

The Life and Work of St. James United Church

Annual Reports are due Jan 31, 2026. If you are the secretary, chair or treasurer of a group, please prepare your report. If you have any questions, please call our secretary, Liz Cann, at 902-868-2791.

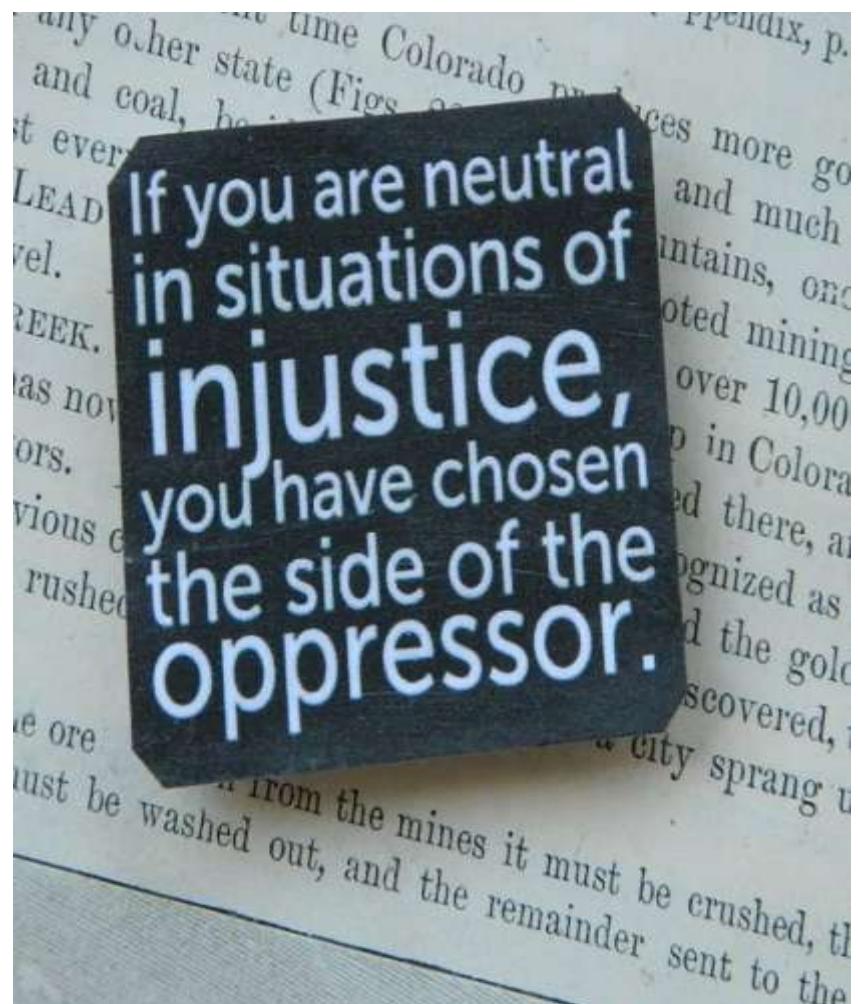
Sunday School for the winter months will be held on January 18th, February 8th and March 1st at 10:30 am.

St. James United Church

3rd Sunday of Epiphany

January 18, 2026

10:30 am



St. James United Church

Minister: Rev. Sean Handcock

Email: minister.sambrojollimorepc@gmail.com

Emergency Contact: (902) 329-9057

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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Lighting the Christ Candle

Light is amazing. It does not need shout or beat its chest to make its presence known. It simply is and by virtue of being the darkness falls away. **The same is true of Christ. He simply was and the darkness fell away.** And so, we light the Christ Candle to remind us that His light is always with us. **And that if we kindle His light within us, bit by bit, the darkness will fall away.**

Hymn: VU 79 “Arise, Your Light has Come”

Call to Worship

Taylor Croissant

One: In the quiet darkness of night, God comes to us.

All: **God calls to us, inviting us to a life of deep spirituality and bold discipleship.**

One: And so, we respond to God's call by coming and worshipping this day, that we might be inspired, equipped, and sent forth to live the gospel out in the world, by loving and serving our neighbours.

All: **Let us worship the God made known in Jesus Christ.**

Opening Prayer (together)

Susan Girard

One: Holy Love, you have created us to be reflections of you in our own wonderful uniqueness.

All: **You have created us to love without any other agenda.**

One: And yet sometimes we fail to do so. Sometimes we turn away from another in fear or judgement.

All: **We want to be accepted; we want to be one of the crowd. You gently call us back to you, teaching us no to be afraid,**

One: Teaching us we are all a part of your creation and beloved by you.

All: **May we be people of integrity and grace, acting from mercy and truth.**

One: May we be people of courage even when we are afraid.

All: **May we be filled with the Spirit of life, truth, and compassion.**

One: Reflecting your love and mercy always. Amen.

Hymn: MV 21 “Open our Hearts”

Seeds of Faith

Scripture Reading: John 2:13-25

Anthem

Reflection: The Politics of Jesus

Hymn: MV #120 “Canticle of Turning”

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Sung Response (VU 540) “Grant Us, God, the Grace”

*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)

Karen Boivin

May these gifts open our hearts and those of others to Christ's continued presence in our world. Make these gifts into invitations to come and discover your desire, O God, for the abundant living of all people. Amen.

Hymn: VU #691 “Though Ancient Walls”

Benediction

Sung for the Journey (VU 43) “Go Tell it on the Mountain”

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born! (Repeat)