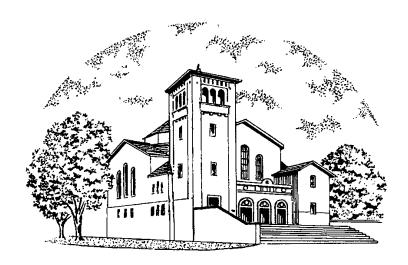
Cochrane Street United Church

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



March 20th, 2022

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

Technical Operations: John Williams, Jackabon Media

(t) 709-722-3023 (f) 709-722-3260 info@cochranestreetuc.com www.cochranestreetuc.com

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 MARCH

Ian McMaster, Gerry Penney, Bill Squires, Blair Bradbury

OFFICE

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

Thursdays 11:30 am - 4:00 pm Fridays 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Email: info@cochranestreetuc.com

Phone: 709-722-3023

Website: <u>www.cochranestreetuc.com</u>

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

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 # 71: When the Wind of Winter Blows (vs. 1)

 When the wind of winter blows, bringing times of solitude, fill the silent icy night; be our hearts' compassion.

REFRAIN: Holy Light, warm our night;

warm the time of winter. Holy Light, warm our night; warm the time of winter.

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 #7: Gather Us In

Gather us in, ground us in you. **(2X)** Gather us in, gather us in, ground us, ground us in you.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come, all who are thirsty.

Come, all who are seeking.

Come, all who are waiting.

Come, all who labor.

Come, all who need rest.

Come, all who dream dreams.

Come—

whether you're young or old, confident or curious, lonely or hopeful.

This is God's house. All are welcome here. Let us worship holy God.

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

God to enfold me, God to surround me, God in my speaking, God in my thinking. God in my sufficing, God in my slumber, God in mine ever-living soul, God in mine eternity. Amen.

HYMN MV #79: Spirit, Open My Heart

Refrain

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living. As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving, Spirit, open my heart.

- God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender. All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender.
- Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.
 In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory.
- May I weep with those who weep, share the joy of sister, brother.
 In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:
Holy God,
we treat our self-worth like something
that can be bought at a store;
but you know this even better than we do.
Instead of trusting that we are made good,
instead of trusting that we are loved exactly as we are,
we stockpile our value in earthly things—
in trophies and awards, in likes and follows,
in wealth and power.
Forgive us for creating our own measuring stick.
Heal our open wounds
and tell our hearts that
we won't be forgotten if we slow down.
We won't be forgotten if we rest.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Gratefully we pray, amen.

Friends, take a deep breath.
Release the tension in your jaw.
There is good news here.
For even when we stumble,
even when we take the easy way out,
even when we forget our own self-worth,
even when we lose our way
—we belong to Go
Say it with me—
We are loved. We are claimed.
We are under God's wing.
We are worthy of grace.
We belong to God. Amen.

LEARNING TOGETHER

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 #120: O Jesus I Have Promised vs. 1

O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; remain for ever near me, my Saviour and my friend: I shall not fear the journey if you are by my side, nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

God of fig trees and foxes, of today and tomorrow, we would like to ask that you scoop us up. Pick us up like a great gust of wind.

Light a fire in us like tomorrow depends on today. Do all of this to get our attention and then turn us toward you.
We are a scattered people, God.
The world is moving faster than we can keep up.
So we pray—scoop us up.
Catch our eye.
Open our ears.
Capture our attention.
We are here. We long to be close to you. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 55:1 - 9

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

*RESPONSIVE PSALM 63 refrain 2

REFRAIN: My soul is thirsting for you, O God, my God.

You are my God, I long for you from early morning. My whole being desires you like a dry, worn, waterless land. My soul thirsts for you.

In the sanctuary let me see how mighty are your works; your constant love is better than life itself, and so I will praise you. *R*

I will give thanks as long as I live; I raise my hands in prayer.

My soul will feast and be filled, and I will sing and praise you. R

As I lie in bed, I remember you, O God; I think of you all night long, for you are my constant help.

In the shadow of your wings I sing for joy. I cling to you; your hand keeps me safe. R

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 13:1 - 9

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM:

SERMON:

HYMN VU 852: Up From the Depths I Cry to God.

Up from the depths I cry to God:

O listen, Lord, to me;

O hear my voice in this distress,

this mire of misery.

I wait for God with all my heart, my hope is in his word; and more than *watchmen for the dawn I'm longing for you, God.

- If you, my God, should measure guilt who then could ever stand? But those who fear your name will find forgiveness from your hand. R
- O Israel, set your hope on God whose mercy is supreme: the nation mourning for its sins God surely will redeem. R

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Sung Lord's Prayer VU 959

Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever and ever.

HYMN VU 586: We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection

- We shall go out with hope of resurrection; we shall go out, from strength to strength go on; we shall go out and tell our stories boldly; tales of a love that will not let us go.
 We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted; we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed; we'll weave a cloth of all the world united within the vision of new life in Christ.
- We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken; we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed; we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer, expressive love alive in every heart.
 We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping, raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief, we'll leap and dance the resurrection story, including all in circles of our love.

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 #212: Sent Out in Jesus Name

Sent out in Jesus' name, our hands are ready now to make the world the place in which the kingdom comes. The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain into a world of love, of justice and of peace. The task is ours to do, to set it really free. O, help us to obey, and carry out your will.

POSTLUDE

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 22: Burry Heights Camp AGM (via Zoom)

register at burryheights@hotmail.com

March 27: Presentation on Community Space Renos

April 3: Communion April 10: Palm Sunday

April 10: CSUC ACM Reports Due April 17: Easter and Communion

April 24: CSUC Worship Service (on-line only)

May 13 - 15: FDEE ACM (on-line only)

May 15: Celebrating 140th Anniversary of CSUC

May 15: CSUC ACM

ANNOUNCEMENTS: If you wish to add an announcement, please have it into the office by Wednesday at noon.

No Scents Makes Good Sense! A friendly reminder that members of our congregation are sensitive to scented products. Thank you for helping.

<u>Presentation on Renovations to Community Space</u>: Immediately after the worship service On March 27, First Light will be providing a brief presentation on the renovation plans proposed for this year to the community space in the rear of the building.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be on Sunday, May 15, immediately after a short worship service in the sanctuary. More details to follow soon.

ANNUAL REPORTS: Hello Everyone, it is that time of year again! We are getting ready for our annual meeting. Please send your annual report. Harold Grandy has graciously volunteered to put the annual reports together again this year. To help make this as easy as possible, please send them in MS Word format to Harold at https://ngrandy.org/nf.sympatico.ca BY Sunday, April 10, 2022. If your group has its own bank account, please include your financial statement. Thanks for your help.

BURRY HEIGHTS Camp & Retreat Centre's AGM: Due to weather the Burry Heights Camp and Retreat Centre annual general meeting was postponed. The new date for the annual general meeting is Tuesday, March 22, via zoom. To attend via zoom, please register at burryheights@hotmail.com for the zoom information.

FDEE Annual Meeting 2022: First Dawn Eastern Edge will have its annual meeting on-line only from May 13 – 15. Registration is now live on the First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council website: https://ucceast.ca/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-annual-meeting-2022

Nominations: The United Church has launched a call for nominations (https://united-church.ca/opportunities) for the next Executive, the Board of Vocation and a wide range of committees. These groups will carry out the work of the General Council after the 44th General Council in August. Lay people and ministry personnel are needed with a variety of skills who hold a commitment to supporting the work of the United Church. This is a great way to connect with other members, deepen your faith, and concretely support the call and vision of this United Church of ours.

UKRAINE RELIEF M & S Fund Donation: The United Church has partners in Ukraine and has established a fund through the Mission and Service fund to support humanitarian relief in that conflict area. During Lent, Cochrane Street United Church is supporting this national initiative of the church, as we have done on other occasions in the past. Donations marked "Ukrainian Relief" during this period will go towards this effort. We encourage you to support this special M & S campaign during the Sundays of Lent.

SUNFLOWERS IN UKRAINE: The United Church of Canada have a moving prayer for the Ukraine situation entitled *Sunflowers in Ukraine*: Praying for a Miracle at https://united-church.ca/prayers/sunflowers-ukraine-praying-miracle

The Generosity Matters 2022 Playlist Link is now live on YouTube. These are eight stories of the amazing work our Mission & Service supports. We will feature these, and other stories, throughout the year in our efforts to engage, inspire, and give concrete examples of how our gifts make a difference. For more information visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjJACPvvWEs&list=PLQDu-SgFb3Ri6qP8WEABHeID1bCj4vqxB

EASTER SEALS NL – 2022 Paper Egg Campaign: Easter Seals NL is excited to announce the launch of our 2022 Paper Egg Campaign! Between March 21sand April 17, 2022, show your support for people with disabilities in the province by purchasing a Paper Egg at participating businesses. All of the funds collected will directly support our programs and services. To learn about the participating locations, where you can purchase an egg, or how to become a partner, go to this website: https://eastersealsnl.ca/events/paper-egg-campaign/

EASTER SEALS NL – Family Winter Fun Day: Our Family Winter Fun Day event is taking place on Sunday, March 27, from 10am–2pm (weather pending). Join us for a day of games and crafts, and wrap up the day getting cozy by the fire. To register or learn more about the event, please contact our Interim Recreation Programs Manager, Dayna Penney, at dayna@eastersealsnl.ca or (709) 754-1399 ext 227, or click here: https://eastersealsnl.ca/the-latest/news/family-winter-fun-day/

Long Term Adaptive Equipment Loans: Linda's Equipment Crossing offers free long-term loans of equipment for people living with disabilities. This program exists because of people who donate their unused equipment. If you are interested in a loan or have unused equipment to donate to the program, please contact our Interim Recreation Programs Manager, Dayna Penney at dayna@eastersealsnl.ca. For more information: https://eastersealsnl.ca/what-we-do/programs/lindas-equipment-crossing-program/

Cabot Square Dominion offers concierge service: Cabot Square Dominion (Stavanger Drive location) is piloting a new concierge service for customers with disabilities who may require additional support during their grocery shop. With the new booking tool, anyone looking for a little or a lot of help can reserve a time slot with our concierge staff. A dedicated team member will meet you at customer service and assist you with your shopping needs. To book a slot, please go here:

https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/CabotSquareDominion@mtcad.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/

FROM OUR PARTNERS AT GUIDE TO THE GOOD

<u>Grow Local Go Digital – Local Companies Start Here!</u> Local companies reach more customers and grow their market - in NL and everywhere - with Digital Marketing. Here's where you get started! Digital Marketing helps your business show up. Local companies can use AFFORDABLE DIGITAL to promote their goods and services. Guide to the Good wants local companies to thrive, so we show you where to start.

"Let's Get Digital" gives local companies tips and tools to make DIGITAL Do-ABLE for their business, right now. Join our user-friendly workshop **Thursday**, **March 24**, **from 7pm to 8:30pm.** To register: https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/lets-get-digital-local-companies-start-here-tickets-288024668537

Let's Get Digital is led by Kim Todd, founder and Digital Guide, Guide to the Good, graduate of Memorial's Digital and Social Media Program, Accredited Business Communicator (IABC), Accredited Communications Training Facilitator with McLuhan Davies Communications, and Dip. Applied Ethics, Phil, MUN.

NOTES FROM THE ARCHIVES

Miscellanea

Feb 1925 – Letter written to Municipal Council that a light was needed on Bannerman St. [The light was installed in Nov 1925] Feb 1926 – Debt remaining on the church \$26,000 Sept 1926 – Gift of collection plates by Mr Robert Sexton

