

Order of Service

St. James United Church

10:30 am, SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026

Third Sunday after Epiphany
HOLY COMMUNION

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.

GATHERING

Bold indicates words said by All

❖ Indicates when one may stand in body or spirit

PRELUDE	Afton Water (Colin Hand)	Jacqueline Sadler
GATHERING SONG	Come In, Come In and Sit Down	VU 395, refrain only
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS		Alex Grant-Henderson
LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT		
CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING		
CALL TO WORSHIP		
OPENING PRAYER		
❖ OPENING HYMN	Worship The Lord	VU 401, v 1, 2, 3
PASSING THE PEACE		
SUNG:	I Have Decided to Follow Jesus	
ANTHEM	At The Table of the Lord Music & Words by Joseph M. Martin & David Angerman	Senior Choir
DISCERNING		
COMMUNION HYMN	Worship the Lord	VU 401, v 4
COMMUNION		

SUNG RESPONSE One Bread, One Body VU 467

THE PRAYER OF JESUS (Spoken)

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 4:12-22 NRSVUE Alex Grant-Henderson

FAITH TALK "Follow Me" Debbie Johnson

❖**HYMN OF RESPONSE** I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

RESPONDING

CALL FOR OFFERING

SONG OF THANKS Fish With Me (Ken Canedo) Mich Anger and Kit Cooney

❖**OFFERTORY RESPONSE** Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow VU 541

❖**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

PASTORAL PRAYER

SUNG RESPONSE I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

❖**CLOSING HYMN** Jesus Calls Us VU 562

SCATTERING

❖**BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**

❖**CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING** Prayer of Dedication

POSTLUDE The Strong-Tower-Postlude (Matthew Nagel) Jacqueline Sadler

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Giving leadership in today's service:

Presider: Alex Grant-Henderson

Guest Preacher: Rev. Debbie Johnson

Guest Music Director: Jacqueline Sadler

Sunday School Coordinator: Karen Forgrave

St. James Senior Choir

Section Leads/Soloists: Mich Anger, Kit Cooney, Kate Etienne

Reader: Alex Grant-Henderson

Tech Support: Mary Paras, Trinity Reid

Greeters: Patrick & Sylvie Ty

Ushers: Tony Gray (Captain), James Ankrah, Regina Ankrah, Eileen McAuley

Hospitality: Barb Gladden (Leader), Janet Van Melle, Albert Conforzi, James & Regina Ankrah

NEXT SERVICES:

Sunday, February 1, 2026, 10:30 AM - Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.

Guest preacher: HyeLim Yoon

Sunday, February 8, 2026, 10:30 AM - Fifth Sunday after Epiphany. Guest preacher: Pegi Ridout.

Sunday, February 15, 2026, 10:30 AM - Transfiguration Sunday.
Guest preacher: Wendy Cranston

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome back this morning, Rev Debbie Johnson. During Rev. Richard's Sabbatical, Rev. Debbie Johnson has agreed to serve as our Pastoral Charge Supervisor. Debbie is familiar to many at St. James and is delighted to be back with us and participating in worship during this sabbatical time. Debbie is a "semi-retired" minister and continues to be a Voluntary Associate Minister with both NBUC, Brampton (a congregation she served for 11 years) and Home United Church, Caledon, where she has also served at various times over the last 10 years.

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With heavy hearts, the Bond family has shared that John Bond passed away January 15, 2026. He and his beloved wife Betty Ruth joined St. James United Church in January 1979, 47 years ago. John enjoyed serving as a great usher with Tony Gray for many years. John and Betty Ruth gave out food baskets as part of their way of caring for others around them. Betty Ruth adored singing in the choir for so very many years. The Sympathy of the congregation is extended to them and they are in our thoughts and prayers during this time. A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, June 14, 2026 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Turner & Porter Yorke Chapel (2357 Bloor Street West, Toronto). For those who wish, donations may be made to the charity of your choice. To read John's obituary, please visit:

<https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/47037282/john-ernest-bond>

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Happy Birthday to our St. James family members who celebrate their birthdays this coming week. We are glad you were born and give God thanks for your life: Andrew Paley January 27, Ben Skopiwsky, Aldo Violo January 30. Please note: If you would like your birthday or special anniversary recognized by our community, please let the office know (416-622-4113) the day and month. The year of birth is optional.

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Transition Coffee Discussion

Today, January 25 after church there will be another coffee discussion in the Lounge on the topic: What is it that I/we value at St. James?

This will be a 30-minute informal discussion and all are welcome. These discussions are to provide information for the future search team for our minister. Please bring your coffee and join in.

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If you wear snow boots to church or if your shoes get wet before you enter the building, please bring a dry pair of shoes to change into once inside. This will help save our floors and rugs. Thank you.

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We are pleased to announce that hands on Reiki is available on Monday afternoons from 1-3 p.m., as well as, Tuesday nights 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.

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Our next January Euchre date is: January 27 at 1:30 pm. Cost is \$5. All are welcome.

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Yoga - Wednesdays at 11 am and Saturday mornings at 10 am \$25/class for drop in.

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Chill & Be Still – Winter Yoga Retreat

Do you experience January blues or February blahs? Join us for an exploration of what it means to embrace the cold weather in a different way. Using yoga, discussion, and journaling, we'll explore ways

to come into harmony with the season. Date: January 31, 2026, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm, Well Being Room.

Cost: \$40

Contact: Nancy Violo at nancyviolo3@gmail.com to register

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How We Got To Jersey: A Tale Of Two Frankies

Thursday, Feb 12 - 7:30pm

Leah Posluns Theatre

Prosserman JCC

4588 Bathurst St, North York, ON

leahposlunstheatre.com

How We Got To Jersey: A Tale Of Two Frankies is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to hear not one, but TWO Frankie Vallis in a show-stopping concert performance that takes you behind the scenes of the blockbuster Broadway smash hit, ***Jersey Boys***. Find out how two small-town Canadian kids, one of them our own Adrian Marchuk, grew up to BOTH play a bonafide Rock-And-Roll Hall-Of-Fame superstar on stages around the world, to an audience of millions.

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SAVE THE DATE AND HELP SPREAD THE WORD On Thursday, February 19 at 2pm in the Lounge, St. James will be hosting a presentation on “How to build an Estate Binder for your Executor” given by Tammy Hepditch of Ridley Funeral Home. This presentation identifies and describes a list of critical details and documents we should all consider including when assembling a kit to ease the burden on an Executor later. POSTERS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE HALLWAY OR THE CHURCH OFFICE.

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Want to Learn Reiki? Reiki is a gentle, safe, spiritual, hands-on approach to activate your own and others natural ability to heal. Anyone can learn this amazing gift. Friday eve to Sunday afternoon, March 20-22 with Rev. Coral Prebble and Shirley Healy. This Level I Reiki Training will take place at Thornhill Square Shopping Centre, 300 John St. Unit 275, Thornhill, ON. (2nd floor across from elevators). The cost is \$250. Pick up a registration form in the Well-Being waiting room.

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Stewardship Second: In order for you to grow closer to God, what do you need to give away?

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Notification Process in case a Worship Service Needs to be Cancelled: If a Worship Service needs to be cancelled due to extreme weather conditions or a power outage, the congregation will be notified as follows: The decision to cancel a Service will be made hopefully Saturday and the Email Network will be activated. A message will be put on the website as well. If the decision cannot be made until Sunday morning, the Email Network will be started no later than 8:00 am. Please ensure that you are on the Email Network list in order to receive notification.

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