

## GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

(Please note: \* indicates please rise in body or in spirit  
VU refers to the red hymn book; MV is the coil bound book)

Music for Meditation

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation

**Come Radiant One, fill our world with your promise.  
Come, Shining Presence, fill our world with your love.**  
- words and music: Bruce Harding

Opening Prayer

\*Hymn VU 74 What Child Is This

## SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Opening to the Word

**Christ is born; give him glory!  
Christ is born; give him glory!**

VU 41 words: traditional Byzantine Christmas prayer  
music: Raquel Mora Martinez

Scripture reading: Luke 2: 22-40

God's Word is Life!

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Christ is born; give him glory! ...**

Reflection

## RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

\*Hymn VU 68 All Poor Ones and Humble

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Offering our Gifts - VU 55 In the Bleak Midwinter

**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 44 It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

\*Commissioning and Blessing

\* **May the love of our God rest upon your soul.**

**May God's love dwell in you, throughout everyday.**

**May God's countenance shine upon you**

**and be gracious to you.**

**May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.**

MV - words: Maria Ling Poh; music: Swee Hong Lim

## **CELEBRATE EPIPHANY WITH THE NEIGHBOURHOOD**

**LABYRINTH WALK** January 6, 7pm Irving Park

As the Wise Ones were guided by the star, walking the labyrinth is a way to open up to the Spirit's guidance as we move into a new year.

This event is for everyone. James Bay United Church is partnering with James Bay New Horizons to host the neighbours in an opportunity to learn about this spiritual practice. No previous experience is necessary and elders and guides will be on hand to help you get started.

You can:

- come and walk the Labyrinth
- watch and enjoy the candle lit path and visit with neighbours and friends over a hot beverage
- help as a volunteer / host / guide

There is a deep, rich history in using the labyrinth to mark rites of passage, celebrate holy days and to seek guidance. Walking the labyrinth is a spiritual practice that helps people seek the source of their own goodness, their own wisdom, their own healing.

We hope you will plan to come to renew your spirit and we also hope you will invite a friend to join you.

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Minister: Karen Dickey

Music: Daniel Brandes

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# **James Bay United Church**

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

**December 31, 2017**

The word of God...  
penetrating our inmost being  
is more than a communication of light:  
it is a new birth,  
the beginning  
of a new being.

- Thomas Merton

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **December 22 – February 1 - JBUC - Thrift Shop CLOSED**

The James Bay United Church Thrift Shop will re-open Friday, February 2, 2018. Donations gratefully accepted again Wednesday, January 31 and Thursday, February 1.

### **New in the JBUC library this week:**

**MADE FOR GOODNESS and why it makes all the difference** by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu. These two activists and Anglican priests set out to make a case that goodness changes everything: the ways we see ourselves, the world, and others.

In the creation story, the Tutus discover that human beings have been made in the image of God, endowed with creativity, and challenged to see ourselves as made for God. "The impulse to care, the instinct for goodness, is a shining thread woven into the fabric of our being.". They also consider biblical text and let poems at the end of each chapter spell out the mysteries encountered on the Christian path. In the last chapter, the authors suggest a spiritual practice to help us see ourselves as God sees us: "God looks at us the way a mother looks lovingly at her newborn baby. If you can see the loving gaze between mother and child in your mind's eye, you can begin a small meditation on being held in God's loving gaze.. With each glimpse of our own beauty we can begin to see the goodness and beauty in others."



### **The Planetary Shaman, Integral Theory, Evolutionary Spirituality & Participation in the Sacred Biosphere with Layman Pascal**

4 Tuesdays Jan 9 – 30, 2018 ,  
10 am – 12 pm | \$75 or \$20 drop in

*It may be possible to start cultivating a planetary wisdom-civilization and a great tribe of wholeness. To do so requires that we become better and more flexible explorers and students of whatever skills are needed to generate and regenerate sacred traditions without falling into irrationalism. We need to be more complete participants in the multidimensional mystery of Nature. This is a job for new kinds of shamans.*

**Scripture Reader:** Beverley McLean

**Ushers & Greeters:** Paul Barker, Sylvia Scott and Cheryl Caldwell

**Please remember in prayer:** Lee Dennis, Asher and his parents Adam and Anna, Dallas, Judith, Kathleen and Larry Gilbert, Lorraine, Josh, Alan, Pat, Leyla, Jeanne Miller, Pam Brown, and Kara Taylor.

### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK**

**Open Wednesday and Friday 9 am – 12 noon**

For Pastoral care emergencies please contact:  
Rev. Karen Dickey at 250-592-5931.

## THIS WEEK AT JAMES BAY UNITED CHURCH

**Sunday, December 31, 2017**

### **James Bay United Church New Years Eve Party**

Come and join our New Years Eve Party and Potluck Dinner with movie & Service.

Doors open at 6:10. Dinner at 6:30, followed by movie.

Short meditational service about 9:30.

Then toasting in the New Year.

Movie: 'Hello, My Name is Doris', a funny & touching story starring Sally Field. A 66-year-old spinsterish office-clerk who has stayed home to look after her ailing mother now decides to get a makeover & join the dating pool, along with the other young millennials in her office.'

