

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

Listen in the silence. Listen in the noise.

Listen for the sound of the Spirit's voice.

- words and music: Linnea Good

Opening Prayer

It is wondrously strange,

how in the deepest, sharpest grief,

joy can come and inhabit the very same space.

O Breath of our breath,

we thank you for your gift of joy

that slips into our lives like a surprise visitor.

In our thirst for joy in these days,

let us not deny the heartache,

or lie about the sorrow ~ our own or our neighbours.

But neither let despair have the last word.

Let us hold the door of our hearts open

to the promise of your reviving presence.

This we pray for ourselves, and for our world

as we wait with eager longing

for the newness you would birth among us.

Amen

***Hymn VU 23 Joy Shall Come**

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Opening to the Word

Open our hearts. Open our minds.

Open our lives to you, O loving God.

Open our hearts ...

MV 21 words and music: Jim Strathdee

Scripture reading: Isaiah 61: 1-4

Psalm 126

God's Word is Life!

All: Thanks be to God

Reflection

RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Come Radiant One, fill our world with your promise.

Come, Shining Presence, fill our world with your joy.

- words and music: Bruce Harding

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Offering our Gifts

Communion Celebration

Communion songs:

Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

Through this bread and wine we share,

may we be your sign of joy everywhere.

-words and music: Bernadette Farrell

VU 166 Joy Comes With the Dawn

GOING OUT TO SERVE

***Hymn VU 7 Hope is a Star**

***Commissioning and Blessing**

*** When God is a child, there's joy in our song.**

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,

and none shall be afraid

VU 7 - words: Brian Wren; music: Joan Collier Fogg

James Bay United Church

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

**December 17, 2017
ADVENT 3**

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Minister: Karen Dickey

Music: Daniel Brandes

Communication & Neighbourhood Engagement: Gordon Miller

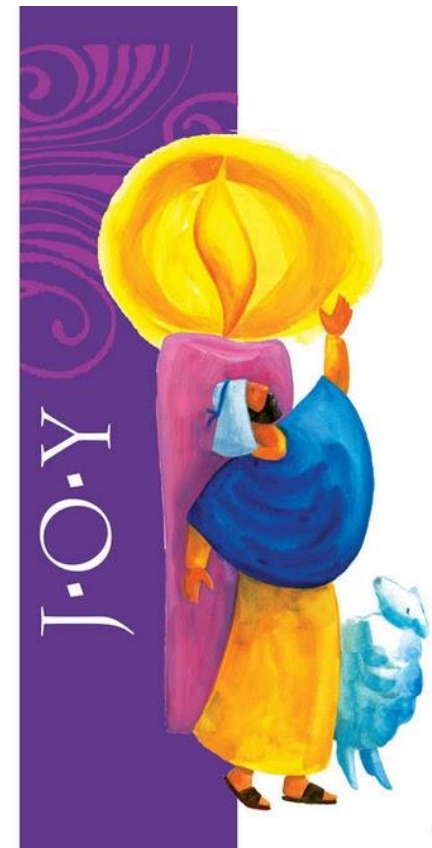
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Christmas Services at James Bay United

Morning Services every Sunday: 10:15 am

Advent: Anticipating and Expecting the Holy
Sunday, December 24th 10:15 am

Christmas Eve – December 24th
7 pm service - Joy to the World
All ages celebrated and welcome.

10 pm - Carols, Candlelight and Communion
A contemplative celebration.



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:

MEDICINE WALK by the late **Richard Wagamese**. "The story of Canada is the story of her relationship with native people," he said. "If we lean over the back fence and share part of that story with the person on the other side of the fence, we bring each other closer." In this novel, Wagamese tells the story of Franklin Starlight, who receives a summons from his biological father, an alcoholic dying of liver failure. The father wants his son to take him out on the land and bury him like a warrior in the way of his ancestors. Over the course of their journey to his final resting place, Eldon Starlight is finally able to speak the truths that have poisoned their lives. The land is the healing presence that allows him to pull off layer after layer of the tragedy of his life. Wagamese understands the stories we don't tell are as important as the ones we do. "Most of the big talk in my life got left unsaid," Eldon says. "Makes it tough to say anything real or hard."

Scripture Reader: Duncan McLean

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

Communion Servers: Nola Adams, Paul Barker, Sylvia Scott
Judy Krzesowski and Janet Russell

Cup & Conversation: Beverley McLean, Marion Handcock
and Bev Tracey

Please remember in prayer: Asher and his parents Adam
and Ann, Friends and family of Phyllis Pollard, Dallas, Judith,
Kathleen and Larry Gilbert, Lorraine, Josh, Alan, Pat, Leyla,
Joan, Ron, Bill Clark, Alissa, Drew, Laurie, Jeanne Miller,
Pam Brown, and Kara Taylor.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

Open Tuesday, 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

Today – Anthem Choir

11:50am – 12:30pm – JBUC Sanctuary

Today – 4:00 – 4:30 pm – Sanctuary

Christmas Storytelling for first time listeners.

Tuesday, December 19 – OUTREACH 9am – 11:30

Front Office Reception

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2018 Church Calendars are

available for pick-up in the Church
office. Please see Vanya during
regular office hours.

Calendars are also available on
Sunday's in the front office reception.
Calendars are \$5.00 each.

