

Order of Service

St. James United Church

10:30 am, SUNDAY, October 25, 2026

Hymn Singing Sunday

Reformation Sunday

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	Prelude in C Major (By J. S. Bach)	Adrian Marchuk - organ
GATHERING SONG	Come, Let Us Sing	VU 222
LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT		
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS		Albert Conforzi
CALL TO WORSHIP	Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing	VU 223
CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING	I Am Sending You Light	TLUS 99 Soloist: Kit Cooney
OPENING PRAYER		
SUNG RESPONSE	Where Two or Three Are Gathered	MV 14
❖ GATHERING HYMN	God Lights a Lamp	TLUS 6 Kit Cooney - flute
PASSING OF THE PEACE	We Are Family (Sister Sledge)	
TIME WITH THE YOUNG	Sing (The Carpenters)	

PRAYER OF JESUS (SUNG)

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL Come, Children, Join to Sing VU 345 v.1

SOLO Queerly Beloved TLUS 31
Soloist: Kit Cooney

DISCERNING

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 98 Albert Conforzi

FAITH TALK "He Who Sings, Prays Twice" Adrian Marchuk

SOLO Ave Maria (Gounod/Bach) Gabe Vaillant – tenor

RESPONDING

❖ **HYMN OF RESPONSE** Oh a Song Must Rise MV 142
Patrick Ty - saxophone

CALL FOR OFFERING

SONG OF THANKS Hallelujah Amy Holden - soprano
words and music by Leonard Cohen

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SUNG RESPONSE How Deep the Peace MV 95

❖ **CLOSING HYMN** There's a Wild Hope in the Wind TLUS 64
Albert Conforzi – trumpet
Kit Cooney – flute
Patrick Ty – saxophone

SCATTERING

❖ **BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**

❖ **SUNG BENEDICTION** God Be with You till We Meet Again VU 422, v.1,2

POSTLUDE Hallelujah Adrian Marchuk - organ

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Giving leadership in today's service:

Presider: Albert Conforzi

Music Director: Adrian Marchuk

Section Leads/Soloists: Kit Cooney, Gabe Vaillant, Amy Holden

Guest Musicians: Albert Conforzi, Kit Cooney, Patrick Ty

Reader: Albert Conforzi

Sunday School Director: Karen Forgrave

Tech Support: Andrew Paley, Mary Paras

Greeter: Eileen McAuley

Ushers: Brian Isard (Captain), Bob Harris, Eleanor Harris, Marie Truelove

Hospitality: Carol Jones (L), Al Graham, Jim Cormier, Nancy Cormier

NEXT SERVICES:

Sunday, November 1, 2026, 10:30 AM – 23rd Sunday after Pentecost. All Saints Day.

Sunday, November 8, 2026, 10:30 AM – 24th Sunday after Pentecost. Remembrance Sunday.

Sunday, November 15, 2026, 10:30 AM – 25th Sunday after Pentecost. Children's Sunday.

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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: Alderwood United Church, Toronto; Asbury and West United Church, Toronto; Toronto Christian Resource Centre.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Book Club: As a preliminary step in becoming an Affirming Church, Worship and Music is hosting a book study on *The Bible and Homosexuality for Progressive Christians* by Donald Schmidt. The next meeting will be held via Zoom on Monday, October 26 from 7-9 pm. If anyone who signed up did not receive the Zoom link, please contact Matty in the office.

Outreach Offering: Indspire is a national Indigenous registered charity that invests in the education of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people for the long term benefit of these individuals, their families and communities, and Canada. Following in the spirit of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, St James chose this organization for our October outreach offering. More information can be found at <https://indspire.ca/>

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NEXT Sunday is Nov. 1st, All Saint's Day! We have a fun tradition at St. James of inviting people - children in Sunday School, and adults who would like to participate, to dress up as a Biblical character! It is a good idea to know a few things about your character, so that Rev. Richard can ask you some yes or no questions to help him figure out who you are! (e.g., are you in the Old Testament? New Testament? Are you a close friend of Jesus? Are you part of the Christmas story?)

Costumes can be as simple or elaborate as you want! Be creative - we look forward to seeing people in costumes next Sunday!

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We are looking for donations from the congregation of experiences that would make great LIVE AUCTION ITEMS for our upcoming dinner and auction night on November 14th. Popular items include dinner at your home, theatre tickets, cottage visits, unique tours or experiences, and sports tickets. If you have an item to donate, please let Karen know karen_forgrave@hotmail.com. We want to have time to advertise your items - so the sooner, the better! 😊

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News from the Pews November deadline: October 25, or earlier!

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

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Broadway Holiday Cabaret! St. James will be hosting a fundraiser for the St. James Food Basket on Friday, November 27. Doors open at 7 pm and Show Time is 7:30 pm sharp. Bill Merryweather will be performing, accompanied by Adrian Marchuk. Tickets are \$25 each, and can be purchased by contacting the church office at 416-622-4113, ext. 0, or by email at stjames_uc@rogers.com

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2027 Canadian Church Calendar “Draw The Circle Wide” is now available for order at a cost of \$10, which includes tax and shipping. Celebrate United Churches across Canada! Focusing on the theme of 65 years of United Church Women, this bilingual calendar features colourful photos from communities of faith across the country plus all the special days, church seasons, and lectionary dates. Great for Christmas giving or to keep you on track in the year to come. Please contact the church office to place your order at 416-622-4113, ext. 0, or by email at stjames_uc@rogers.com by Nov. 20 to place your order.

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October 26th is election day, and advance polls are already open. Please vote for the candidates most likely to encourage and support social and ecological justice issues!

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Bulletin Announcements: If anyone has any announcements they'd like included in the Sunday Bulletin, please email Clare: clareatstjames@outlook.com

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Fall Yoga: Wednesdays from 11 am till 12 noon in the Lounge. Cost is \$25 per class for drop in.

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The fall Saturday morning yoga session continues at 10 am in the Lounge. Pay as you go, \$25 per class.

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We are pleased to announce that hands on Reiki is available by donation on Monday afternoons from 1-3 pm, as well as Tuesday nights at 7 pm. Sign-up sheets are in the binder in the Well-Being waiting room or call the office at 416-622-4113 and book with our office.