

▲ Rise in body or in spirit/Responses in bold

Gathering Music

Welcome & Introductions/Theme Conversation

**CROSSING THE THRESHOLD**

Lighting the Lenten Candles

We have lit candles calling us  
to see,  
to love,  
and to serve.

**We remember the light  
that has grown among us.**

Jesus welcomes children  
when others try to send them away.  
In blessing the smallest and most vulnerable,  
he reshapes our understanding of greatness.  
**Teach us to honor those the world overlooks.**

Scripture reminds us,  
“You were once slaves in Egypt.”  
Memory becomes responsibility.  
Vulnerability calls forth compassion.  
**Help us remember our own need for care.**

We light this fourth candle  
as a sign of protection and belonging,  
a promise that the vulnerable  
will not only be safe,  
but given room to thrive.  
**May this light teach us  
to build a world where all are held.**

We Sing – Tree of Life # 121

**Tree of Life and awesome mystery,  
in your death we are reborn,  
though you die in all of history,  
still you rise with every morn,  
still you rise with every morn.**

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Today we gather for worship and for PIE Day,  
**with grateful hearts and hungry spirits.**

As pies are baked and shared,  
we remember the fields of long ago,  
where God commanded the people:  
When you harvest your field,  
do not reap to the very edges.  
**Leave some for the stranger,  
the orphan, and the widow.**

When you gather the grain,  
when you shake the trees,  
when you collect the grapes,  
**do not take it all.**  
**Leave room for mercy.**

Today, as we slice pie and pass plates,  
**we celebrate abundance  
that is meant to be shared.**

For we were once strangers.  
**And God welcomed us.**

We were once in need.  
**And God provided.**

So on this PIE Day,  
we bring our gratitude,  
our generosity,  
and our commitment to justice.  
**Let our worship be sweet with kindness,  
rich with compassion,  
and wide enough for all.**

Let us worship the God  
who fills our tables  
and sends us out  
to leave the edges for love.  
**Let us worship God!**

▲ We Sing – Let Us Build a House MV # 1

Words of Assurance

Opening Prayer of Confession (Responsive)

God said, “When a foreigner resides among you in your  
land, do not mistreat them.”  
**Holy God, we confess, we have mistreated the  
immigrants in our land.**

Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.”  
**We confess, we have clung to guns and war  
more than we have pursued peace.**

God said, “When you gather the grapes of your vineyard,  
do not glean what is left; it shall be for the  
alien, the orphan, and the widow.”  
**We confess, we have hoarded our resources  
and failed to care for our neighbors.**

Jesus said, “Let the children come to me,  
and do not stop them.”  
**We confess, we have gatekept  
the good news in unfair ways.**

Fortunately for all of us, God also said,  
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name; you are mine.”  
**By God’s grace, despite our sin and shortcomings,  
we are redeemed, claimed, forgiven, and loved.  
May this good news change our lives! Amen.**

For Good – Ekko Performing Arts Society

**LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD FOR US TODAY**

A Time of Wondering

Ancient Words – Deuteronomy 24:17-22

Reflection - A Slice of PIE for Everyone

Reflective Music

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

▲ Hymn – When I Needed a Neighbour # 600

▲ A New Creed – Page # 918

Stories of Mission

Invitation to Generosity & Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

## THRESHOLD INTO GOD'S WORLD

The Life and Ministry of the Faith Community

▲ Hymn – Draw the Circle Wide MV # 145

▲ Commissioning & Blessing

▲ Song of Dismissal – Tree of Life # 121

**Give us eyes to see you clearly,  
make us children of your light;  
give us hearts to live more nearly  
as your gospel shining bright,  
as your gospel shining bright.**

*Candle Lighting – Rev. Catherine MacDonald  
Liturgy – A Sanctified Art*

*Please note, our services are livestreamed, and photographs may be taken. You are welcome to take photos and video as well.*

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)

**Note: The emergency exit from the sanctuary (next to the piano, front left) is not in use. For evacuation, use the main front doors or the staircase on the right.**

## THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY This Week at St James – Mar 15 - Mar 21, 2026

Day	What	Where	Time
Sunday	Coffee and PIE!	Sanctuary	11:00 am
Monday	Carillon Choir	Hall	7:30 pm
Tuesday	Food Bank	Hall	8:30-11 am
Wednesday	Craft Group	Parlour	1:30 pm
Wednesday	Leadership Team	Parlour	7:00 pm

Welcome back Rev. Catherine! On this PIE Sunday we welcome **guest speaker Martha Robichaud.**

**Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 22, during Worship.**

**Save the Date! Yard Sale Saturday April 18.**

**Stairs United Church Speaker Event, Saturday, 11 Apr, 1-2:30 pm - Learning to Speak About Our Faith in a Post-Christian World.** Rev Dr Rob Fennell, Atlantic School of Theology, will lead a discussion exploring the questions, difficulties and promise of claiming and handing on our faith in this challenging era. When so many people are estranged from or hostile to organized religion, and many more have abandoned it, what are we to say or do? What might the Bible and other resources of our faith have to say? Come prepared to learn but also to participate and be imaginative.



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!**

# St. James United Church

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

Tell Me Something Good!



March 15, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

181 Portland Street  
Dartmouth  
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902-464-8852

