

St. James United Church

United in Faith
Strengthened by Friendship
Building a Community
of Love and Justice



April 28, 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

Theme Conversation

Acknowledging the Territory

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD OF EASTER

Lighting the Candles

Sung Celebration Song– Sing Your Joy # 253

**Sing your joy, proclaim God's glory!
Rise and sing, the morning has come!
Bless our God and praise all creation;
song of the earth, and light from heaven:
God is alive! Hallelujah!**

Call to Worship

United in Faith,
Strengthened by Friendship
Building a Community of Love and Justice.
**These are not just words on paper;
they are a living, breathing incarnation
of our collective purpose.
They call us to action,
to reach out beyond ourselves,
and to make a meaningful impact
in the world around us.**

In a world often filled with noise and distraction,
let us take a moment to center ourselves,
to listen deeply to the whispers
of our mission echoing within our souls.

**Let us pause to reflect on the needs of our
community, both near and far,
and to reaffirm our commitment to serve with
compassion and humility.**

As we gather here today, let us remember that our
mission is not static—it is responsive.

**It calls us to adapt, to innovate,
and to meet the ever-evolving challenges
of our world with courage and resilience.**

Let us be open to the guidance of the divine,
trusting that we are each called to play a unique role in
the unfolding of our mission.

**So, let us worship
with intentionality and purpose,
knowing that each prayer we offer,
each song we sing,
and each word we speak
is infused with the energy of our mission.
May this time together
awaken us to the joy of life
and the transformative power of love.**

▲ Hymn – I am the Light of the World # 87

Opening Prayer (Together)

**Christ has no body but ours,
No hands, no feet on earth but ours.
Ours are the eyes with which Christ looks;
Compassion on this world.
Ours are the feet with which Christ walks;
Companionship with this world.
Ours are the hands with which Christ blesses;
Healing for this world.
Ours are the hands, ours are the feet,
ours are the eyes, we are Christ's body.
Christ has no body now but ours,
No hands, no feet on earth but ours.**

Silent Prayer...

**We turn to you, knowing that you understand us,
forgive us, and love us like a Mother
and so we SING with confidence and faith,
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 them 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 – Will You Come and Follow Me # 567

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD FOR US TODAY

A Time of Wondering

An Ancient Word – 2 Corinthians 9: 6-8 & Acts 6: 1-6

Reflection – Mission Possible

Reflective Music

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

▲ Let Us Build a House

Let us build a house where love can dwell
And all can safely live
A place where saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive
Built of hopes and dreams and visions
Rock of faith and vault of grace
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions
All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place

Let us build a house where prophets speak
And words are strong and true
Where all God's children dare to seek
To dream God's reign anew
Here the cross shall stand as witness
And a symbol of God's grace
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus
All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place

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.

▲ A New Creed – Page # 918 (Together)

Mission and Service Stories

Invitation to Generosity & Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

The Life and Ministry of the Faith Community

THRESHOLD INTO GOD’S WORLD

▲ Hymn – Love Our Neighbour – Tune # 460

In this world of strife and anger
In this world of doubt and pain.
Jesus joins us on the journey
Daring us to live God’s reign.
Love our neighbour, love one another.
Love our God, this is the way.
Love abundant, love expanding
Love is more than words to say.

We are givers, we are takers.
We are wounded, we are healed.
We are Indigenous, we are settlers
We need justice to be real.
Love our neighbour, love one another.
Love our God, this is the way.
Love abundant, love expanding
Love is more than words to say.

We who once were lost and seeking
We who wandered all around.
God shows us that life’s abundant.
When we share with all around.
Love our neighbour, love one another.
Love our God, this is the way.
Love abundant, love expanding
Love is more than words to say.

▲ Commissioning & Blessing

Song of Dismissal – Onward Easter People

**Onward Easter people, risen with our Lord.
Loving, caring, sharing, spread his living Word.
Death no longer holds him, we can plainly see.
Christ is resurrected, we have been set free.
Onward Easter people, risen with our Lord.
Loving, caring, sharing, spread his living Word.**

GAZA CEASEFIRE PILGRIMAGE

When: Sunday, April 28th at 1:00 PM
Where: North Commons at Creighton Fields Gate,
across from the corner of North Park and
Nora Bernard Streets. (Former Cornwallis
Street)

Join us for a prayerful walk to call for a just peace.
Our goal is to have 30 people walk/roll around the
perimeter of the Commons 3 times - which would equal
the length of the Gaza Strip.

*Cover Illustration, Call to Worship, Love Our Neighbour, Onward Easter People
– Rev. Catherine MacDonald
Opening Prayer – St. Teresa of Avila, 16th century CE*