

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Music and conversation

*Today, we find ourselves in an uncomfortable spot
in our lives as Christians.*

*On the one hand, it is Palm Sunday,
and there is the joyful celebration*

of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

*On the other hand, we look ahead to Holy Week
and the events of the final week of the life of Jesus,
which ends in his crucifixion on the cross.*

*You are encouraged to enter into the story and find your
place as we observe and participate in the events.*

Welcome

Opening Hymn: VU 123 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

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

Acknowledging the Light: Mahima Sylvester

Hymn: VU 124 He Came Riding on a Donkey vs. 1, 2

Prayer of Transformation: *Norm Edson - Inspired by Luke 23:1-49*

O Holy One, we admit we keep our distance from the cross
like those who "stood at a distance, watching."

We keep our distance from the Christ's self-giving love
when we give only of what we have left over.

O Wise and Challenging One, encourage us
to risk the Christ's costly self-giving;

Help us close the distance

between us and the Love of the Christ. Amen.

♪♪ Be not afraid. I go before you always,
Come follow me. And I will give you rest. John Michael Talbot

Extinguishing the Candles: Owen McCooney & Kam McKim

In the wilderness, roots run deep.

Shadows. Exhaustion. Brokenness. Fear. Despair.

Becoming a 'Beloved Community' takes living purposefully.
Sometimes the stories of our faith seem distant and unrelated
to our lives. We disengage and miss the truths they offer us.
In the various narratives of this Palm Sunday, we will newly
embrace the ever-reconciling realm of God.

We boldly give voice to our new 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.***

'Daring Justice' means collaborating to mend the Church and
the world. It requires paying attention to Indigenous justice,
racial equity, 2SLGBTQI+ rights and other justice issues. We
must stay focused and intentional.

**As we extinguish the sixth candle, we ponder our own
disengagement. We look to the Creator for a renewed
sense of wonder and possibility as we open our hearts.**

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

Sharing the Peace of Christ - Shalom

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Opening to the Word

♪♪ Shalom my friend, shalom my friend, Shalom, shalom.
May God be with you in all that you do. Shalom, shalom.

Scripture readings: Luke 19: 28-40

Sanna, sannanina, sanna, sanna, sanna. x2 VU 128
Sanna, sanna, sanna, sannanina, sanna, sanna, sanna. x2
An African version of Hosanna

Matthew 26: 26-30

Reflection: Two Parades

RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

Hymn: Be Not Afraid, *(words on insert)*

Prayers of the People *(words on insert)*

Offering our Gifts and Ourselves

Response: VU 121: Tree of Life

♪ ♪ In our call to be a blessing, may we be a blessing true;
may we live and die confessing
Christ as Lord of all we do, Christ as Lord of all we do.

Work of the People

GOING OUT TO SERVE

Hymn: VU 126 Ride On, Ride On, the Time Is Right

Commissioning and Blessing

We wait on the edge: the edge of death, the edge of belief,
the edge of despair, the edge of grief.

As we wait, we know God waits on the edges with us.

Response: ♪ ♪ Be not afraid. I go before you always
Come follow me. And I will give you rest

VU 123 Words: Jennette Threlfall 1873. Music: trad.

18th-century German tune, adapt. Xavier Ludwig Hartig 1868.

VU 124 Words and music: Gordon Light © 1986 Common Cup Co.

arr. Nan Thompson ©1995.

Be Not Afraid Words and Music: Robert J. Dufford, ©1975. SJ & OCP Pub.

Where streams run dry © 1994 Borealis Music, www.LinneaGood.com

VU 128 Words: traditional South African. Music: traditional South African,

arr. Nicholas Williams ca 1993. Arrangement © 1993 Stainer and Bell Ltd.

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

VU 126 Words and music: John L. Bell Words and harmony © 1988 WGRG.

