

▲Rise in body or in spirit/Responses in bold

Gathering Music

Welcome/Introductions/Land Acknowledgement

Lighting the Candles
(Christ Candle, for Inclusion, for Peace)

**We light these candles as symbols
of God's presence,
which cannot be held back by distance,
which shine in each one of us,
no matter where we are.
They draw us together and light our path. Amen.**

▲Hymn – Come, Let Us Sing # 222

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Let us worship the eternal God,
**the Source of all faithfulness, who keeps promises
made to all creation.**

Let us worship Jesus Christ,
the Promised One, who lives among us.

Let us worship the Holy Spirit,
the Living Presence, who teaches us to be faithful.
To the one true God be praise in all times and places,
through the grace of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Opening Prayer (Together)

**Almighty and Gracious God, we come before You
today with hearts full of thanksgiving. Thank you for
the gift of this day and for gathering us together
in Your presence. As we begin our service, we ask that
You would quiet our minds and open our spirits. Guide
our worship, our prayers, and the sharing of Your
Word. May everything we do here bring
honor and glory to Your holy name.
In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

▲Hymn – Like a Healing Stream # 144 MV

Prayer of Confession (Together)

**Righteous God, we confess that we so easily fall into
the ways of a fractured world. Like the generations
before the flood, we allow selfishness, violence, and
disregard for Your ways to dwell within our hearts. We
grieve Your Spirit. We confess our need for
Your mercy. Forgive us for when we ignore
Your warnings, and wash us clean by Your grace.
In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

**We turn to you,
knowing that you understand us,
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 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

Theme Conversation: Staying Afloat

Ancient Words: Genesis 6-8, selected verses

Reflection: The Same Old Story II?

Reflective Music

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

▲Hymn – God of the Sparrow # 229

Our Covenant: A Song of Faith (Responsive)

Made in the image of God,
we yearn for the fulfillment that is life in God.
Yet we choose to turn away from God.
**We surrender ourselves to sin, a disposition revealed
in selfishness, cowardice, or apathy.**
Becoming bound and complacent
in a web of false desires and wrong choices,
we bring harm to ourselves and others.
**This brokenness in human life and community
is an outcome of sin.**

Sin is not only personal but accumulates
to become habitual and systemic forms
of injustice, violence, and hatred.
We sing lament and repentance.
Yet evil does not—cannot—
undermine or overcome the love of God.
God forgives,
and calls all of us to confess our fears and failings
with honesty and humility.
God reconciles,
and calls us to repent the part we have played
in damaging our world, ourselves, and each other.
God transforms,
and calls us to protect the vulnerable,
to pray for deliverance from evil,
to work with God for the healing of the world,
that all might have abundant life.
We sing of grace.

Stories of Mission and Service

Invitation to Generosity

Prayer of Dedication (Together)

**Here we are, God, as your invited family,
as those who are woven together as one by the Spirit's
power. Take what we offer: our hearts, our living, our
time, our talent, and our treasure.
May you so bless what we give that we become
transformed in a love that fosters good news
for the broader fabric of this world. Amen.**

Prayer Requests

PASTORAL PRAYER

▲ Hymn – I See a New Heaven # 713

THRESHOLD INTO GOD'S WORLD

Life and Ministry of the Faith Community

Benediction

▲ Hymn – We Will Go with God (sing twice)

We will go with God! Ho, ho, ho!
We will go with God! Ho, ho, ho!
We will go with God.
On this day of great joy
We will go with God.
On this day of great joy
We will go with God.

Prayer of Dedication, George Dunbar

THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY This Week at St James – Sep 20 - Sep 26, 2026

Day	What	Where	Time
Sunday	Coffee and Conversation	Sanctuary	11 am
Monday	Carillon Choir	Hall	7:30 pm
Wednesday	Workshop	Parlour	1:30 pm
Wednesday	Leadership Team	Parlour	7 pm
Friday	Choir	Sanctuary	9:30 am

Workshop Wednesday 1:30-3pm. Starting Sept 23.

Bring a crafting project and enjoy the fun, friendship and food! Everyone is welcome. A weekly \$2 donation goes toward the work of the church.

Wellness Wednesday, starting Sept 30: 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 27 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 27 and Oct 4.

Kin Community Brunch is back, Sunday Sep 27, 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.

SAVE THE DATE - Fall Yard Sale will be Saturday, Oct. 24, 8:00-noon

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

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.

St. James United Church

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



Sept 20, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

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

