INTROIT MV 3: River

Spirit, come-a-down to the river-side, Spirit, spark of wondrous thought. Spirit, I am free for you to guide, Spirit, pray that I be taught!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see your congregational email for detailed announcements.

*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 #12: Come Touch Our Hearts vs. 4

Come touch us in the moments we are fragile, and in our weakness your great strength reveal; that we may rise to follow and to serve, steady now our nerve, come touch and bless our wills.

CALL TO WORSHIP led by Carrie Parsons

The Spirit came and your Church was born, in wind and fire and words of power.

The Spirit came blowing fear aside, and in its place weak hearts were stronger.

The Spirit came as your word foretold, with dreams and signs, visions and wonders.

The Spirit came and is here today, to feed the hearts of a world that hungers.

PRAYER OF APPROACH led by Carrie Parsons We are called together by Christ as a community of broken but hopeful believers, loving what he loved, living what he taught, striving to be faithful servants of God in our time and place. We offer worship as an outpouring of gratitude and awe and a practice of opening ourselves to God's still, small voice of comfort, to God's rushing whirlwind of challenge. Through word, music, art, and sacrament, in community and in solitude, God changes our lives, our relationships, and our world. We sing with trust. Amen

HYMN MV #145: Draw the Circle Wide

REFRAIN: Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.

Let this be our song, no one stands alone, standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

God the still-point of the circle, 'round whom all creation turns; nothing lost, but held forever, in God's gracious arms.

Let our hearts touch far horizons, so encompass great and small; let our loving know no borders, faithful to God's call.

Let the dreams we dream be larger, than we've ever dreamed before; let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door. PRAYER OF CONFESSION:
God of all Mercy,
We come before you
Knowing we have not always lived up
to your call to care for others and the world.
Help us to love as Christ loved.
Knowing our own weakness,
may we stand with all who stumble.
Sharing in his suffering,
may we remember all who suffer.
Held in his love,
may we embrace all whom the world denies.
Rejoicing in his forgiveness,
may we forgive all who sin against us.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

God's love is sure and steadfast, always providing a way out, a way through, a way back to God. We are a forgiven people.

Thanks be to God. Amen

LEARNING TOGETHER – 96th Anniversary of Church Union

HYMN MV #1: Let Us Build a House vs. 3,4 & 5

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat; a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

OFFERING INVITATION & VOLUNTARY

There are many ways you can offer your financial gifts. As you enter the sanctuary you may lay your offeing 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 VU 222: Come Let Us Sing vs. 4

Deserts shall bloom and mountains shall sing to the desire of all living things.

Come, all you creatures, high and low, let your praises endlessly flow.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

CONFIRMATION & TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP CONFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL FAITH

Statement of Purpose

At various moments on the journey of our life in Christ, we have opportunity to reaffirm and renew the faith proclaimed in baptism. As those who have been baptized profess for themselves the faith of the Christian community in which they have been nurtured.

In the words of the Song of Faith...

In the church,

some are called to specific ministries of leadership,

both lay and ordered;

some witness to the good news;

some uphold the art of worship;

some comfort the grieving and guide the wandering;

some build up the community of wisdom;

some stand with the oppressed and work for justice.

To embody God's love in the world,

the work of the church requires the ministry and discipleship of all believers.

Presentation of Candidates for Confirmation

On behalf of the congregation of Cochrane St. United Church, I present the following person who seeks to reaffirm publicly the faith proclaimed in his baptism:

William Russell Parsons

Profession of Faith and Promises for Confirmands

Do you believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, and who works in us and others by the Spirit? I do, by the grace of God.

Desiring the freedom of new life in Christ, do you seek to resist evil, and to live in love and justice?

I will, God being my helper.

Will you follow the way of Jesus Christ? I will, God being my helper.

Will you join with your brothers and sisters in this community of faith to celebrate God's presence, live with respect in creation, and love and serve others?

I will, God being my helper.

Congregational Commitment for Confirmands

Let us pledge to Will our continued support and care.
As a baptized and baptizing people, we commit ourselves to support and uphold you within the community of faith.
May God grant us all the grace to live out our baptism. Amen

Let us with the whole Church confess our faith:

We are not alone,

we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection: What does Confirmation Mean to Me by Will Parsons

Confirmand kneels.

Remembrance of Baptism

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

Thanks be to God.

Laying on of Hands

William.

the power of the Holy Spirit work within you, that being born of water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful witness of Jesus Christ.

Amen

Presentation of a Bible

William

receive this bible and with your sisters and brothers in Christ, continue to grow in faith, trusting in God's promises.

