

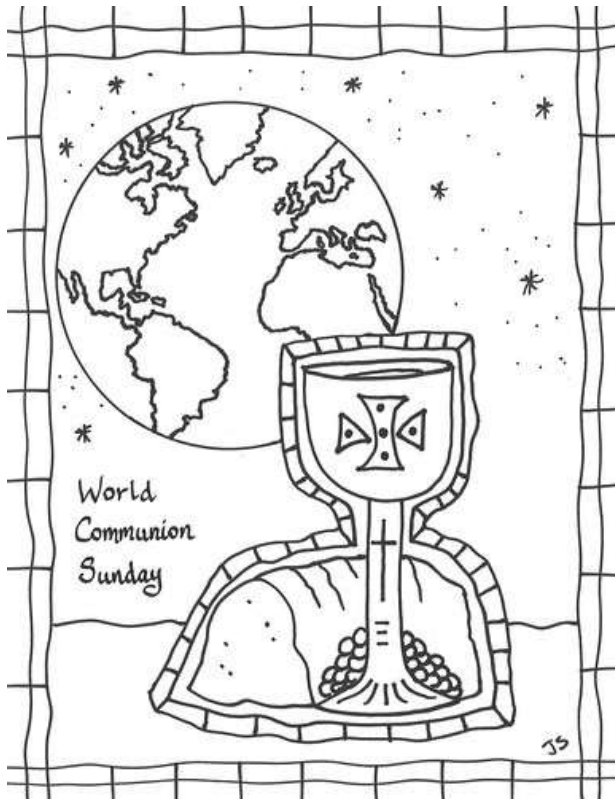
St. James United Church

World Communion Sunday

Creation Time 4

October 4, 2026

10:30 am



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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

The light of Christ shines in all of creation.

May that light shine in each of us.

Introit (MV 2) (Please stand as you are able.)

Come all you people, come and praise your Maker (x3)

Come now and worship the Lord!

Call to Worship

Around the world this day:

Christians worship at table with deepest reverence.

We come as one,

part of the worldwide movement of the Way of Jesus.

United by the Spirit's blessings, we pray together:

Opening Prayer (together)

God who is love, who is self-giving, who is right relation, open our minds to the healing carried within your reign. Unlock our fears so that we may learn to give through our trust in you, and unbind our hearts to find ways that give of our selves. In the holy name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: VU 457 "As We Gather at Your Table"

Prayer of Confession

God of all creation, you love us into being,
yet we often flee our rightful place in your creation.
 We confess that we exploit the gifts you place around us,
and dominate the riches of the natural order.

Forgive our greedy grasping.

We confess our part in the devastation of our planet home,
 mirrored in the violence of cities, and the brokenness of hearts.
Forgive and restore us, O God.

Nurturing God, remind us of other ways to live, and of a place
 called home,
**where creation reflects your goodness and each thing lives
 in balance with all others.**

Come and find us, set us right again,
and take us home. Amen.

-Janet Cawley, God's Good Earth: Praise and Prayer for Creation (Collegeville,
 Minnesota: Liturgical Press, 2018), p. 104.

Words of Assurance

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Hymn (VU 549) (Please stand as you are able.)

For all your goodness, God, we give you thanks:
 thanks for the food we eat, and for the friends we meet,
 for each new day we greet, we give you thanks.

Prayer of Dedication (together)

Loving God, we give you the work of our hands and the love of
 our hearts. Bless our gifts and use them for your work in the
 world. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:12-17

Anthem

Sermon

Hymn: VU 477 verses 1, 2, 3 - "I Come with Joy"

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Minister: Dearly Beloved, in the name of Jesus Christ I invite
 to this meal all who love and follow Jesus.

People: We remember that Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life.
 Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes
 in me will never be thirsty."

Minister: As the Lord Jesus, on the same night in which he
 was betrayed took bread, I take these elements of bread and
 wine to be set apart from all common uses, to this holy use and
 mystery.

People: And as he gave thanks, let us draw near to God and
 present our prayers and thanksgivings.

Minister: Creator God, you made this wonderful world for us to
 live in. You showed us how to care for it and take care of each
 other. We thank you and praise you.

People: You gave us Jesus to be our friend and to bring us
 closer to you. He died on a cross, but you brought him to life,
 to live with us forever.

Minister: You send us your Spirit and bring us to the table.
 For all your goodness we give you thanks and praise.

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, power of life and love! Heaven
 and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!

Minister: Loving God, with grateful thanks we present to you
 our very lives, committed to your service on behalf of all people.

People: By sharing in the loaf and cup, we proclaim Christ's
 death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and await Christ's coming
 again.

Minister: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and what we do here, that we may be signs of life and love to each other and to the world.

People: At this time, we remember those with whom you would have us share your feast. We pray for all who are sad or in pain; all who are sick or alone; all who are hungry or afraid.

Minister: We pray for the nations as they strive for peace, for the earth and all its creatures, for our families and friends. Loving God, we ask that you hold these people in your love: (*prayers of the people*) We offer Jesus' prayer together:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Minister: Now we do as Jesus did the night before he was crucified. He took bread, gave thanks, broke it (*break bread*), gave it to his disciples, and said,

People: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Minister: After supper he took a cup of wine (*pour into cup*) and said to them,

People: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Minister: Everyone is invited to share the communion meal, which will be served in the pews. The bread is distributed first. Please keep it until everyone has been served and we will eat it together. Then everyone will be served a cup of juice, and we will drink together. The gifts of God for the people of God!

We Share the Meal

Bread: Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.

Cup: Jesus Christ, the Cup of Blessing.

Minister: We thank you, O God, for the bread we have eaten, the wine we have tasted, and the life we have received.

People: May what we have done and been given today remain in our hearts. Send us forth, O God, in faith, hope and love. Amen.

Hymn: VU 477 verses 4 & 5 - "I Come with Joy"

Benediction

Song for the Journey (VU 649 Refrain) (repeat)

Walk with me, I will walk with you,
and build the land that God has planned,
where love shines through.

The Life and Work of St. James United Church

Today, on World Communion Sunday, communion is being celebrated throughout the world. Everyone is invited to bring food bank items which will be delivered to St. Paul's Food Bank in Spryfield.

Our Thanksgiving Sunday service will take place on October 11.

St. James Swordfish Supper: 4-6 pm, Saturday, Oct. 17. Come out for the best swordfish supper in the province! Dine In or Takeout. Includes roll and dessert. Adult \$25.00 (cash only). Kids 12 and under eat free.