

(▲ 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 – Let Us Build a House MV # 1 – Verse 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.**

Call to Worship (Responsive)

God be with you.  
**And also with you.**

We greet this new morning  
grateful for all of creation  
and love shared among us.  
**We come to share God's love,  
on this day celebrating our anniversary,  
knowing we all belong  
and have a place at the table.**

▲ We Sing – Draw the Circle Wide MV # 145

## OPENING PRAYER (TOGETHER)

**Breathe on us, breath of God.  
Giver of Peace, we open our hearts  
to your Good News to us.  
Stir us from complacency and shake us up  
when we go through the motions,  
get stuck in our ruts of old routines and habits.**

**Breath of life, move in and through us,  
giving us compassion to serve and to love.  
As we connect with you  
in the silence of our hearts.**

## SILENT PRAYER...

**Grant us courage and strength,  
excitement and energy.  
Inspire us to share love  
and your abundant grace  
Breathed into every part of us,  
reenergizing and rejuvenating us.**

**Open our hearts to receive you,  
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**

Ministry of Music – United in Christ

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

A Time of Wondering

Ancient Words – Mark 6: 30-44 from The Message

Reflection – Invitation of Belonging: A Place at the Table

Reflective Music

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

▲ We Sing – Come Touch Our Hearts MV # 12

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

Stories of Mission

Invitation to Generosity

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

## THRESHOLD INTO GOD'S WORLD

Life and Ministry of the Faith Community

▲ We Sing – For Everyone There – TLUS # 23

▲ Commissioning & Blessing

▲ We Sing – What Can I Do? MV # 191

**What can I do? What can I bring?  
What can I say? What can I sing?  
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.  
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

*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 – Nov 23 - Nov 29, 2025**

Day	What	Where	Time
Sunday	Coffee and Conversation	Sanctuary	11:00 am
Monday	Carillon Choir	Hall	7:30 pm
Tuesday	Food bank	Hall	8:30-11 am
Wednesday	Wellness Wednesday	Gym	11:00 am
Wednesday	Craft Group	Parlour	1:30 pm
Friday	Decorating	Sanctuary	10am-3pm
Saturday	Potluck	Gym	6:00 pm

As we celebrate our **Anniversary**, we're delighted to welcome our guest speaker, **Rev. Dr. Sharon Ballantyne**, Growth Animator for the Atlantic Region.

We'll **Decorate the Sanctuary** on Friday Nov. 28, join us!

**New Year's Eve Potluck (for the Church Year!)**

Let's ring in the new year — the church year, that is! Advent marks the beginning of a fresh season of hope and anticipation, and what better way to start than with good food and good company? We'll gather for a New Year's Eve Potluck to celebrate the beginning of Advent and the year ahead. Bring a favourite dish to share and your festive spirit - there will be laughter, music, conversation, and some fun ways to get to know our friends from Stairs UC and Grace UC, who will be joining us. Come hungry for both food and friendship as we begin this new season together! **November 29, 6:00 pm, St. James Hall.**

**CHRISTMAS MAGIC December 6<sup>th</sup>, 1-3 pm!**

St James will welcome the community for an afternoon of Fun, Food, Crafts, and of course a Silent Auction. Your participation has always made this event a success. Here are some ways you can help:

- Silent Auction Items, Baking, New to You Christmas Items
- Volunteer for setup, cleanup or helping at the event.

The most important thing you can do is attend, invite your family and friends and share our poster! For further information contact Melanie (902-463-3933) or Bonnie (902-456-0770).

It's time for our **Christmas Poinsettia Project**. This lovely tradition was started by the St James UCW. Two large plants will grace the sanctuary in memory or celebration of those we love. Place your dedications and donation in the offering plate or send to the church office by December 11.

Add **Legends of Mary** to your calendar, featuring the Carillon Choir and St James Choir, **Sunday Dec. 14, 2 pm.**

**Nativity Scenes.** As we journey through the Advent and Christmas season, you are invited to help us create a visual celebration of hope, peace, joy, and love in our sanctuary. If you have a nativity scene that you would be willing to lend to the church for the season, please bring it in any Sunday during Advent, or drop it off at the office during the week. Please label your nativity set with your name so we can be sure to return it in January. Thank you for sharing a piece of your Christmas tradition with us!

**Kin Club Brunch today, November 23:** They are looking forward to seeing you at the best Brunch in Metro, from 9:30-12:30, 50 Caledonia Rd.

**Ekko Performing Arts Society** fundraising concerts - Ekko is a non-profit organisation providing accessible and affordable music and performance education for kids and adults. Support their Christmas Concerts:  
 Friday, Nov 28th, 7 pm  
 Saturday, Nov 29th, 2 pm and 7 pm  
 New Apostolic Church, 151 Joffre St, Dartmouth.  
 Tickets are located on [Eventbrite](#).

**Note: The emergency exit next to the piano, front left, is not to be used for now.** If evacuation is required use the main front doors or the staircase on the right.



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!**

**St. James United Church**

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

**Anniversary Sunday!**



Worship Leader – Rev. Catherine MacDonald  
 Anniversary Preacher – Rev. Dr. Sharon Ballantyne  
 Music Director – Dean Bradshaw  
 Reader –

November 23, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

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