Hymn: Hallelujah! Praise Ye the Lord

GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

Holy God,

reveal your presence to us this day.

Send your Spirit upon us

that we might listen, discern, and take heart.

Be near us this day

and may your Word with us stay

and dwell with us forevermore. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:1 - 21

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: We Remember You

SERMON:

Reflective Music

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation

Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

Through the grace of this table, God breaks down the walls

that make us strangers to ourselves, and divide us from one another.

We are the body of Christ.

At this table we bear witness to our faith

At this table God brings wholeness out of brokenness, and healing to our world.

Come, let us break bread together!

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 our thanks and praise.

O Holy Wisdom of God, eternally offensive to our wisdom, and compassionate toward our weakness, we praise you and give you thanks, because you emptied yourself of power and entered our struggle, taking upon you our unprotected flesh. You opened wide your arms for us upon the cross, becoming scandal for our sake, that you might sanctify even the grave to be a bed of hope to your people.

Therefore, with those who are made refugees in their own land, abandoned or betrayed by friends, whose bodies are violated or in pain; with those who have died alone – without dignity, comfort or hope; and with all the company of saints who have carried you in their wounds, we join to praise you, saying:

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!

Blessed is our brother, Jesus, who, before his suffering, earnestly desired to eat with his companions the Passover of liberation; who, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to those who sat with him, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Each time you do this, remember me." In the same way he took the cup, saying: "Take, drink. This is my blood, poured out for you, for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, remember me."

Great is the mystery of our faith:

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

Therefore, as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we are proclaiming Christ's death until he comes. In this communion, we restore to memory and hope the broken and unremembered victims of tyranny and sin; and we long for the bread of tomorrow, and the wine of the age to come.

Come then, life-giving Spirit of our God, brood over these bodily things, and make us one body with Christ, that we may labour with creation to be delivered from its bondage to decay, into the glorious liberty of all the children of God. **Amen.**

The 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 in 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, the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing of the Cup

The bread we break

Is our sharing in the life of Christ.

The cup for which we give thanks

is our sharing in the life of Christ.

Prayer after Communion: (unison)

O God, who gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to an expectant and united church 96 years ago, and brought into one-fold that day Methodist, Congregationalist, Presbyterian, and Union churches.

Having been fed at this table that unites us all, grant us the hope of that same Pentecostal spirit in all of our life and worship, that we might aspire to great things for you. Unite us in your love, so we might seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you for all of our days. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

HYMN VU 43: Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere; Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is Lord.

Jesus possessed no riches, No home to lay his head; He saw the needs of others, And cared for them instead. **R.** Jesus reached out and touched them, The blind, the deaf, the lame; He spoke and listened gladly to anyone who came: **R**.

Christ still comes to his people, His life moves through the lands; He uses us for speaking, He touches with our hands. R.

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

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

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

June 6 Communion service

June 8 Pancake Supper Takeout (5:30pm – 6:30pm @ Bannerman Entrance)

June 10–17 Online Auction

June 12 Plant Sale & BBQ (please note an incorrect date was given in our recent mailout)

Take Out PANCAKE SUPPER: Pancakes, sausage and dessert for \$10. Pick up at the Bannerman Street entrance on Tuesday, **June 8**, from **5:30–6:30pm**. Please contact the church office with any queries at 722-3023 or info@cochranestreetuc.com.

<u>CSUC Plant Sale - Looking for Volunteers</u>: We just need one or two more volunteers to help out with the plants on June 12. If interested, please contact the church office at <u>info@cochranestreetuc.com</u> or 722-3023. We'd love to have you.

PLANT SALE: Plus stay for some BBQ – hotdog & drink for \$5! Our annual plant sale is June 12 from 11:00am–2:00pm. Drop off your indoor and outdoor plants at 81 Cochrane Street on June 12, from 9:00–10:30 am. If you need your plants picked up, please contact Tim Reynolds at csuctreaserer@gmail.com. Please contact the church office with any queries at 722-3023 or info@cochranestreetuc.com.

ONLINE AUCTION 2021: We are hosting an online auction from **June 10–17** on this site, https://www.charityauctionstoday.com/auctions/Cochrane-Street-UC-21250. Stay tuned for more details!

NOTES FROM THE ARCHIVES

In 1954, Thanksgiving Sunday was celebrated on November 7. A letter to the congregation stated that \$15,000 was needed to meet the financial obligations of the congregation.

Here are some midweek activities 55 years ago in 1966: Monday – Boy Scouts, Thursday – Cub Scouts, Friday – Explorers and CGIT, Saturday – Coffee House, Tuesday through Friday mornings – Preschool Headstart.