

Order of Service

St. James United Church

10:30 am, SUNDAY, July 26, 2026

Summer Joint Service with Richview United Church

Pentecost 9

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	Offertoire (By Jacques-Nicholas Lemmens)	Adrian Marchuk - organ
GATHERING SONG	What Does the Lord Require of You	VU 701
LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT		
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS		Mhairi Godley
CALL TO WORSHIP		
CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING		
OPENING PRAYER		
❖ GATHERING HYMN	Called by Earth and Sky	MV 135
PASSING OF THE PEACE	We Are Family (Sister Sledge)	
PRAYER OF JESUS (SPOKEN)		

DISCERNING

SCRIPTURE READING	1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:5-12	Mhairi Godley
-------------------	-------------------------	---------------

SOLO:	Where Do I Go? (From "Hair") by MacDermot, Rado, Ragni	Adrian Marchuk
FAITH TALK	Where is the World's Wisdom?	Rev. Dr. Alexa Gilmour

RESPONDING

❖ HYMN OF RESPONSE	Spirit, Open My Heart	MV 79
CALL FOR OFFERING		
SONG OF THANKS	Unwritten (by Natasha Bedingfield)	Kit Cooney Adrian Marchuk
❖ OFFERTORY RESPONSE	Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow	VU 541
❖ OFFERTORY PRAYER		
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE		
SUNG RESPONSE	Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying	VU 400
❖ CLOSING HYMN	I, the Lord of Sea and Sky	VU 509

SCATTERING

❖ BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH		
❖ SUNG BENEDICTION	Prayer Of Dedication	
POSTLUDE	I, The Lord Of Sea And Sky	Adrian Marchuk - organ

* * * * *

Giving leadership in today's service:

Guest Minister: Rev. Dr. Alexa Gilmour
 Presider: Mhairi Godley
 Music Director: Adrian Marchuk
 Section Leads/Soloists: Kit Cooney
 Reader: Mhairi Godley
 Tech Support: Andrew Paley, Mary Paras
 Greeters: Nancy Cormier, Jim Cormier
 Ushers: Randy Wilson (Captain), Nancy Cormier, Jim Cormier
 Hospitality: Eileen McAuley, Marg Arscott

The Church Office will be CLOSED on Monday, August 3, for the Civic Holiday.

SUMMER SERVICES:

Sunday Worship Services in August will be at 10:30 a.m. with our friends at **Richview United Church**, located at 149 Wellesworth Dr. Etobicoke, ON M9C 4R8.

* * * * *

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each week, the Shining Waters Regional Council asks that we pray for each other's congregations in support of our ministries: McKeller United Church; Trinity United Church, Gravenhurst; St. Mark's United Church, Scarborough.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome this morning, Rev. Dr. Alexa Gilmour, as our guest minister. The Rev. Dr. Alexa Gilmour is a United Church of Canada minister and elected member of the Provincial Legislature, representing Parkdale—High Park. As a minister and politician, her faith has led her to care for and invite neighbours to be co-creators of a more just, equitable, and sustainable world. She has received awards and recognition for her work from all levels of government, academia and civil society. Her writing has been featured in Broadview Magazine, and she has a book chapter called "Public Witness in the Local Congregation," in *For the Sake of the Common Good: Essays in Honour of Lois M Wilson*. She's married to Adrian Marchuk, has 5 wonderful children and 2 dogs to love.

* * * * *

We give a warm welcome to our friends from Richview United Church who are joining us for worship this morning.

* * * * *

The congregation (members and adherents) are invited to a short Congregational Meeting on Zoom on Wednesday, July 29 at 7:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the Search Team for a new Minister. The Unified Board has already voted to approve the proposed Search Team; United Church rules state that now the congregation must approve the team as well. (After that, Shining Waters Region must also approve our Search Team.) Here is the Zoom information for Wednesday's meeting:

Topic: Congregational Meeting

Time: Jul 29, 2026 07:30 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89544549228?pwd=LF4AsnOXFShUu3OhmiQqNmipyECsTG.1>

Meeting ID: 895 4454 9228

Passcode: 497035

* * * * *

Dear friends, our office hours will vary in August as Matty Wallace will be on holidays.

Please see the schedule below.

Monday 10 am to 2 pm

Tuesday 10 am to 2 pm

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday 9 am to 4:30 pm

Friday 9 am to 4:30 pm

* * * * *

A Celebration of Life Service will be held in honour of David ("Dave") Maw on Saturday, August 29, 2026, at 11 am here at St. James United Church. The service will be followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall. To read David's obituary, please visit:

[Obituary information for David Russell Maw](#)

* * * * *

Upcoming Book Study

Book: *The Bible and Homosexuality for Progressive Christians* by Donald Schmidt

Dates: Mondays, October 19 and 26, and November 2 and 9, 2026

Time: 7:00–9:00 pm.

Format: Zoom

* * * * *

SAVE THE DATE! Our St. James Dinner, Silent Auction, and Live Auction will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2026. Mark your calendars now and start thinking about friends and family you can invite! This year, we're simplifying the auction by focusing on gift cards/certificates to local businesses as well as live auction items and experiences. If you have connections with local restaurants, spas, salons, shops, theatres, sporting venues, or other businesses, please consider requesting a donation. Generic request letters (including our charity number) are available in the Auction Mail Slot in the hall for you to take when visiting a business. Thank you for helping make this event a success!