

▲ Rise in body or in spirit/
Responses in bold

Gathering Music

Welcome

Introductions

Theme Conversation

Acknowledging the Territory

Lighting the Candles

Opening Sung Meditation

**Come and find the quiet centre
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.**

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Come, all who seek a place
of welcome and love.

Like Mary and Martha,
we bring our whole selves—some ready to
listen, some busy with many tasks.
**But Christ invites us all to be fully
present, fully seen, and fully loved.**

In this space,
we commit to being public in our embrace,
intentional in our actions,
and explicit in our love for all.

**For all are wonderfully made
in the image of God!**

Let justice roll down like waters,
and let love rise like a mighty wave.

**We worship the One who calls us to deep
belonging, radical hospitality,
and true inclusion.**

So come, whether you are busy or still,
questioning or certain—
there is a place for you here.

**Let us worship together
with open hearts and open arms!**

▲ We Sing – All Are Welcome MV # 1

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 as 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.

Let us build a house
where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured,
taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers
of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Prayer of Confession (Responsive)

Loving and inclusive God,
you call us to be fully present,
to listen deeply,
and to welcome all with open hearts.
Yet too often, we are distracted—
caught up in the busyness
of our own concerns, failing to see those
who long for a place at the table.

**Forgive us
when our welcome is hesitant,
when our love is conditional,
when our inclusion is
anything less than
public, intentional, and explicit.**

Christ, you remind us that love
is not just a word but an action.
Yet too often, we remain silent
in the face of exclusion,
leaving others to carry
the weight of rejection alone.

**Forgive us when we fail to stand up,
speak out, and embody
your radical hospitality.**

Holy Spirit, move within us.
Open our eyes to see,
our hearts to love,
and our hands to serve.

**May we become a people
of true belonging,
where all are embraced
as your beloved.**

Amen.

Assurance of Grace (Responsive)

Hear the good news:
Christ looks upon us
not with judgment, but with love.
In every moment of hesitation,
God offers us another chance
to embody welcome.

In every place
where we have fallen short,
grace meets us and calls us forward.

**We are forgiven, renewed,
and called again to love boldly.**

May we go forward with courage—
public in our embrace,
intentional in our actions,
and explicit in our love.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

A Time of Wondering

Ancient Words – Luke 10:38-42

Reflection

Reflective Music

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

▲Draw the Circle Wide MV # 145

Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
no one stands alone,
standing side by side,
draw the circle wide.

God the still-point of the circle,
'round whom all creation turns;
nothing lost, but held forever,
in God's gracious arms. *R*

Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call. *R*

Let the dreams we dream be larger,
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door. *R*

Mission and Service Video

Invitation to Generosity
& Prayer of Dedication

Weaving our Prayers

*You are invited to come to the front,
take a ribbon from the basket
and weave it in and out of the frame
while some reflective music is played.*

Bring to God whatever
is on your heart and mind.

One ribbon on its own is easily broken,
but woven together with others
creates a strong fabric of belonging.

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

Life and Ministry

▲We Sing – A Place at the Table

For everyone born,
a place at the table,
for everyone born,
clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space,
a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, everyone born,
a star overhead,

Refrain:

and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators,
creators of justice, of justice and joy!

For woman and man,
a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace,
dividing the power,
for woman and man, woman and man,
a system that's fair. *(R)*

For young and for old,
a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child
in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, young and for old,
the right to belong. *(R)*

For just and unjust, a place at the table,
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
for just and unjust, just and unjust,
a new way to live. *(Refrain)*

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out,
to witness and worship,
for everyone born, everyone born
the right to be free, *(R)*

▲Commissioning & Blessing

▲We Sing – God Be With You

God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
may the Shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet.
Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

We welcome Ryan Gomes as our
PIE Day speaker this morning

Liturgy – Catherine MacDonald

*Note, our services are livestreamed and photos may
be taken. You are welcome to take photos and video.*

St. James United Church

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



March 16, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

181 Portland Street
Dartmouth
B2Y 1J5
902.464.8852

