St. James United Church

Minister: Rev. Sean Handcock
Supply Minister: Rev. Helene Burns; Cell Phone: 902-499-9575
Email: minister.sambrojollimorepc@gmail.com
Secretary: Liz Cann
Office Phone: 902-868-2791; Email: office.sambrojollimorepc@gmail.com
Address: 3811 Old Sambro Road, Sambro, NS B3V 1G1
Website: www.sambrojollimorepc.com

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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
The light of Christ shines for all to see.
May it shine in our hearts and in our lives.

Introit (MV 62)
There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing.
There is room for all, sheltered in God's love.
And I rejoice and sing,
"My refuge and my rock, in whom I trust."
There is room for all, there is room for all!

Call to Worship
Come, people of God, worship with joy and gladness.
We gather to praise God's glorious name.
Let us sing with enthusiasm, pray with openness,
and listen with anticipation.
Our God is with us!
To God be the glory and praise!

Opening Prayer (together)
God of love, today we lift our hearts to you. We give thanks for the fresh breeze of summer, the rain that nourishes new life, the warmth of the sun that gives health to our living. Bless this time together, and guide us in the way that leads to life. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn: VU 710 "Shall We Gather at the River"

Responsive Psalm 150 VU 874

Scripture Reading: Matthew 15:21-28

Anthem

Sermon

Hymn: MV 145 "Draw the Circle Wide"

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Hymn (VU 540)
Grant us, God, the grace of giving
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.

Prayer of Dedication (together)
Loving God, accept and bless all that we offer you this day and every day. May we be strengthened as we give, and may the world be nurtured by our giving. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Hymn: VU 665 "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Saviour"

Benediction

Song for the Journey (VU 964)
Go now in peace, go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you
everywhere, everywhere you may go.

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We thank those who participated in last week's **Service of the Sea and Blessing of the Fleet**, as well as those who came simply to worship. These annual services are especially meaningful to those who have lost loved ones to the sea.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported our **Fish Chowder Supper**. It was a great success. Your generosity of time and heart brought our community together for a wonderful meal and time of fellowship.

Lectionary Readings for August 16
Genesis 45:1-15 Joseph is reunited with his brothers.
Psalm 133 How pleasant it is when God's people are together.
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 God has not rejected the Hebrews.
Matthew 15:21-28 A Canaanite mother challenges Jesus.

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August 16, 2026
10:30 am

Summer Worship