

carry out our mission to set God's people free. Amen.

Hymn: MV 23 "Come, O Holy Spirit"

Benediction

Song for the Journey (VU 381)

Spirit of Life, come unto me.

Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;

Move in my hand, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold me close; wings set me free;

Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

The Life and Work of St. James United Church

At St. James the wearing of face masks is optional during worship services. Nova Scotia Public Health encourages people to wear a mask if you are in a crowded indoor place and to stay home if you feel sick.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): protect yourself and others - Government of Nova Scotia, Canada](#)

Lectionary Readings – May 21, 2023

- Acts 2:1-21
- Psalm 104:24-34
- 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
- John 20:19-23

Memorials

In Memory of Maurice Gray
from
Roxanna & Bob Purcell
Allan & Shirley Schnare
Eva Mae Gray
Sara Scarfe

St. James United Church

Pentecost Sunday

May 28, 2023

11:00 am



St. James United Church

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The Life and Work of St. James United Church

Birthday/Anniversary Song

Happy birthday/anniversary to you; to Jesus be true.

May God's richest blessings abide unto you!

Lighting the Christ Candle

Deep within us lies the Spirit's flame.

The spark of life God breathed into being.

As we light this candle let that same Spirit come to us on wings of Pentecostal fire.

And on hurricane winds fan that flame into a fiery inferno of life and love.

Hymn: VU 196 "Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow"

Call to Worship (responsive)

Éric Hébert-Daly

Take a breath. Feel the presence of God's Spirit fill your lungs. Feel the warmth of this place and the warmth of those around you in this community of faith.

We can feel God's fire burning inside of us, God's Spirit moving in this place!

Open yourself to the wonders of God's creation, living and working in our lives.

God brings us together to help those around us and to be open to help offered to us.

This is a sacred place, a wonderful space, a gathering spot filled with care and love.

By the wonder of the Spirit, we are God's presence. We have come to live into our call! Come Holy Spirit! Come!

Opening Prayer (together)

Richard Bott

Breath of Life, who fills our souls, we ask you to move in us. Change us. Blow us to the places you need us to be. Help us to carry Christ's peace. Help us to carry the Creator's love. Help us carry your joy – into our lives, into the world, into all of creation. Bless us and bless all that lives, Holy Spirit! Amen!

Hymn: VU 376 "Spirit of the Living God"

Seeds of Faith

Hymn: VU 375 "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

Scripture Reading: John 20:19-23

Anthem

Sermon: Breathing Easy

Hymn: MV 150 "Spirit God, Be Our Breath"

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Hymn (MV 115)

I'm going to shout, shout, shout out my love for Jesus, for Jesus!
I'm going to shout, shout, shout out my love for God's most holy child.
Whatever I might do today, at home, at school, at work, at play,
I've got Jesus' love deep down inside of me!

Prayer of Dedication (together)

When we're frightened and overwhelmed our breathing is stifled and we're tempted to hold it as we brace ourselves for whatever happens next. But, without breath, there is no life and we run the very real risk of dying inside if we hold it too long.

So, bless this offering, however it was gifted, that it may breathe new life into us as Christ did so long ago and remind us that the Spirit is not only with us, but will empower us to take on what lies ahead and to