

Cochrane Street United Church

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



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September 26th, 2021

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

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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 SEPTEMBER

Jalna McMaster, Fraser Ellis, Jo Anne Kelly, David Molyneux

THIS WEEK AT COCHRANE STREET SEPTEMBER 27 – OCTOBER 3

Sunday: 11:00 AM Worship at Cochrane

OFFICE

Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:00 am – 1:30 pm
Thursdays 11:30 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](https://twitter.com/CochraneStreet)

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*please stand as you are able

PRELUDE:

INTROIT: God of the Sparrow vs. 6

6 God of the ages God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

Acknowledging Our Kinship:

Creator, we come together today as diverse, united peoples to give thanks to you, Maker of Heaven and Earth.

We come to listen, to learn, to sing and pray, to consider our place in the order of things you have created and are creating.

It is right and good to give thanks for the land on which we stand, for this is wisdom we learn from Indigenous peoples of this land—that we are one with the earth, its waters, air, animals, and plants.

Such wisdom, our interdependence with all life, is something too easy to forget in our busy lives! It is a gift and a challenge to us to remember.

And so we take time to acknowledge the lands on which we now live.

Many of us have come from other places, arriving from distant shores, our families arriving years ago or some of us more recently. When settlers came, they were met by others who were already here, already knew these lands, already lived rich and full lives based on ancient and proud cultures.

Let us take time to name the peoples of this land now:

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.

O God, as we acknowledge the peoples who have lived on and stewarded these lands since time immemorial, and their continued claims to the land, help us to become neighbours that we might live together in better ways.

For we are all kin in Christ, "All My Relations," with each other and this earth, its waters, air, animals, and plants.

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 VU 381: Spirit of Life

Spirit of Life, come unto me.

Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;

move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold me close; wings set me free;

Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER OF APPROACH

Creator has placed each and every one of us here with purpose!

Let us praise Creator for the earth below our feet.

For Mother Earth sustains us,

and all creation cries out for justice.

Creator has given us the eastern direction: the direction of vision, children, and the sun that rises on us each day.

Let us view the world with child-like wonder

—full of awe and humility.

Thankful for the new day that dawns on us each

and every morning,

we give thanks for God

who gives us new mercies every day.

Creator has given us the southern direction: the direction of honesty, adolescence, and growth.

Help us to speak only the truth,

and open our hearts to hear the stories of others.

Inspire us to grow in the image of Christ

who teaches us to walk the good path.

Creator has given us the western direction: the direction of adulthood, harvesting, and deep spiritual understanding.

**Give us the tools we need to act on the knowledge
we are gathering,
allowing us to act with maturity and grace.**

Creator has given us the northern direction: the direction of Elders,
achievement, and a deep connection to spirituality.

**Empower us to learn from the past,
and to move forward to create your beloved community
here on Mother Earth.**

**Holy Spirit, give us the teachings
we need to correct any wrongs,
and to live lives full of love, peace, and hope.**

**Be with us now, Creator, as we worship you
in awe-filled praise. Amen.**

HYMN MV 135: Called by Earth and Sky vs. 1 & 2

Refrain: Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.

1. Precious these waters, endless seas,
deep ocean's dream,
waters of healing, rivers of rain,
the wash of love again.
2. Precious this gift, the air we breathe;
wind born and free.
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place,
our gathering and our grace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide,
and too deep to undo.**

**Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us
a consuming fire of judgment.**

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace**

to grow more and more in your likeness and image. 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

HYM MV 78: God Weeps vs. 3 & 4

3. God cries at hungry mouths,
at running sores,
at creatures dying without cause,
and till we change the way we care, God cries.
4. God waits for stones to melt,
for peace to seed,
for hearts to hold each other's need,
and till we understand the Christ, God waits.

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 182 Grateful (chorus)

Grateful for the life you give us, thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing over all, O God of Love.

Grateful for the Bread of Heaven, thankful for your Holy Word,
joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 12:28 - 34

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

ANTHEM: Near to the Heart of God

SERMON:

Reflective Music

GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 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 VU #703: In the Bulb There is a Flower

- 1 In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.
- 2 There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.
- 3 In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

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 VU 886: You Shall Go Out with Joy

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field
will clap, will clap their hands!

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands, (clap, clap)
the trees of the field will clap their hands, (clap, clap)
the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)
while you go out with joy.

POSTLUDE

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

MEMORIALS

*In loving memory of Leah Budden in honour of
the anniversary of her birthday on September 23rd.
Forever missed...from Cheryl, Byron, Ellice and Allana*

NOTES FROM THE ARCHIVES

From architects, Ross & Macdonald, Mar 7, 1916: "We wish to report that the general contractors, Downing, Cook Co of Toronto, completed on the 29th of February 1916 all of the work as set forth in our previous letter. We have accordingly handed over the keys to your janitor and herewith enclose the master keys, kindly sign and return enclosed receipt for same."