

▲ Rise in body or in spirit/Responses in bold

Gathering Music

Welcome & Introductions

Theme Conversation

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

Lighting the Lenten Candles

We have already lit candles
calling us to see
and to love.

We carry these lights with us.

Jesus tells us that love
does not remain at the table.
It moves outward.

When we care for the hungry,
the naked,
the imprisoned,
we meet Christ himself.

Teach us to love through action.

We light this third candle
as a sign of love made visible,
of faith that shows itself
in compassion and justice.

**As the light grows,
may our lives reflect your mercy.**

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)

If you need good news,
settle into this space.
We have good news to share.

If you need a word of hope,
**then trust us when we say,
together, the impossible is possible
there is hope enough to go around.**

If you need a glimmer of joy,
then you're in luck!
We have resilient joy abounding.

If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,
then know that this is God's house.

This is the good news of the gospel.
God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move.
Let us worship our with-us God!

▲ We Sing – Human Minds Just Can't Imagine – Tune 374

Words of Assurance

Opening Prayer of Confession (Together)

**Holy God,
with you the impossible is possible.
5,000 can be fed.
The blind can see.
The hopeless can find hope.**

**With you the impossible is possible,
but we are quick to forget that.
We look at our hurting world
and tell ourselves that nothing can be done.**

**We forget that you empowered
the disciples to feed the crowd.
We forget that you are always with us.**

**Forgive our small-minded ways.
Forgive us for doubting
that change could ever come.
But even more so,
forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it.
With hope for a better tomorrow we pray,
amen.**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

Ministry of Music – O Sacred Head

A Time of Wondering

Ancient Words – Mark 6: 32-44 & Ephesians 3: 20-21

Reflection

Reflective Music

Ministry of Music – Pass It On

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

▲ Hymn – For the Crowd of Thousands # 355

▲ 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 – For the Fruit of All Creation # 227

▲ 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
Human Minds Just Can't Imagine – Rev. Anna Strickland*

THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY

This Week at St James – Mar 8 - Mar 14, 2026

Day	What	Where	Time
Sunday	Coffee and Conversation	Sanctuary	11:00 am
Wednesday	Craft Group	Parlour	1:30 pm

The **Rev. Renee Clark** will be leading us for these first three Sundays of Lent, while Rev Catherine is away in Kenya with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Today we welcome our **Carillon Choir**.

We will mark **PIE Day next Sunday, March 15:**

Public – Intentional – Explicit.

We welcome guest speaker Martha Robichaud

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 22, during Worship. If you haven't handed in your report, they are due now.

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 to explore 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.

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

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 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

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Food Bank (Mar 3, 17, 31)

St. James United Church

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



March 8, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

181 Portland Street
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