GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Music for Meditation

Welcome

Territorial Acknowledgement

**We acknowledge that we are occupying unceded land
of the Strait Salish, lək̓ʷəŋən speaking people
who have been sustained in body, mind and spirit
through their relationship with this land for thousands of years.
I am grateful to be part of a congregation that is hearing
the call to continue learning of our colonial history
and the on-going impacts of our privilege,
and taking up the challenging and healing work
toward reconciliation.**

Lighting the Christ Candle

**♪♫ Light of Heaven
Light of heaven be our guest.
In your presence we will rest.
Light of heaven be our guest.
In your presence we are blessed**.

-words: Andrew Dreiter; music: Stephen McCarty

Opening Prayer

**Holy One, Holy Oneness,
whose breath is the breath of our prayer
whose love is the root of our life,
flow in us this day.
Breathe us into this life a song of your mercy,
a breath of life breathed into a gasping world.
May we receive back our true selves
by drawing close to you
that we may know your heart's desire and make it our own
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

Hymn VU 91 The First Nowell

Sharing the Peace of Christ

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Opening to the Word

**The Lord is my light, my light and salvation.
In God I trust, in God I trust.**

-words: Taize Community; music: Jacques Berthier

Scripture: Matthew 2: 1-23

Reflection

RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

Hymn VU 77 In Bethlehem a Newborn Boy

Offering our Gifts *[offering plates available at each door]*

**♪♫Take, O take me as I am,
summon out what I shall be.
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

MV 85 words: John Bell, Graham Maule; music: John Bell

Prayers of the People

GOING OUT TO SERVE

Hymn VU 82 A Light is Gleaming

Commissioning and Blessing

Response

**♫ ♪ I am the light of the world,
you people come and follow me.
if you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

**When the song of the angels was stilled.
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and the shepherds
have found their way home
the work of Christmas is begun.**

**I am the light of the world,
you people come and follow me ...**

-VU 87 words: Howard Thurman, Jim Strathdee
music: Jim Strathdee

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James Bay United Church

Following in the way of Jesus
on the journey inward
and the journey outward

JANUARY 8, 2023





A member of our congregation is in need of a temporary room to rent or a house sitting possibility, to provide the needed space to discern his next steps beyond his current untenable living situation. **Please speak to Karen if you can think of any leads.**

Thursday, January 12 – 10am to noon lower hall
COMMUNITY BRUNCH
Come in out of the cold and enjoy a hot brunch with your James Bay neighbours. Each Thursday - 10am to 12noon in the Lower Hall of James Bay United Church. Created and hosted by community volunteers to assist folks during hard times, and to help support community in James Bay.

Thursday, January 12 JBUC Thursday Morning Prayer
It's about beginning the day, along with others, in a way that centers and grounds us in Love's presence. Using Phillip Newell's Celtic Benediction, the creation centered imagery opens our awareness to the grace and strength, wisdom and healing within and surrounding us. We make room for silence, for contemplation, and the sharing of our personal prayers for the coming day and the life of world. You are welcome to drop in and discover if this is a practice that feeds your soul and helps to orient you well for the day. We'll begin at 8 am, concluding around 8:20. **Online & zoom**
For more info: www.jamesbayunitedchurch

Thursday, January 12 – Centering Prayer 1-2pm This practice is one way of deepening relationship with the Wellspring of Love, a consenting to God's presence and action within us, familiarizing us with God's first language, silence. All are welcome, especially those with a centering prayer practice. **Online & zoom** For more info: www.jamesbayunitedchurch

Friday, January 13 – Feb. 4 JBUC Thrift Shop - CLOSED

THIS WEEK AT JAMES BAY UNITED CHURCH:

Tuesday, January 10, 7 PM to approx. 8:20pm - Sanctuary
Tuesday Night Jazz at the Church presents the Roy Styffe Quartet. Saxophonist Roy Styffe brings together an all-star group to celebrate and explore the timeless classics from legendary saxophonist Paul Desmond! The legendary saxophonist Paul Desmond is best known for his smooth and melodic style with the world famous Dave Brubeck Quartet of the 60's but before, and after he became a household name, Desmond made beautiful and moving music as a leader and collaborator that celebrated the simple beauty and grace in improvisation.



Masks required on the main floor, masks optional in balcony.
Admission by donation ($20 suggested donation)

Wednesday mornings from 9-10:30 in the lower hall
Tai Chi and Chi Kung with Curtis Nadj
Tai Chi and Chi Kung resumes for the new year on Jan 11th at 9 am. Please join us for the second session of Tai Chi and Chi Kung with Curtis Nadj. Classes will be accessible to first-time beginners and also allow students from the previous session to build on the practices and forms already introduced.
Trial class free - $45/ per month

Community Guitar Class aka Guitar Jam with the fabulous Aaron Watson
Aaron Watson has been a respected musician and facilitator in Victoria for many years and brings a huge heart and accomplished skill to his role of facilitator in this fun-filled, community-building class. Bring a guitar and a sense of adventure! Check the website for more information. www.jamesbayunited.com Classes approx $12/ class payable either by drop-in or term registration.