

LENT ONE
FEBRUARY 18, 2024

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Music and conversation

Gathering Song MV 7

♪♪ Gather us in, ground us in you. x2
Gather us in, gather us in,
ground us, ground us in you.

Welcome

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are occupying unceded land of the Strait Salish, ləkʷəŋən 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.

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn VU 121 vs 1 and 1a

♪♪ Tree of life and awesome mystery, in your death we are reborn. Though you die in all of history, still you rise with every morn, still you rise with every morn.

From the dawning of creation, you have loved us as your own;
Stay with us through all temptation, make us turn to you alone,
make us turn to you alone.

Prayer of Transformation

♪♪ Return to God with all your heart,
the source of grace and mercy;
come seek the tender faithfulness of God.

Extinguishing the Candles

First Sunday in Lent

In the wilderness, waters run deep. It is time to boldly embody the Christian story, and to be filled with the certainty of God-with-us and hope for new life. During this Lenten Season we will embrace our faith, by leaning into the shadows. Shadows often encourage apprehension, fear or worry; yet they can also offer mystery and wonder.

We shall extinguish candles as we journey with stories and images that take us to Good Friday. The new Vision and

The Mission Statement of the United Church, shall inform us and frame us.

Let us give voice to our Vision:

Called by God, as disciples of Jesus, the United Church of Canada seeks to be a bold, connected, evolving church of diverse, courageous, hope-filled communities united in deep spirituality, inspiring worship, courageous community, and daring justice.

The Mission of 'Deep Spirituality', invites us into a journey of transformation. It draws us deeply inward and also opens us to the vastness of the cosmos. It connects us with the sacred in all things ... ordinary and divine. It invites us to profound creativity and discernment in our relationships to others and all of creation.

As we extinguish this candle, we acknowledge the shadows that blur our insights and keep us from compassionate actions. *[first candle is extinguished]*

♪♪ When streams run dry, x3
in the wilderness, roots run deep.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Opening to the Word

♪♪ Listen in the silence, Listen in the noise,
Listen for the sound of the Spirit's voice

Scripture reading: Luke 4:1-15

Reflection: 'Wilderness...to be embraced not tamed!'

RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

Hymn: VU 113 To the Desert Jesus Came

Prayers of the People

Heal Us, God *with Drum AND Choir folk*

♪♪ Heal us God, and renew our lives. R

Offering our Gifts and Ourselves

Response VU 537 ♪ ♪ Your work, O God, needs many hands
to help you everywhere, and some there are who cannot serve
unless our gifts we share.

Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make:
be pleased to use as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.

Work of the People

GOING OUT TO SERVE

Hymn: MV 138 My Love Colours Outside the Lines

Commissioning and Blessing

Response VU 402 vs.4

♪ ♪ We are one as we come, as we hear, heart and hand unite;
in the word we receive, there's a sense that God is light.

We are one as we leave, as we love, we are loved;

and we seek justice in God's ways
as we move together from this place.

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James Bay United Church

*Following in the ways of Jesus
on the journey inward
and the journey outward*

FEBRUARY 18, 2024

First Sunday in Lent



This Week at James Bay United Church

February 19 – February 25, 2024

Monday, Feb 19 - Community Guitar Class aka Guitar Jam with Aaron Watson www.jamesbayunited.com Classes approx.. \$12/ class payable either by drop-in or term registration.

Mondays – Moving with Grace This 8 week program is full. Waitlist being taken for March. For more info and to add your name to the waitlist email: movingwithgrace.vic@gmail.com

Tuesday, Feb. 20 Tuesday Night Jazz. 7pm Sanctuary *Everyone Welcome! Admission by donation (\$20 suggested)*

Wednesday, Feb 21 9-10:30 in the lower hall
Tai Chi and Chi Kung with Curtis Nadj - \$45/month

Every Wednesday, 7pm - 8:30pm Community Choir
Each week, join Christine Chepyha as we create a new choral community in our neighbourhood. New members always welcome.

Thursday, Feb 22 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. We'll begin at 8 am, concluding around 8:20. **Online & zoom**

Thursday, Feb 22 Centering Prayer 1-2pm
All are welcome, especially those with a centering prayer practice. **Online & zoom** www.jamesbayunitedchurch

Thursday, Feb 22 Community Lunch lower hall
1 – 2:30pm . Come in and enjoy a free hosted lunch with the warmth of the James Bay community.

Friday, Feb 23 Tai Chi Class with Curtis Nadj - \$30/ month on Friday mornings in the Lower Hall.
Chen Style from 9-10 am and Yang from 10-11

Friday, Feb 23 and Saturday Feb 24
JBUC Thrift Shop Open 10am – 1pm *Masks optional*
Donations Received: Wed. thru Sat. 10am - 12noon.

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