

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Music and conversation

Gathering Song: Gather Us In 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 - Come... come each one of you.

Bring your loves and fears, your hopes and your empty places.

The Creator God, offers us peace and wholeness.

Come and Worship!

We lean into the Mystery of the Spirit that surrounds us.

Acknowledging the Light

Hymn: VU 121 Tree of Life & Awesome Mystery vs. 5 and 5th

♪♪ Christ, you lead and we shall follow,
stumbling though our steps may be,
one with you in joy and sorrow,
we the river, you the sea, we the river, you the sea,

God of all our fear and sorrow,
God who lives beyond our death;
hold us close through each tomorrow,
love as near as every breath, love as near as every breath.

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: Sue Ross and Chris Bodnarchuk 'Greeters'

In the wilderness, roots run deep.

Shadows. Exhaustion. Brokenness. Fear.

Life within every Community of Faith is changing.

There are fewer of us...

We boldly give voice to this 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 'Daring Justice' invites us to... It will take prayer, imagination, wonder, hard work and vibrant love.

As we extinguish the fifth candle, we acknowledge the despair that overwhelms us when we experience change and decline. We lean into the Spirit as we lift our hearts towards hope.

♪♪ Where 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 readings: Wisdom 7:21- 8:1, John 12:20-26

Reflection: Holy Wisdom

RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

Hymn: VU 892 Who Comes from God

Prayers of the People

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

**Our Father / Mother, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.**

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

Amen

Offering our Gifts and Ourselves

Response: VU 537 Your Work O God

♪♪ 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 it as your own,
we ask for Jesus' sake.

Work of the People

GOING OUT TO SERVE

Hymn: MV 10 Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

Commissioning and Blessing

Response: VU 649 Walk with Me vs.4

Walk with me, I will walk with you
and build the land that God has planned
where love shines through.

A Testimony of Living and Love

We go out ... sharing God's Peace with the world!

MV 7 Words and music: David Hann © 2005.

VU 121 Words and music: Marty Haugen © 1984 GIA Publications Inc.

Return to God. Words and music: Marty Haugen. © 1990, 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.

Where streams run dry © 1994 Borealis Music, Linnea Good

Listen in the silence. Music and words: Linnea Good. ©1998 © 1992 Borealis Music.

VU 892. Words: Patrick Michaels, 1989. Music: Choralmelodien zum heiligen Gesange 1808, arr. Hal

H. Hopson 1991. Words © 1989, arrangement © 1991 Hope Publishing Company.

Heal Us, God. Music by Marty Haugen & Tom Witt

VU 537 Words: Calvin Weiss Laufer 1927, alt. Music: Neil Dougall ca 1831.

MV 10 Words: Ruth Duck, 1993. Music: Donna Kasbohm, 1995. Words © 1996; music © 1997

The Pilgrim Press. VU 649 Words and music: John S. Rice, John S. Rice, arr. John Fluker.

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James Bay United Church

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

MARCH 17, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Lent



This Week at James Bay United Church

March 18, - March 24 , 2024

Monday, March 18 - Community Guitar Class aka Guitar Jam with Aaron Watson www.jamesbayunited.com Classes approx.. \$12/ class payable either by drop-in or term registration.

Tuesday, March 19 Tuesday Night Jazz. 7pm Sanctuary
Everyone Welcome! Admission by donation (\$20 suggested)

Wednesday, March 20 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, March 21 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, March 21 Community Lunch lower hall
1 – 2:30pm. Come in and enjoy a free hosted lunch with the warmth of the James Bay community.

Friday, March 22 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, March 22 and Saturday March 23
JBUC Thrift Shop Open 10am – 1pm *Masks optional*
Donations Received: Wed. thru Sat. 10am - 12noon.

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Healing Pathway Sunday, March 24

Healing Pathway practitioners will be offering “Soaking Prayer” following the service. If you are feeling the need for care – perhaps because of stress or concerns that you are carrying, or pain or grief - we encourage you to receive. We invite anyone who would like to come and sit in a chair at the back section of the sanctuary for a few minutes to receive healing energy through the Soaking Prayer technique. One practitioner will place their hands gently on your shoulders as you are seated.



Set aside the last night of **March, Sunday the 31st** for Potluck Dinner and a

movie. It's the night before April Fools day so prepare yourself for a great comedy. The movie is about a group of seniors rescuing and hiding an alien from NASA biologists in Maine.

Carol Yanisch is part of a settlement team that is sponsoring three members of a Syrian family to bring them to Victoria to join their daughter, Samah, and other family members. The team has been raising funds and just have \$10,000 left to raise. If you would like to help support the efforts, you can send a donation to Harbour of Hope Refugee Assistance Society.

To donate to Harbour of Hope, please (1) e-transfer the funds to harbourofhopevictoria@gmail.com and indicate on the note that it's for Samah's family (2) please send a separate email to Harbour of Hope with your name, address and the password they used for the e-transfer. You may also donate at [Canada Helps](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/harbour-of-hope-refugee-assistance-society/) at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/harbour-of-hope-refugee-assistance-society/>. Again, please indicate the donation is for Samah's family.



Holy Week Announcements 2024

Palm Sunday, March 24: Join Mahima at 9:45 making Palm Crosses for the following service. Everyone Welcome

Palm Sunday, March 24 – 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
Two parades – Palms and Swords... Guest Musicians

Maundy Thursday, March 28 – 7:00 p.m. Worship in the Sanctuary with Rituals of Hand and Foot Washing

Good Friday, March 29 – 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
Moving towards the Mystery of the Cross. Guest Musicians

Holy Saturday, March 30 – 2 until 3 p.m.
Quiet Meditation in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday, March 31, Sunrise Service – 7:30 am in Beacon Hill Park ... Meet at the end of Michigan Street and we will walk to the park for an early morning outdoor service.

Easter Celebrations, March 31 – 10:15 in the Sanctuary
stopping at the Butterfly Tree outside the building.



***What is emerging for you in the diversity
of your wilderness experience?***