

▲ 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.**

▲ We Sing – And on this Path # 8 MV

**And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!**

**So enter in the gates of holiness are open wide,
So enter in the gates of holiness are open wide,
So enter in the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!**

Call to Worship (Responsive)

We are met in the presence of God
And we do not meet alone.
With the angels in the highest heaven
With Abraham and Sarah
With the saints of every age
We gather to worship the Lord.
We embark on our own journey of faith
For God makes of us a great people
God's Holy name be praised
We journey in the presence of God.
And we do not journey alone.

▲ Hymn – Give to Us Laughter # 624

Opening Prayer (Together)

**God of promises fulfilled,
we gather as descendants of Abraham;
we stand before you
as faithful testimony to your covenant;
we assemble as living proof
that your love for humanity
knows no limits.
we need only see the light of a single candle
to remember the one you sent
as our light, our strength, and our salvation.
We pray now in the name of that light, Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

(Silent prayer)

**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: Would you believe?

Ancient Words: Genesis 12:1-9, 15, selected verses

Reflection: The Same Old Story III?

Reflective Music

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

▲ Hymn – To Abraham and Sarah # 634

Our Covenant: A Song of Faith (Responsive)

The fullness of life includes
moments of unexpected inspiration and courage lived out,
experiences of beauty, truth, and goodness,
blessings of seeds and harvest,
friendship and family, intellect and sexuality,
**the reconciliation of persons through justice
and communities living in righteousness,
and the articulation of meaning.**
And so we sing of God the Spirit,
**who from the beginning has swept
over the face of creation,
animating all energy and matter
and moving in the human heart.**

We sing of God the Spirit,
**faithful and untameable,
who is creatively and redemptively active in the world.**

The Spirit challenges us to celebrate the holy
**not only in what is familiar,
but also in that which seems foreign.**

We sing of the Spirit,
**who speaks our prayers of deepest longing
and enfolds our concerns and confessions,
transforming us and the world.**

Stories of Mission and Service

Invitation to Generosity

Prayer of Dedication (Together)

**Faithful God,
you have kept your promises to us.
Our lives give witness
to your abundant blessings.
May we faithfully keep**

our promises to you.
 Your love sustains us,
 guides us, and empowers us.
 Take these gifts as signs of our promise
 to give ourselves completely into your care—
 to live without fear;
 to trust your love without reservation. Amen.

Prayer Requests

Pastoral Prayer

▲ Hymn – Great is Thy Faithfulness! # 288

THRESHOLD INTO GOD’S WORLD

Life and Ministry of the Faith Community

Commissioning and Benediction

▲ Hymn – We Will Go with God # 223 MV (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.

THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY This Week at St James – Oct 04 - Oct 10, 2026

Day	What	Where	Time
Sunday	Soup Lunch	Hall	11 am
Monday	Carillon Choir	Hall	7:30 pm
Wednesday	Workshop	Parlour	1:30 pm
Friday	Choir	Sanctuary	9:30 am

Thank you again to **Susan Reid** for her leadership today.

Join us for a **Soup Luncheon** after the service, where our Leadership Team will provide a regular update. Proceeds will go to Camp Kidston.

Thank you to those who have participated in our **Thanksgiving Table** in support of our Food Bank.

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

On **October 25th** we will have a **Musical Service**, featuring the senior and handbell choirs, with the theme “If you want to walk on water you have to get out of the boat!”. There will be hymns, and if you have a hymn for consideration, let us know the reason why.

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.

Directory

Music Director: Dean Bradshaw
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Food Bank (Oct 13, 27)

St. James United Church

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



Oct 4, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

181 Portland Street
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