



St. James United Church

An Affirming Ministry

Weekly Service Bulletin – January 19th, 2020

2nd Sunday after Epiphany / Congregational Meeting

221 Romaine Street, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 2C3 705-742-2222

stjamesunitedchurch.ca • united-church.ca • affirmunited.ca

Living fully, intentionally and compassionately

**Please stand as you are able*

*This service is dedicated in honour and loving memory of
Verna and Howard Rolufs by Shirley Rolufs*

PRELUDE / WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH / INTROIT

WE GATHER

As we gather for worship, we celebrate the shining waters which run through the ancestral lands of our Indigenous sisters and brothers in the area. Those waters shimmer with the Great Spirit of all Creation and the spirits of the fathers and mothers that come ahead of us. In our time together, let the ground on which we gather be sacred ground.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: We light the Jesus Candle

All: as a symbol of the hope, peace, joy and love he shared.

***GATHERING SONG**

A Light Is Gleaming

VU#82, vs.1, 2

Words, Music: Linnea Good 1992 © 1992 Borealis Music.

Refrain:

**A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright, living in the light.**

1. When light comes pouring into the darkest place, it hurts our eyes to see the glow.
Sometimes a word of hope reminds us of our fears, our memories and tears. **R**
2. When night is round us and every shadow grows, a star is there to light our way.
It tells a story of Jesus who came near to say: "God's light will ever stay." **R**

GATHERING WORDS *(responsive)*

One: We come together as the body of Christ,

All: many different parts, united as one.

One: We come together to worship,

**All: many different people, uniting in song, prayer,
and hearing wisdom from the ancients texts.**

One: We come together as St. James United Church in Peterborough,

All: many different gifts, talents, and skills combining,
to help live out God's dream in our place and our time.

One: We come together,

All: we come together in worship, in witness, and in love.

Sandra Jenkinson, *Gathering - Epiphany 2017*

OPENING PRAYER *(responsive)*

One: God of the journey, we know you are with us,

All: for we know that where two or three are gathered, you are there.

One: We ask for blessing on our time together - during worship and meeting,
as we do the work and ministry of St. James United Church.

All: We pray for a renewed vision of your dream for time ahead of us.

One: We pray in Jesus' name, whose pray we now say together...

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(spoken in unison)*

VU#914 (bottom right)

***HYMN**

The Church is Wherever God's People

VU#579

Words: Carol Rose Ikeler 1959 © 1963 W.L. Jenkins. Used and adapted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press. Music: English carol. Arrangement: © 1971 F.R.C. Clarke.

1. The church is wherever God's people are praising,
singing God's goodness for you on this day.
The church is wherever disciples of Jesus
remember his story and walk in his way.
2. The church is wherever God's people are helping,
caring for neighbours in sickness and need.
The church is wherever God's people are sharing
the words of the Bible in gift and in deed.

THEME CONVERSATION

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Jesus, you are the light of the world. Fill my mind with your peace,
and my heart with your love. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF UCW LIFE MEMBERSHIP PIN

WE REFLECT

ANTHEM

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 29:1-2, 4-11

Jane Huggins

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. This was after King Jeconiah, and the queen mother, the court officials, the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, the artisans, and the smiths had departed from Jerusalem. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and

do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord. For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

REFLECTION

WE RESPOND

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY MUSIC

***SUNG OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *What Can I Do?*

MV#191

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What can I do? What can I bring? What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer. I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

WE TRANSITION FROM WORSHIP TO MEETING

***HYMN**

Let Us Build a House

MV#1 vs. 1,2,4,5

Words and music: Marty Haugen; French trans. David Fines, 2006

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: **R**
4. Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Built of outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: **R**
5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house pro-claim from floor to rafter: **R**

***BLESSING**

***SUNG BLESSING** *We are Marching (Siyahamba)*

VU#646

Words, Music: South African traditional song, 20th century. Translation, Arrangement: © 1984 Walton Music Corporation.

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.
(the light of God.)

We are marching, (marching, we are marching,
 oo-oo, (marching,
we are marching in the light of God. (the light of God.)
We are marching, (marching, we are marching,
 oo-oo (marching,
we are marching in the light of God.

POSTLUDE

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING