

St James United Church

400 Burnhamthorpe Road, Etobicoke M9B 2A8 416-622-4113

www.stjamesunitedchurch.com

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StJamesEtobicoke>

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023

10:30 am

THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Epiphany 3

Gōng Xǐ Fāi Cái! Gong Hay Fat Choy! Happy Year of the Rabbit!

Welcome!

*We are glad you have joined us in worship.
May you feel the warmth of God's presence.*

Our Mission:

To live God's love through our actions: Seek, Serve, Challenge.

WE GATHER AND APPROACH GOD

***Bold** indicates words said by **All**

❖ Indicates when one may stand in body or spirit

PRELUDE

Morning Has Broken (arr. Pepper Choplin)
J.-C. Coolen, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alex Grant-Henderson

CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING (based on John 8.12)

"I am the light of the world," Jesus said.

"Whoever follows me will have the light of life."

INTROIT ANTHEM

The Light of the World! (Don Besig)
Karen MacLeod, soprano
Joyce Wilson, alto
Adam Wicks, tenor

Bill Price, baritone
 Chancel Choir
 J.-C. Coolen, Chancel Choir director

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sisters and brothers, we gather here
 in the name of the Father, of the Son
 and of the Holy Spirit.

**By the waters of baptism,
 we have become members of the Body of Christ,
 yet sometimes we have caused pain and trauma
 to each other.**

As we gather, let us reflect on our actions and
 learn to do good and seek justice.

We need God's grace to overcome our divisions and
 to uproot systems and structures that have contributed
 to the fracturing of our communities.

**We gather to pray to reinforce the unity
 that we have as Christians to “open our hearts”,
 that we may be bold in finding the riches of
 inclusion and the treasures of diversity among us.**

We gather to worship God.

Adapted from the resource written by Amy Gohdes-Luhman, Waconia Moravian Church, Minnesota. Ecumenical Resource for the the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 2023. Use of resource in congregational worship is encouraged; no permission required for such a purpose.

❖ OPENING HYMN *Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works* VU 308

Organ: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 Many and great, O God, are your works,
 Maker of earth and sky.
 Your hands have set the heavens with stars,
 your fingers spread the mountains and plains.
 Lo, at your word the waters were formed;
 deep seas obey your voice.
- 2 Grant unto us communion with you,
 O star-abiding one.
 Come unto us and dwell with us,

with you are found the gifts of life.
 Bless us with life that has no end,
 eternal life with you.

Words: Dakota hymn, Joseph R. Renville; para. Philip Frazier. Public Domain.

OPENING PRAYER

God of all, our hearts and bodies are thankful
 for this opportunity to come before you.

**Together we come before you, a holy family,
 united in the beautiful diversity of your Creation:
 some of us are Indigenous people,
 some of us are descendants of the enslaved,
 some of us are descendants of the colonizers,
 some of us are migrants,
 some of us are refugees,
 but all of us are part of the one Body of Christ.**

We praise you that through the living waters of baptism
 we are healed, as we become part of the beloved community,
 the family of God.

We offer our thanksgiving and praise to you, Creator God.

Together on this journey, we celebrate with our hearts
 and eyes open to understanding and growing in sacred wisdom
 that is shared and passed amongst all people.

**Help us to embrace unity with each other,
 and remind us that we are of one family
 gathered by your Holy Spirit, in the midst of your Creation.
 Amen.**

Adapted from the resource written by Amy Gohdes-Luhman, Waconia Moravian Church, Minnesota. Ecumenical Resource for the the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 2023. Use of resource in congregational worship is encouraged; no permission required for such a purpose.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S HYMN

Upstairs? Downstairs?

vs. 1 & 2

Organ: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister
 Upstairs? Downstairs? God is there!
 God is here and everywhere.
 In the church and in the street

God is there for all to meet.

Meet in circles, large and small,
We keep listening to God's call,
Keen in love and faith to grow,
More of Christ-for-life to know.

Words: Fred Kaan. © 1989 Hope Publishing Company. Reproduced under One License #A-622413.

A TIME OF WONDER

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Upstairs? Downstairs?* **vs. 3**

Organ: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Adults:

As you leave us, so we pray:
"Peace be with you on your way"

Children & Youth:

Peace with you who stay behind,
God be in your heart and mind.

