

St. James United Church

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Lent 5 - March 22, 2026

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 in the darkness.
May that light fill our hearts and our world.

Introit (MV 18)

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true;
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer (together)

Gracious God, there are times when we feel dry and empty, like the dry bones Ezekiel saw in the valley. And so we come seeking you at this time of worship. Breathe upon us, O God, and reawaken within us a sense of your presence. Rekindle in us the fire of your Spirit, that we may share fully in the life you give. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn: VU 376 "Spirit of the Living God"

Lenten Candles

(Light two purple candles.)

A situation without hope. Or is it?

The redeeming love of God reaches into the depths, and summons us beyond the here and now.

Let us journey through the shadows toward the light.

(Extinguish a purple candle)

Sung response (MV 85)

Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Growing in Faith Time

Hymn: "Dry Bones"

Them bones gonna rise again,
them bones gonna rise again,
them bones gonna rise again:
Now hear the word of the Lord!

**Them bones, them bones, them dry bones,
them bones, them bones, them dry bones,
them bones, them bones, them dry bones.
Now hear the word of the Lord!**

The toe bone's connected to the foot bone,
and the foot bone's connected to the ankle bone,
and the ankle bone's connected to the shin bone.
Now hear the word of the Lord!

The shin bone's connected to the knee bone,
and the knee bone's connected to the thigh bone,
the thigh bone's connected to hip bone.
Now hear the word of the Lord!

The hip bone's connected to back bone,
and the back bone's connected to the neck bone,
the neck bone's connected to the head bone.
Now hear the word of the Lord! **Chorus**

Responsive Psalm 121 VU 844

Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Anthem

Sermon

Hymn: VU 382 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Hymn (MV 79)

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.

Prayer of Dedication (together)

With these gifts we offer ourselves as well, O God. Use our hands,
our feet and our voices to share your love and healing in the world.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

Benediction

Song for the Journey (VU 117 v. 5)

Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets,
"Who will join my journey? I will guide their feet."
Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few.
Walk one step before me; I will follow you.

The Life and Work of St. James United Church

St James United Church Dinner Theater – Additional Performance.

To help meet the demand for additional tickets, we're adding an **extra performance on Thursday, April 30**, which will also feature our full three-course lobster dinner. Tickets for this new show will go on sale on **Sunday, March 22**. Please help us spread the word, especially to those who may not be on Facebook.

Thank you for your understanding and for supporting our volunteers.

<https://tinyurl.com/sambro2026>

Memorials

In Memory of Muriel Gray
from
Daughter, Ellie

St. James United Church

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Worship Leader: Cyndi Garrison

March 22, 2026

10:30 am

