

St. James United Church

The Marks of Discipleship

Discernment – Saying Yes & Saying No



February 18, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

181 Portland Street
Dartmouth
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902-464-8852



▲ Rise in body or in spirit/ Responses in bold

Gathering Music/Welcome/Introductions

Acknowledging the Territory

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

Lighting the Lenten Candles

Lent is a journey of deepening reflection and renewal,
an opportunity to affirm the marks of discipleship.

We are people of the journey, followers of Jesus.

During this season of Lent we will explore worship, prayer,
study, stewardship, discernment, and healing,
all through the lens of lens of discipleship.

We are people of the journey, followers of Jesus.

Often during Lent, we extinguish candles one by one, to demonstrate
the darkness that drew ever closer on Jesus' journey to the cross.

This year, in addition to the Christ, Pride and Peace Candles, we will
light an additional candle each week, to signify how Jesus' passion,
purpose and promise shone ever brighter on that journey.

We are people of the journey, followers of Jesus.

Opening Sung Meditation – Today We All Are Called # 507 V 1

**Today we all are called to be
disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free,
make ploughshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first,
our ease and comfort last.**

Call to Worship (Responsive)

United in faith,
Strengthened by friendship,
Building a Community of love and justice.
**These are words that speak of our identity
as followers of Jesus.**

United in faith,
Strengthened by friendship,
Building a Community of love and justice.
**These are words that speak of our hope
as followers of Jesus.**

United in faith,
Strengthened by friendship,
Building a Community of love and justice.
**These are words that speak of our mission
as followers of Jesus. Come, let us worship!**

▲ Hymn – Come In, Come In and Sit Down # 395 – Ian Travers

Prayer of Confession

**God, sometimes we wish
we could hear your call more clearly.
Sometimes we do not want to hear.
Sometimes we hear only in part.
It costs too much to respond.
We do not want you to question or challenge our way of life.
We do not want to take risks.
We do not want to admit the depth of our needs.**

Silent prayer...

**May we listen to your wisdom.
Upheld by your love,
may we venture forth in faith and courage.
Living out your possibilities,
may we let go of those habits, prejudices,
and limiting beliefs which no longer serve us or your world.
May we find freedom in a full creative life,
immersed in your love and light and energy. Amen.**

Ministry of Music – Just Two Words

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

A Time of Wondering

An Ancient Word – Mark 10: 17-31

Reflection – Don't Go Away Grieving

Reflective Music

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

▲ Hymn – I, the Lord of Sea and Sky # 509

▲ A New Creed – Page # 918

Invitation to Generosity & Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People & 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.**

THRESHOLD INTO GOD'S WORLD

The Life and Ministry of the Faith Community – Please See Insert

▲ Hymn – Be Thou My Vision # 642

▲ Commissioning & Blessing

▲ Song of Dismissal – Today We All Are Called # 507 V 4

**May we in service to our God
act out the living Word,
and walk the road the saints have trod
till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be
disciples of the Lord.**

Music Takes Us into the World