

(▲ 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 – Called By Earth and Sky MV # 135

**Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of Life, sanctified
Called by earth and sky.**

**Precious this gift the air we breathe,
wind born and free
Breath of the Spirit blow through this place
Our gathering and our grace.**

**Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of Life, sanctified
Called by earth and sky.**

Call to Worship (Responsive)

God sees us as we are
and God knows all our struggle and our success.

But sometimes we feel like asking God:
are you paying attention?

And God asks us too: are we paying attention?
We are here to listen as God calls us by name,
and to learn to answer as God does: here I am.
Come, let us worship!

▲ We Sing – Spirit, Open My Heart MV # 79

OPENING PRAYER (TOGETHER)

You reveal your holiness
in bits and pieces, O God.
In places and moments
we would never have guessed,
you make yourself visible
and turn the ground holy right under our feet.
Give us the grace today to pay attention
and so to see you,
and not only see,
but to know what we're looking at,
and to commit ourselves to your way,
as you commit yourself to us.

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 – Exodus
3:1–15 & 4:10–17

Reflection – Excuses, Encouragement, and Empowerment

Reflective Music

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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

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

Hymn to Learn – Love's Wide Embrace

Stories of Mission and Service

Invitation to Generosity

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

THRESHOLD INTO GOD'S WORLD

Life and Ministry of the Faith Community

▲ We Sing – I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me # 575

▲ Commissioning & Blessing

▲ We Sing – Called by Earth and Sky MV # 135

**Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of Life, sanctified
Called by earth and sky.**

**Precious the fire that lights the way,
bright dawning day
Fire of passion sorrows undone
Our faith and justice one.**

**Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of Life, sanctified
Called by earth and sky.**

*Call to Worship/Opening Prayer – Rev. Teri Peterson
Photo – Rev. Catherine MacDonald*

**THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY
This Week at St James – Sep 21-27, 2024**

Day	What	Where	Time
Sunday	Coffee and Conversation	Sanctuary	11:00 am
Sunday	Worship Committee	Office	11:15 am
Monday	Carillon Choir	Hall	7:30 pm
Wednesday	Wellness Wednesday	Gym	11 am
Wednesday	TriChurch Consultation	Stairs UC	6 pm

Wellness Wednesday, starting Sept 24, 11am to 2 pm:

Would you like to be healthier in mind, body and spirit? Join us once again for chair yoga, lunch (free!) interesting speakers and an opportunity to get to know one another.

National Day for Truth & Reconciliation honours the lost children and survivors of residential schools, their families and communities. **On September 28** we will be marking Truth and Reconciliation Day in worship. For those who have them, wear your orange t-shirts.

We invite you to participate in our **Thanksgiving Table** in support of our Food Bank. Place nonperishable items such as soup, cereal, crackers, canned beans, hygiene items, instant coffee, Kraft Dinner, canned meats, etc. on the table set at the front of the church on Sept.28, Oct 5, Oct 12. Thank you so much for sharing.

Bible Study: Theological Banquet - How Do You Express Your Faith? Join Rev. Catherine on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am, starting October 1, to explore this question. Faith is a gift of God which allows Christ's life to flow through us, shaping our lives in the spirit of love. The apostle Paul taught that when the Spirit lit the flame of faith in the hearts of the disciples at Pentecost, that faith took not one form, but many. The Spirit's diversity of gifts means that for some faith takes the shape of a messenger of the gospel, for others it takes the form of Christian community or service to those in need; others express their faith by resisting injustice, or by seeking wisdom. In whatever shape, faith is a divine gift which inspires acts of love, compassion and hope.

Signup: reverendcatherinemacdonald@gmail.com.

St James UC, October 1, 8, 15, Nov 5, 12

Or join Rev. Ross Bartlett at Port Wallis UC, Wed Oct 8-Nov 5 at 7 pm. Signup: ross.bartlett@astheology.ns.ca.

Workshop Wednesday will be starting again on Oct 1, 1:30 pm in the parlour. Bring your project and a friend!

We are holding a **Thanksgiving potluck supper at 5pm Monday, 13 October** for our St James family. This invitation extends to include the coordinators of our user groups. For planning purposes, could you please RSVP to Murray Wylie. Looking forward to seeing you!

The Food Bank asks for donations of **egg cartons**.

Hospitality — Circle of Service. We're back from summer and ready for a new season! Would you be interested in helping with Sunday morning Coffee Time? What about volunteering to operate the elevator before and after church or perhaps you would consider greeting people arriving at church? Training available! If any of these areas of service interest you, please contact Melanie, 902-469-5220.

Kin Community Brunch is Back Sunday 28, 9:30-12:30. Dartmouth Kin are pleased to welcome their brunch followers back to the best Brunch in Metro, the fourth Sunday of the month, East Dartmouth Community Centre, 50 Caledonia Rd.



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!

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

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](https://www.facebook.com/St-James-United-Church)

Website: stjamesdartmouth.ca

Food Bank: September 30; Oct 14, 28

St. James United Church

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



September 21, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

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

