

(Silent prayer)

▲ Rise in body or in spirit/Responses in bold

Gathering Music

Welcome/Introductions/Land Acknowledgement

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

Lighting the Candles

▲ We Sing – I Am the Light of the World # 87

Call to Worship (Responsive)

By way of beginning

We hold two truths together:

One fixed to a narrative of Creator and Creation.

The other, bound to a diversity of knowings that express
Creator in all its forms, bound to the people's
experiences of Creation as a divine being.

A Mother Earth: a caregiver and doting parent.

**Both these truths teach us that to be blessed is to be
loved, and that all of Creation is God's prayer.**

We live in light of divine mystery. A great unknowing.

**We live in light of our connectedness, to each other, to
all beings, to all things.**

We are born interdependent.

It is here that we begin this cycle of life by offering prayers
of humility, prayers of gratitude
and prayers of remembrance.

**From the fixed point of where we stand,
we are centered, and all is prayer
in every direction around us.**

Opening Prayer (Together)

**Great Mystery, creator of all;
To you we give thanks for his life,
To you we are grateful
that we are here learning all things
In this place, we are blessed.**

**We turn to you,
knowing that you understand us,
forgive us, and love us like a Mother,
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 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

FIRE

WIND

Hymn - "I Feel the Winds of God Today" - # 625

WATER

Hymn - "Shall We Gather at the River" - # 710

EARTH

Hymn - "All Things Bright and Beautiful" - # 291

Reflective Music

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

The 1998 Apology

- The Right Rev. Bill Phipps General Council Executive 1998

▲ A New Creed – Page 918

Invitation to Generosity

A Commitment to Reconciliation
(stand as you are able)

We stand as Witnesses to Reconciliation

With humility and resolve, we pledge:

1. To Learn

We will seek understanding of Indigenous
histories, cultures, and perspectives.

We will educate ourselves on the truths of colonization and
its ongoing impacts.

2. To Listen

We will center and amplify Indigenous
voices, stories, and teachings.

We will approach these with respect and an open heart.

3. To Act

We will respond to the Truth and Reconciliation
Commission's 94 Calls to Action and the Missing and
Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls,
and 2SLGBTQQIA+ Calls for Justice.

We will advocate for systemic change
and work toward decolonization.

We will support Indigenous-led initiatives.

4. To Acknowledge and Reflect

We will recognize our roles in these processes
—past, present, and future.

We will strive to be good ancestors, leaving
a legacy of justice and equity.

5. To Stay Accountable

We will welcome discomfort as part of
growth and accountability.

We will hold ourselves and others
to the principles of Reconciliation.

We make this commitment as witnesses to Truth,
supporters of Reconciliation,
and guardians of future generations.
So it is, and so we will strive.

THRESHOLD INTO GOD’S WORLD

The Life and Ministry of the Faith Community

▲ Hymn – He Leadeth Me # 657

▲ Commissioning & Blessing

Let Creator and Sustainer of Life
Grant us Grace and Mercy for the difficult journey ahead
We seek to repair our past, going forward on a shared road
of blessing and goodwill.

Grant us Peace and Knowledge to know your ways
We seek a new path that supports those in need and those
who struggle in these times.

Grant us Purpose and Commitment
to make collective choices
We seek to act for the care of our neighbours,
and for the wellbeing of our communities.

May we contend with our history in healing ways
May we seek a new unity
and the promise of a new beginning.

Let us go into the world with gratitude
partnering with friends and neighbours
as we seek God’s love and peace
May God, who loves us from our burning cry,
go with us.

May Jesus, who welcomes us into relationship,
stay with us.

And may the Spirit’s persistent call for peace
be with us.

This day. This week. And always. Amen.

▲ Song of Dismissal – Sent Forth by God’s Blessing –
481

**THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY
This Week at St James – Sep 27 - Oct 3, 2026**

Day	What	Where	Time
Sunday	Coffee and Conversation	Sanctuary	11 am
Monday	Carillon Choir	Hall	7:30 pm
Tuesday	Food Bank	Hall	8:38-11 am
Wednesday	Wellness	Gym	11 am
Wednesday	Workshop	Parlour	1:30 pm
Wednesday	Leadership Team	Parlour	7 pm
Friday	Choir	Sanctuary	9:30 am

We thank Jackie Clark for leading us this Sunday, as we mark **National Day for Truth & Reconciliation**, honouring the lost children and survivors of residential schools.

Wellness Wednesday, starting Sept 30: Join us once again for chair yoga, lunch (free!) interesting speakers and an opportunity to get to know one another.

Join us for a **Soup Luncheon next Sunday** after the service. Our Leadership Team will provide a regular update. Proceeds to Camp Kidston.

We invite you to participate in our **Thanksgiving Table** in support of our Food Bank today and Oct 4.

Kin Community Brunch is back today, East Dartmouth Community Centre, 50 Caledonia Rd.

SAVE THE DATE - Fall Yard Sale Saturday Oct. 24, 8-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!

St. James United Church

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



Sept 27, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

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