Words: Fred Kaan. © 1989 Hope Publishing Company. Reproduced under One License #A-622413.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 9.1-4
Matthew 4.12-23

SERMON

A Coming Kingdom

Rev. Brian McIntosh

RESPONDING TO GOD

❖SERMON HYMN *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing* **VU 559**

Organ: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 Come, O Fount of every blessing,
 tune my heart to sing your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing
 call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
 sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it,
 mount of God's unfailing love.

- 2 Here I pause in my sojourning,
 giving thanks for having come,
 come to trust, at every turning,
 God will guide me safely home.
 Jesus sought me when a stranger,
 wandering from the fold of God,
 came to rescue me from danger,
 precious presence, precious blood.
- 3 O, to grace how great a debt
 or daily I am drawn anew!
 Let that grace now, like a fetter,
 bind my wandering heart to you.
 Prone to wander, I can feel it,
 wander from the love I've known:
 here's my heart, O, take and seal it,
 seal it for your very own.

Words: Robert Robinson, alt. Public Domain; word alterations © 1993 The Pilgrim Press. Reproduced under One License #A-622413.

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Let Your Light Shine!* (Don Besig)
 Senior Choir
 J.-C. Coolen, Senior Choir director

OFFERTORY RESPONSE *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*
 Tune: ABBOT'S LEIGH VU 512 *vs. 3, alt.*
 Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Treasure, God, you have entrusted,
 gain through powers your grace conferred;
 Ours to use for home and kindred,
 and to spread the Gospel Word.
 Open wide our hands in sharing,
 as we heed Christ's ageless call,
 Healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
 serving you by loving all.

Words: Robert L. Edwards, alt. © 1961, 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company. Reproduced under One License #A-622413.

OFFERTORY PRAYER**PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER****❖ CLOSING HYMN *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*****VU 602**

Organ: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the unity of heart and mind
is like to that above.

- 2 Before our Maker's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

- 3 We share each other's woes,
each other's burdens bear;
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.

- 4 This glorious hope revives
our courage on the way;
that we shall live in perfect love
in God's eternal day.

Words: John Fawcett, alt. Public Domain.

❖ BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**❖ CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING *Prayer of Dedication***

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Go with us, Lord, as now we depart,
Calming the fears that trouble each heart.
Keep us all in your grace
Until we come, again, to this place.

Now we will walk in peace with the Lord,
Living in faith and teaching His word.

Share His love every day,
For He has surely shown us the way! Amen.

Words: Nancy Price and Don Besig. © 1991 Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.
Reproduced under One License #A-622413.

POSTLUDE ***Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*** (arr. Joel Raney)
J.-C. Coolen, piano

* * * * *

Giving leadership in today's service:

Rev. Brian McIntosh, Guest Minister - Bloordale United Church

J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Karen MacLeod, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist Supply

Adam Wicks, Tenor Choral Lead/Soloist

Bill Price, Baritone Choral Lead/Soloist Emeritus

St. James Senior Choir

St. James Chancel Choir

Alex Grant-Henderson, Presider

We are also thankful for those serving as tech support:

Gord Burrell, Don Munday, Mary Paras, Andrew Paley.

God bless our greeter: Nancy Cormier and ushers: Brenda Beaton, John Beaton,
and Tony Gray, as well as those providing hospitality after the service.

* * * * *

NEXT WEEK: January 29, 2023 – Epiphany 4 - Communion

Psalm 15; Micah 6.1-8; Matthew 5.1-12; 1 Corinthians 1.18-31.

* * * * *

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we **welcome** the **Rev. Brian McIntosh** of Bloordale UC to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. So often United Churches find themselves competing with each other for membership. The partnership that we have Bloordale UC is an example of the discipleship of Christ that we all share.

The Reverend Brian McIntosh was ordained in Toronto in 1988, has served in Congregations in the Maritimes until 1999 and since then here in Toronto, at Bloordale United Church since 2008.

Brian has always tried to encourage ecumenical cooperation locally and beyond, and currently is an active member of the Kairos Toronto West group and a leader within the 427 Ministerial. Social justice is a passion for Brian, particularly seeking right relations with Indigenous peoples, as he was a founding leader of

the Living Into Right Relations Circle of the United Church's Toronto Conference in 1999 and has served in the Circle ever since.

Brian also has helped the congregations he's served undertake refugee sponsorships, address poverty, the environment and climate change, community development, racism, and various other justice issues, and cares deeply about fostering interfaith cooperation. Brian is the current Chair of the Central Etobicoke Community Hub Initiative (CECHI), and serves on the Shining Waters Regional Council's Community Ministry Board as well.

Brian was the 1998 recipient of the Fredericton YMCA Peace Medallion, is the proud father of two adult daughters, Lydia and Sarah, and is the happy husband of Debbie. Welcome Rev. Brian!

* * * * *

Today's M & S bulletin covers have been donated by Carol Jones and Gord Burrell in honour of the people of St. James.

* * * * *

In-Person Worship: During in-person worship on Sundays, at 10:30 a.m., we will continue to sit socially distanced and wear masks. Congregational singing is allowed in the Sanctuary. After-Church Hospitality will be offered in Fellowship Hall following worship.

* * * * *

There is **Sunday School** available for students in JK through Grade 12. Children leave for their classes following the children's time (A Time of Wonder). We also have a staffed nursery for preschoolers. Please ask an usher if you need help finding it.

* * * * *

Next Sunday our Communion Outreach Offering will be received for the United Church Mission & Service Fund. At a time when it feels like there's a new crisis confronting us each and every day, it's reassuring to know that Mission & Service partners provide real-time relief around the world on a daily basis.

Program Coordinator for Sustainable Development and Humanitarian Response at The United Church of Canada, Thivan Hoang, reminds us, "There is no 'us' and 'them.' We are one community."

* * * * *

Our **Bible Study** group meets on **Mondays at 1 pm online only**. Please join in discussing the upcoming scripture readings each week. **New members are welcome, make the resolution to learn more about the Bible!**

All you need are questions and curiosity, as well as any version of the Bible (except the Good News Bible). The meeting code for online participants is as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87231297360?pwd=NzVubjZnbjZsUEdmRG84MzFPaTZlQT09>

Meeting ID: 872 3129 7360

Passcode: 983213

One tap mobile +12042727920, 87231297360# Canada

+1 647 374 4685 Canada; +1 647 558 0588 Canada

* * * * *

Hands on Reiki is available **Monday afternoons from 1-3 p.m. & Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m.** Sign-up sheets are in the binder in the Well Being waiting room or call the office at 416-622-4113 and book with Matty.

* * * * *

Euchre at St James - Come join us on January 24 at 1:30 PM. The cost is \$5. Don't know how to play, we will teach you. Everyone is welcome.

* * * * *

YOGA!! Yoga is on Wednesday from 10:30 - 11:30 am in the Lounge. Classes will run each Wednesday until February 15th. There will be a drop-in price of \$20 per session for anyone who has not yet registered.

* * * * *

The Junior-Youth Choir rehearses this coming Thursday, January 26, 6:30-7:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We welcome all choristers ages 5-18 to join us in singing together! To participate in the Junior/Youth Choir, and for rehearsal information, please contact Adam Wicks, Interim Junior-Youth Choir Director, at adampatwicks@gmail.com.

* * * * *

The Senior Choir will rehearse this Thursday, January 26, at 7:15 p.m., while the **Chancel Choir** will rehearse at 9 p.m. Both will rehearse in the Sanctuary and over Zoom. To participate in the Senior and/or Chancel Choirs, and for rehearsal information, including Zoom meeting codes and updated COVID rehearsal modifications, please contact J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister, at (905) 683-5757 or jccoolen@sympatico.ca.

* * * * *

Our final **Re-Envisioning Meeting** will take place on **Saturday, January 28 at 10:30 am - 12:30 pm** over Zoom with our consultant **Duane Whittey** in St. John, New Brunswick and **Rev. Brigid Maya**. We will be encouraged to look back at our latest accomplishments and to look forward and plan our next moves. Programming, renovations, initiatives... OH MY!! All who are interested, even if you've missed the other meetings, youth, new members, and long-time members are welcome to grab a hot chocolate, tea or coffee and please **JOIN US** online.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84462428150?pwd=OHRtRXEwRWWhXUVEzaytUMTFwN3gvZz09>

Meeting ID: 844 6242 8150

Passcode: 424044

One tap mobile

+17789072071,,84462428150# Canada

+17806660144,,84462428150# Canada

Dial by your location:

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

* * * * *

Fun Family-Oriented Film and Faith Series! Join us after church on Sunday, January 29th in the sanctuary for the first episode!

"What's in the Bible?" is a series of DVDs that has been created by Phil Vischer (creator of VeggieTales) to answer some important questions (What is the Bible? Who wrote the Bible? Why do we pay more attention to some parts than others?). It is done in a family-friendly way, with short skits, humorous puppetry and songs that are entertaining for children and adults alike. Each episode is only 25 minutes long. The CD Committee is planning on continuing to offer this series for online viewing, but would like to encourage everyone who is able to attend to come to the "live launch" next Sunday to find out what it is all about! You will have time to grab a drink and cookie in Fellowship Hall if you wish, and then come back to the sanctuary at 12 noon for the 30-minute session before heading home.

* * * * *

Gong Xi Fai Cai. Gong Hay Fat Choy Happy New Year of the Rabbit to everyone celebrating the Lunar New Year! Virginia and Sim Wong recommend Congee Queen, 1911 Dundas St. W (at Hwy 427) (See menu at congeequeen.com - Etobicoke location) If you would like to join us there for lunch after church on Sunday, February 5, please contact Phyl Hampshire, and she will make the appropriate reservations! Contact her at 905 712 4801 or phylhamps@gmail.com

* * * * *

Volunteers Needed! St James is hosting this area's 2023 World Day of Prayer Service on March 3rd, 2023. The service has been written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Taiwan. We are looking for people who would be willing to be part of a planning team, which includes volunteers from all the participating churches in this area. We will also need volunteers to help with food, displays

on Taiwan and other hosting responsibilities closer to the day. To volunteer for any of these roles or for further information contact Linda Maw (416-620-9508).

* * * * *

Spring Fling - April 22 If you are spending the cold, grey days clearing drawers and closets, please save your Treasures, games, puzzles, toys, books in GOOD condition, jewelry, etc. Please keep at home until further notice as storage at church is extremely limited!

* * * * *

Spring Fling Help needed! If you are able to help with set-up on Friday April 21 and/or Saturday April 22 Please contact area leaders: Baking- Karen Munday, Books - Linda Maw, Treasures and Jewelry- Joanne Atkins, Lila Bowen, Nancy Polito, Toys, Games, Jigsaws - Mhairi Godley, Kitchen - Jennifer Gray, Jean Spencer. All contact info in Church Directory!

* * * * *

Alto Choral Lead/Soloist Position Available - We are looking for a candidate to succeed Renee Fajardo as our Alto Choral Lead/Soloist. We are looking for a permanent candidate; however, in the interim, we're also looking for, and open to, short- or mid-term supply. If you know of a potential candidate, or if you know of someone who might know of potential candidates, please share with them the position job description, found here:

<http://stjamesunitedchurch.jccoolen.ca/Position%20Description%20-%20Section%20Lead%2BSoloist%20-%20Alto%20%282023-01-17%29.pdf> Thank you!

* * * * *

It has been in the news lately that a lot of people who ordered food from Walmart now have large numbers of their recyclable, fibre bags. If this is true for you, the Food Basket would love to receive them! And, of course, we are still collecting used egg cartons!

* * * * *



Please consider making a gift to the financial health of St. James. If you would like, the QR code will take you to the St. James United website where you can make an electronic donation. Thank you.

SCAN TO DONATE

* * * * *

Notification Process in case a Worship Service Needs to be Cancelled: If a Worship Service needs to be cancelled due to extreme weather conditions, a

power outage, or a Covid-19 related situation, the congregation will be notified as follows: The decision to cancel a Service will be made hopefully Saturday and the Telephone and Email Networks will be activated. A message will be put on the website as well. If the decision cannot be made until Sunday morning, the Telephone and Email Networks will be started no later than 8:00 a.m. Please ensure that you are on either the Telephone or Email Network lists.

* * * * *

FUTURE SERVICES:

January 29, 2023 is the **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany** and **Communion Sunday**.

February 5, 2023 begins our Black History Month services.

February, 12, 2023 the **Rev. Eleanor Scarlett** will be our guest minister.

February 19, 2023 is **Transfiguration Sunday**. We will celebrate the conclusion of our Epiphany moments with **Communion** as we prepare to head into Lent. There is a **Unified Board meeting** scheduled for after service.

February 26, 2023 is our **First Sunday of Lent** and we will have our final **Black History Month Celebration!**

* * * * *