The Iona Community (Glasgow, Scotland)

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James Bay United Church

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

MARCH 24, 2024

Palm Sunday



PALM SUNDAY – MARCH 24, 2024

Hymn: Be Not Afraid Words and Music: Robert J. Dufford

You shall cross the barren desert
But you shall not die of thirst
You shall wander far in safety
Though you do not know the way
You shall speak your words in foreign lands
And all will understand
You shall see the face of God and live

Be not afraid
I go before you always
Come follow me
And I will give you rest

Blessed are your poor, for the kingdom shall be theirs
Blessed are you that weep and mourn
For one day you shall laugh
And if wicked ones insult and hate you all because of me
Blessed, blessed are you

Be not afraid
I go before you always
Come follow me
And I will give you rest

Be not afraid
I go before you always
Come follow me
And I will give you rest

Be not afraid
I go before you always
Come follow me
And I will give you rest

PALM SUNDAY – MARCH 24, 2024

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer (*An Aramaic Translation*)

**Loving Presence, luminous in all creation,
hallowed be your name.**

Thy Kin-dom come.

**May we reflect on earth the yielding perfection
of the heavens.**

**Help us to receive an illumined measure
from the earth this day.**

**Forgive us when we trespass against others,
human and other-than-human,
as we forgive others who trespass against us.**

**Keep us on the path of wisdom
when we are tempted to take the selfish path.**

**May it be your rule we follow, your power we exercise,
and your radiance that allures.**

**May this be the truth that guides our lives,
the ground from which our future will grow,
until we meet again.**

Amen

This Week at James Bay United Church

March 25, - March 24 , 2024

TODAY after Sunday Service: Healing Pathway practitioners will be offering “Soaking Prayer” following the service. One practitioner will place their hands gently on your shoulders as you are seated.

Monday, March 25 - 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 26 Tuesday Night Jazz. 7pm Sanctuary **Everyone Welcome! Admission by donation (\$20 suggested)**

Wednesday, March 27 9-10:30 in the lower hall **Tai Chi and Chi Kung with Curtis Nadj - \$45/month**
Weekly drop-in Meditation

Wednesday's Mindfulness Meditation with Kam McKim Noon – 12:30 JBUC's sanctuary. All are most welcome Looking for greater peace, ease and joy in your life? For more information: karenmckim2@gmail.com Suggested donation \$5 (5 weeks \$20 - no one turned away for lack of funds) **Kam McKim** offers heart and soul focused classes that weave together music, movement, meditation, inspiring words and reiki. A long time yoga and music student, Kam began meditating in 1985 and graduated from the Mindfulness Meditation Teacher Training Program from UC Berkeley's Greater Good Science Center, Sounds True, and the Awareness Training Institute in 2023. In the last few years Kam studies qi gong and is a certified reiki practitioner.

Wednesday's, 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 28 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 28 Centering Prayer 1-2pm

All are welcome, especially those with a centering prayer practice. **Online & zoom** www.jamesbayunitedchurch

Thursday, March 28 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 29 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 29, Good Friday: Church Office CLOSED

Friday, March 29, Good Friday: Thrift Shop CLOSED
We not be accepting any donations on Good Friday. Thankyou.

Saturday March 23: JBUC Thrift Shop Open 10am – 1pm
Donations Received: Wed., Thurs., and Sat. 10am - 12noon.



Set aside the night of **Saturday, March 30th**

for Potluck Dinner and a movie. The movie is “JULES” about a group of seniors rescuing and hiding an alien from NASA biologists in Maine. Prepare yourself for lots of laughs in this great comedy. Doors open at 6pm for dinner. Movie to follow.

Reflections are part of worship at JBUC. What is in your heart and on your mind that you would like to share? The Worship Team will



be giving leadership in worship regularly for the next while and this is an opportunity for you to learn some skills so that you could share through offering the reflection. The workshops will take place after church on **Sundays, April 7 and April 21** with the first week focusing on the craft of sermon preparation and the second on putting those skills into practice. Charlotte Caron who taught preaching for many years will offer the workshops. Let her know if you are planning to come or if you have questions at charlottedaystar@gmail.com



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 – 10:15 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 Mediation 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. A light breakfast will be offered back at the church at 8:30 am after our outdoor service.

Easter Celebrations

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



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