



## **ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH**

150 Colborne St. S., Simcoe, ON N3Y 4H6

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### **STAFF:**

Minister: Rev. Barrie Bain, BA, M.Div.

Volunteer Associate Minister: Rev. Michael Beacom, BA, BD

Music Director: Diane Stewart (226) 567-5875

Office Administrator/Treasurer: Ann McNall 519-428-2611

Janitor: John McNall (519) 428-2611

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday to Thursday (9 to noon)

January 25<sup>th</sup> 2026 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
10:30 am. St. James Church Family in Worship  
Worship Focus **"Time to Discern God's Call"**  
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – January 18 to 25  
**"Spiritual Growth, Compassionate Living"**

**GOD'S MESSENGERS GATHER - WE JOURNEY TOGETHER**

Prelude Music:

**GOOD MORNING! Words of Welcome, Greetings and Announcements.** Persons wishing to remain seated during the service are encouraged to do so with our blessing. Your presence and spirit of waiting will bless our journey of faith with companionship. You are invited to join together for a time of visiting and refreshments in The Muriel Bridge Room following the benediction and postlude music.

**Call to Worship:**

Leader: Those Advent days of waiting have passed, the days of Christmas celebration have also passed, and even the Star of the Magi has dimmed. What comes next for those of us who gather here this morning?

All: **In these post-Christmas days of Epiphany, we claim anew the promises of Advent as we seek new visions of what hope, peace, love and joy mean in our lives.**

Leader: We come to this place seeking with a sense of curiosity just where these next steps of our faith journey will take us!

All: **Loving God, we are ready to let the light of Jesus, shine in our lives, as we seek to discern God's call!**

Hymn of Praise: **VU #82 “A Light Is Gleaming”**

Prayer of Approach (unison)

**Gracious God, we seek your Spirit, so that we may understand the gifts you give us. We receive your call upon our hearts, a call to love and serve others as Jesus loved and served among us. We ask for your wisdom that we might have the mind of Christ within us on a daily basis. Amen.**

Psalm 27 Psalter **VU# 754 “God is my light and salvation”**

### **DESIRING CHRISTIAN GROWTH - WE LISTEN**

Family Hymn: **VU# 87 “I am the Light of the World”**

Family Focus – Storyteller Rev. Barrie

Scripture Lesson:

**Matthew 4:12-23 “Jesus begins His ministry”**

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1: 10-18 “Overcome divisions and find unity”**

**Lay Reader: January House**

Choir Anthem: **“Arise, Your Light Is Come”** R Duck/WH Walker

Message: **“LIVING WITH GOD’S LIGHT!”**

Reverend Barrie Bain Preaching

Hymn: **VU# 568 “Dear Lord, Lead Me Day by Day”**

### **COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS - WE RESPOND**

Presentation and Dedication of the Offering

Offertory Music:

Response: **VU #537 “Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands”**

Offertory Prayer (unison)

**Almighty God, who made us who we are, we offer all of ourselves to you. Take our talents, our energy and our joy, and use us to share your love. Take our mistakes, our regrets, and our pain, and use us to bring your healing. Magnify the gifts we offer before you today to spread your peace and love in the world. Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn VU# 510 **“We Have This Ministry”**

Benediction & Commissioning

Postlude Music:

**THE VOLUNTEERS FROM THE JANUARY HOUSE INVITE YOU**

to The Muriel Bridge Room for refreshments and fellowship following the service.

**COUNCIL** will meet on Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> - 1 pm in the Muriel Bridge Room

Bible Reading - January 25, 2026  
Reader: January House

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to Apollos', or 'I belong to Cephas', or 'I belong to Christ.' Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Bible Reading - January 25, 2026  
Reader: January House

Matthew 4:12-23

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

‘Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—  
the people who sat in darkness  
have seen a great light,  
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
light has dawned.’

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.