

St. James United Church

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



May 5, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

181 Portland Street
Dartmouth
B2Y 1J5
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

Gathered in this sacred space,
let us open our hearts wide to the light that surrounds us.

**In the quiet of this moment,
let us release all barriers and defenses,
allowing our hearts to expand
with compassion and grace.**

In the openness of our hearts we find connection—
**with ourselves, with one another,
and with the sacred presence that dwells among us.**

In the beauty of God's diversity,
let us find strength.

In the vulnerability of our openness,
let us find courage.

In the trust in Creator
**Let us be humble and know our place
in the whole created order.**

So let us come together,
**with hearts wide open,
ready to receive and to give,
ready to be transformed
by the boundless love that surrounds us.**

▲ Hymn – Come to My Heart, Lord Jesus # 661

Praying the Directions (Responsive)

facing east

From the East, the direction of the rising sun,
we receive peace and light and wisdom and knowledge.
We are grateful for these gifts, O God.

facing south

From the South comes warmth, guidance,
and the beginning and the end of life.
We are grateful for these gifts, O God.

facing west

From the West comes the rain,
purifying waters, to sustain all living things.
We are grateful for these gifts, O God.

facing north

From the North comes the cold and mighty wind,
the white snows, giving us strength and endurance.
We are grateful for these gifts, O God.

facing upward

From the heavens we receive darkness and light,
the air of your breath,
and messages from your winged creatures.
We are grateful for these gifts, O God.

facing downward

From the earth we come and to the earth we will return.
**We are grateful for your creation,
Mother Earth, O God.**

May we walk good paths, O God,
living on this earth as brothers and sisters should;

**rejoicing in one another's blessing,
sympathizing in one another's sorrows,
and together with you,
renewing the face of the earth. Amen.**

▲ Hymn – For the Healing of the Nations # 678

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

A Time of Wondering

An Ancient Word – Galatians 5 – Selected Verses
Philippians 2: 1-5

Reflection – Strong Backs, Soft Fronts, Wild Hearts

Reflective Music

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

▲ Deep in Our Hearts

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
Deep in our hearts there is a common song;
Deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.

Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;
Deep in our hearts there is a common goal;
Deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,
justice and peace in harmony.

Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;
Deep in our hearts there is a common theme;
Deep in our hearts there is a common current,
flowing to freedom like a stream.

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
Deep in our hearts there is a common song;
Deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.

▲ A New Creed – Page # 918 (Together)

Mission and Service Stories

Invitation to Generosity & Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

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**

The Life and Ministry of the Faith Community

THRESHOLD INTO GOD'S WORLD

▲ Hymn – We Are Pilgrims # 595

▲ 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.**

*Cover Illustration, Call to Worship, Onward Easter People
– Rev. Catherine MacDonald
Opening Prayer – Celebrate God's Presence*

Welcome!

Please join us for coffee and conversation downstairs following the service.

If you would like to be on our weekly email distribution list, please email st.james.dartmouth@gmail.com



If you would like to contribute to our ministry, there are **offering plates** at the back, or you can e-transfer to stjamesfinancials181@gmail.com. This QR code will take you directly to our Canada Helps page. **Thank you for your generosity!**

DIRECTORY

Minister: Rev. Catherine MacDonald,
cell 902-483-1422
email: reverendcatherinemacdonald@gmail.com
Music Director: Dean Bradshaw
beforethursday@hotmail.com
Office (464-8852): Cathy McLeod
st.james.dartmouth@gmail.com
Facebook (Live 10am Sunday)
St-James-United-Church
Website: stjamesdartmouth.ca

Food Bank: Tuesday 8:30-11 (May 14, 28)

Chair of Session	Rev. Catherine	483-1422
Clerk of Session	Brian McLeod	463-4206
Chair of Stewards	Jackie Clark	999-1117
Chair of OB	Ralph Settle	478-0186
Secretary OB	Cathy McLeod	463-4206
Chair of Trustees	Wayne Cochrane	429-9009
Envelope Steward	Cathy McLeod	463-4206
Chair M & P	Shauna MacDonald	829-4042
Chair of Property	Dale Hudson	456-9720