

▲ Rise in body or in spirit/Responses in bold

Gathering Music

Welcome/Introductions/Theme Conversation

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

Lighting the Candles

▲ We Sing – Singing Hallelujah!

Refrain

**Hey now, Singing Hallelujah!
Hey now! The morning has come!
Hey now, Singing Hallelujah!
The tomb was empty at the rising sun.**

**Jesus loved people
and he made them friends.
Hey now, the tomb was empty.
He called to the children
and the women and the men.
Hey now, the tomb was empty. Refrain**

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Come, people of God, and rejoice in the small seeds of
grace.

We come to worship the God of surprising growth.

Come with your hopes, however tiny.
God can nurture them into new life.

Come with your gifts, however modest.
God can multiply them for the good of all.

Come with your faith, however trembling.
Christ is risen, and resurrection cannot be contained.

Let us worship God with joy!
We will praise the Lord with glad hearts.

▲ We Sing – Teach Me, God, to Wonder # 299

Opening Prayer (Together)

**God of seeds and sunlight,
God of yeast and rising bread,
God of resurrection and new beginnings,
we praise you for the quiet miracles
that surround us each day.**

**You take what seems insignificant
and fill it with life.**

**You take what seems hidden
and make it a blessing for the world.**

**You take what seems finished
and raise it into something new.**

**Open our eyes to your work among us.
Open our hearts to receive your joy.
Open our lives to become places
where your kingdom grows.**

(Silent prayer)

**We turn to you,
knowing that you understand us,
forgive us, and love us like a Mother,
and so we sing 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 them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil:
for thine is the kingdom,
And the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

A Time of Wondering

Ancient Words – Matthew 13:31–32 & Matthew 13:33

Reflection – The Joy in Small Transformations

Reflective Music

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

▲ We Sing – Will You Come and Follow Me # 567

▲ A New Creed – Page 918

Invitation to Generosity and Prayer of Dedication

Kneading Our Prayers – Bread of Life MV # 194

THRESHOLD INTO GOD'S WORLD

The Life and Ministry of the Faith Community

▲ We Sing – Come Touch Our Hearts MV # 12

▲ Commissioning & Blessing

▲ Song of Dismissal – You Shall Go Out with Joy # 884

**You shall go out with joy.
And be led forth with peace.
The mountains and the hills.
Will break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy.
And all the trees of the field.
Will clap, will clap their hands.**

**And all the trees of the field.
Will clap their hands.
The trees of the field, will clap their hands.
The trees of the field, will clap their hands.
While you go out with joy!**

Liturgy – Rev. Catherine MacDonald

**THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY
This Week at St James – May 3 - May 9, 2026**

Day	What	Where	Time
Sunday	Soup Lunch & Evaluation	Gym	11:00 am
Monday	Carillon Choir	Hall	7:30 pm
Wednesday	Craft Group	Parlour	1:30 pm

Today is Red Dress Day: This day honours missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and 2 spirited people.

Soup Lunch and Interim Ministry Evaluation today with Rev. Dr. Susan MacAlpine-Gillis. (Note, lunch proceeds go to the Ecology Action Centre).

Worship Meeting next Sunday after the service.

Save the Date! Spring Tea at St. James Church Hall: to celebrate spring and say au revoir to our hall. DON'T WAIT!! This will be a very popular event. Proceeds will be split between Feed Others of Dartmouth and the church decorating fund, which will be used to create a history wall in the new space. There will also be a few surprises when you arrive!

- Saturday May 30th, 1-3 pm
- Tickets \$25 per person and MUST be prebooked, as seating will be limited. NO tickets will be sold at the door.
- Bring a friend or three to celebrate with you, and you will each take home a beautiful teacup and saucer to commemorate the occasion. If you want to book a table, you may do so as long as it is a week in advance.
- There will be a door prize draw for a beautiful spring basket. Contact Jackie Clark (we-eble@hotmail.com) or Joan Clark (joan.clark@hotmail.com) if you want to volunteer in any way or wish to book tickets. We will need people to help with setup and tear down, baking, service the day of, etc.

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!

Directory

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Food Bank (May 12, 26)

Upcoming Dates!

May 3	Soup Lunch (Proceeds to Ecology Action Centre) Interim Ministry Evaluation with Rev. Dr. Susan MacAlpine-Gillis
May 10	Joy in Finding Treasure
May 17	Joy in Inclusive Welcome & Communion
May 24	Pentecost Congregational Meeting to approve Profile & Search Committee Struck
May 31	Catherine on Vacation (Jackie Clark leading worship)
June 7	Catherine on Vacation Joint UCC Service at Cole Harbour Woodside
June 14	Congregational Meeting to approve Profile & Search Committee Struck (if it didn't take place on May 24)
June 21	Catherine's Last Sunday Release from Covenant Bells Lunch (Proceeds to Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre)

St. James United Church

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



The Joy in Transformation

May 3, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

181 Portland Street
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