

(▲Rise in body or in spirit)  
(Responses in bold)

## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome & Introductions

Theme Conversation

Acknowledging the Territory

## CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

Lighting the Candles

We Sing – 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.**

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Come, people of God,  
gather in the Spirit of service and hope.

**We come, seeking wisdom for the work before us.**

Come, followers of Christ,  
gather with hearts ready to respond.

**We come, ready to listen,  
ready to lead, ready to serve.**

Come, beloved community,  
gather to be strengthened and renewed.

**We come, trusting that when we act  
with love and faith,  
the word of God will continue to spread.  
Let us worship God together!**

▲ We Sing – We Are Pilgrims # 595

Opening Prayer (Together)

**God of compassion and calling,  
you see the needs among us  
and stir our hearts to respond.  
You call forth gifts from each of us—  
gifts of wisdom, kindness, courage, and service.  
As we gather,  
bless us with attentive minds and open spirits.**

**Strengthen our community with your grace.**

**Guide us to lift up one another,  
to speak your word with boldness,  
and to serve with humility and joy.**

**May all that we do here  
prepare us to be your hands and feet in the world.**

***Silent prayer...***

**We turn to you,  
knowing that you understand us,  
forgive us, and love us like a Mother,  
and so we pray  
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 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**

**LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD**

A Time of Wondering

Ancient Words – Acts 6: 1-7

Reflection – Shaping the Church

Reflective Music

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

▲ We Sing – Blest Be the Tie That Binds # 602

▲ We Profess – A New Creed Page # 918 (Together)

Mission and Service Stories

Invitation to Generosity & Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

## THRESHOLD INTO GOD'S WORLD

Life and Ministry of the Faith Community

▲ We Sing – Go to the World # 420

▲ Commissioning & Blessing

▲ We Sing 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.**

*Opening Song/Call to Worship/Opening Prayer/Closing  
Song/Photograph ~ Rev. Catherine MacDonald*

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

## THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY This Week at St James – May 4 – May 10, 2025

Day	What	Where	Time
Sunday	Coffee and Conversation	Sanctuary	11 am
Sunday	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary	11:15 am
Monday	Carillon Choir	Hall	7:30 pm
Tuesday	Tuesday Pause	Sanctuary	6 pm
Wednesday	Workshop Wednesday	Parlour	1:30 pm

Our **Congregational meeting** will start after the service.

**Tuesday Pause, Contemplative Service:** Tuesday May 6 at 6. Do you need a quiet pause in your busy week? Join us in our beautiful sanctuary and enjoy quiet music, time to reflect and hear words both ancient and new. First Tuesday of the month.

Thank you to everyone who worked or participated in our **Yard Sale!**

Have you got your house to colour, paint, etc.? Little wooden houses are available at the back of the Sanctuary. Help us create a neighbourhood on the communion table for our **Who Are the People in the Neighborhood** series coming up.

**St. James is still looking for an individual to fill in for Doris, our current janitor**, who, for health reasons, is unable to work for at least the next 3 to 6 months. This is a temporary position working 10 hours per week - flexible around the individual's schedule and use of the church facilities. If you know of anyone, please speak with them and if they are interested have them contact Joyce: [hiringstjames@gmail.com](mailto:hiringstjames@gmail.com)

### In The Community

**Grandmothers to Grandmothers**, Fabric and yarn sale, quilting and sewing supplies. At Alderney Landing, Sunday May 4 from 11 am-3 pm. All proceeds go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

**AST invites you:** Diana Butler Bass, PhD, a renowned author, speaker, and historian of Christianity will be in Halifax on May 7 and 8 to give **two lectures on gratitude**, at St Andrew's United Church, 7 pm. May 7: *Being Grateful Now: How to Find Thanks in Difficult Days*; May 8: *Gratitude as a Social Practice: What Do We Want?* Tickets \$25 for one lecture, \$40 for two, or pay what you can. For information visit the Eventbrite page or email [astinfo@astheology.ns.ca](mailto:astinfo@astheology.ns.ca).

### Summary Leadership Team Mtg, April 16, 2025

Motions:

- To allot \$100 to repair and repaint the rainbow stairs.
- To purchase a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banner
- To approve the HRM proposal for parking lot upgrade as illustrated in the diagram shared with the Congregation at the meeting on April 13, 2025.
- To earmark \$10,000 for the railing and other incidental expenses related to the upgrade of the parking lot.
- To recommend to the Congregation to proceed with the sale of the Church Hall. This will be done at a Congregational Meeting after the service on May 4, 2025, and that the vote will require a 75% majority.

Kathy Ibel, Secretary, Leadership Team



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](mailto:stjamesfinancials181@gmail.com). This QR code will take you directly to our Canada Helps page.  
**Thank you for your generosity!**

If you would like to be on our weekly email distribution list, please email [st.james.dartmouth@gmail.com](mailto:st.james.dartmouth@gmail.com)

### Directory

**Minister:** Rev. Catherine MacDonald, cell 902-483-1422  
email: [reverendcatherinemacdonald@gmail.com](mailto:reverendcatherinemacdonald@gmail.com)

**Music Director:** Dean Bradshaw  
[beforethursday@hotmail.com](mailto:beforethursday@hotmail.com)

**Office (464-8852):** Cathy McLeod  
[st.james.dartmouth@gmail.com](mailto:st.james.dartmouth@gmail.com)

**Facebook (Live 10am Sunday)** [St-James-United-Church](https://www.facebook.com/St-James-United-Church-101311111111111/)

**Website:** [stjamesdartmouth.ca](http://stjamesdartmouth.ca)

**Food Bank** (May 13, 27)

# St. James United Church

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



May 4, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

181 Portland Street  
Dartmouth  
B2Y 1J5  
902-464-8852

