

Welcome to this service of worship. We begin by acknowledging the traditional territory upon which we gather this morning. For many thousands of years, the Mi'kmaq have sought to walk gently on this land. They offered assistance to the first European travellers to this territory and shared their knowledge for survival in what was at times a harsh climate. We seek a new relationship with the Original Peoples of this land, one based in honour and deep respect.

St. James Presbyterian Church is a Christ-centered community where God is celebrated. We are committed to discerning and answering the Holy Spirit's call.

- In response to God's call St. James is and will continue to be a spiritual community that:
- Worships joyfully in a manner that is Scriptural, inspirational, educational, active, varied and prayerful.
- Welcomes all in an open, inclusive, and caring manner, accepting that all are equal before God.
- Honours and takes care of each other as we seek to know God together in the spirit of Christ.
- Puts its faith into action visibly and tangibly in the surrounding community, serving through faith, speaking for Christ, and seeking justice.
- Remains connected to its heritage of faith, reform, and active witness, and looks forward in faith and confidence to God's presence.

At the Kirk this Week

Today:	10:30 a.m.	Online Sunday Service
Sunday:	10:30 a.m.	Online Sunday Service

St. James Presbyterian Church Staff

Interim Minister: Rev. Dr. Kay S. Diviney H: 675-2607 Email: revkay@pei.aibn.com

Minister (on leave): Rev. Amanda Henderson-Bolton

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Dr. John Cameron H: 569-1362

Music Director & Organist: Frances McBurnie Email: mcburnie@gmail.com

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Office Administrator: Amy Holloway W: 892-2839 H: 628-2241

Custodian: Kathy Moreside

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.



St. James Presbyterian Church

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Order of Service

Sunday, January 9th, 2022, 10:30 a.m.

Prelude: *O morning star, how bright and fair*

arr. P. Manz

Call to Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer of Adoration

Hymn: *As with gladness men of old*

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As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright:
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped, Saviour, to thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before thee, whom heaven and earth adore,
So may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at thy cradle rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way.
And when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds of glory hide.

In that heavenly country bright need they no created light:
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing hallelujahs to our King.

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 43:1-7

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, 'Give them up', and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

Scripture Readings: Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."'

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Hymn: *The people in darkness*

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The people that in darkness pined have seen a glorious light;
The people dwell in day, who dwelt in death's surrounding night.

To hail your rise, O better Sun, the gathering nations come,
Rejoicing as when reapers bear the harvest treasures home.

To us a Child of hope is born, to us a Son is given,
And on his shoulders ever rests all power in earth and heaven.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace, forevermore adored,
The Wonderful, the Counsellor, the great and mighty Lord.

His reign of righteous government shall over all extend,
For peace and justice shall abound in this world without end.

Sermon: "After the Star"

Rev. Dr. Kay S. Diviney

Solo: *If with all your hearts*

F. Mendelssohn

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer (*debt and debtors*)

Hymn: *What star is this*

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What star is this, with beams so bright,
more lovely than the noonday light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn King,
glad tidings of our God to bring.

'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed,
"From Jacob shall a star proceed,"
And lo! The Eastern sages stand
to read in heaven the Lord's command.

O Jesus, while the star of grace
impels us on to seek your face,
let not our slothful hearts refuse
the guidance of your light to use.

To God the Father, God the Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three-in-One,
May every tongue and nation raise
an endless song of thankful praise.

Commission and Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: *How beautiful the morning star*

arr. J. Pachelbel

In Worship This Week

Minister:	Rev. Dr. Kay S. Diviney
Music Director/Organist:	Frances McBurnie
Soloist:	Ian Soloman
Sound System:	David Hooley
Video Recording:	David Robinson

Kirk News

This Week's Music

We would like to say thank you to Ian Soloman for singing today.

Offering

Any donations to the Church can be dropped off to the Church Office on Tuesdays to Fridays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or put in the Fitzroy Street entrance mailbox at any time. Or you can send an e-transfer to kirkstjames@pei.aibn.com. (Please send along the password.) We thank you for your contributions.

Pastoral Care

If any pastoral care concerns arise then please contact Rev. Dr. Kay Diviney at 902-675-2607, Linda Evans at 902-569-4749 or Glenda Montigny at 902-894-5127.

Elder Election Update

We are pleased to announce that the elder election process begun in October is now complete. David Harrison, Constance Robinson, David Robinson, and Shauna Sullivan-Curley have been elected to full 6-year terms, while Katherine Burnett will serve for two years (completing the 6-year term of an elder who has retired). All terms will begin after the Annual General Meeting in February. Please continue to support these newly elected elders, and indeed you whole Session, with your prayers.