

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2026



St. John's United Church of The United Church of Canada

75 Alma Street, Moncton, NB E1C 4Y3

506-858-8289 stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com

www.stjohnsmoncton.ca

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/16465565858>

<https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsmoncton>

Office Hours: M-F, 9am–1pm

A warm welcome is extended to all.

Children are asked to remain with their parents for the service.

If you are a parent or caregiver, there is a kitchen and washrooms on the main and upstairs levels, as well as a nursery and diaper changing area upstairs.

Please feel free to return to the service at any time.

The congregation is invited to join in responses printed in **bold**. Stand as you are able.)

PRELUDE

O WORSHIP THE KING

(Music: Robert Grant, William Gardiner)

DOXOLOGY (541 VU)

(OLD 100TH) (Thomas Ken, Genevan Psalter)

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP ((inspired by Psalm 105))

O give thanks to the Holy One; call on God's name

Make known God's deeds among the peoples.

Sing of the Holy One's abiding love,
grace, compassion, and justice

Rejoice in the God's redemptive power

Seek the Holy One's presence, strength, and wisdom

Remember God's wondrous works.

Praise the Holy One!

HYMN 409 VU

MORNING HAS BROKEN

(BUNESSAN) (Words: Eleanor Farjeon / Music: Gaelic Melody, harm. Alec Wyton)

Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's re-creation of the new day!

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Loving and Wonderful God, you make a home for us. You provide us shelter and sanctuary. You embrace us and uphold us. You come to us and go before us. We come to you now. We search for your presence in this world, in this community, and in this gathering. Let us connect with you and be reminded of the path of full and flourishing life you offer. Let us connect with one another and be reminded that your kingdom comes in us and through us for your glory.

We pray with the words Jesus taught us, saying, "Our Father...Amen." (960 VU) (A laminated handheld version of The Lord's Prayer can be found in the hymnbook holder in the pew.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and eternal God, we, like Jacob, struggle when confronted with hard things. We use avoidance to shield us from acknowledging and correcting the wrongs we have done and continue to perpetuate.

We, like Joseph, fail to consider the impact we have on others and how we contribute to making life better or worse for those around us. We, like those jealous siblings, attempt to find our own way and create our own schemes rather than trusting in your love that knows no favourites and embraces us all. Help us to shift our attitude and behaviours toward accountability, reconciliation, and love. Amen.

(moment of silence to offer personal thoughts and concerns)

WORDS OF GRACE

Inheritors of the kingdom, rest assured that the Holy One's love knows no bounds. Rest assured that God will companion with you when the struggles life presents overwhelm you. We are all capable of confronting hard things and doing the hard work of restoration through recognition, repair and reconciliation. God is with us on the journey...helping us to carry the burdens and reducing the load. Be made new in Christ Jesus.

OFFERING

Offering boxes are located inside the Sanctuary at the two main entrances.

OFFERTORY (537 VU)

YOUR WORK, O GOD, NEEDS MANY HANDS

(KILMARNOCK) (Words: Calvin Weiss Laufer / Music: Neil Dougall)

Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere, and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.

Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make: be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Giver of perfect gifts, refine these offerings and our hearts so that they may bear fruit. Bless each of us with the joy of gift giving and help us to know the good that our generosity lends to the world in your Holy and Precious Name. Amen.

HYMN 161 MV I HAVE CALLED YOU BY YOUR NAME

(KELLY) (Words / Music: Daniel Charles Damon)

I have called you by your name, you are mine;
 I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
 I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
 You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.

I will help you learn my name as you go;
 read it written in my people, help them grow.
 Pour the water in my name, speak the word your soul can claim,
 offer Jesus' body given long ago.

I know you will need my touch as you go;
 feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.
 Like the woman reaching out, choosing faith in spite of doubt,
 hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.

I have given you a name, it is mine;
 I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
 With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole;
 go and tell my precious people they are mine.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children are asked to remain with their parents for the service.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 37:1–4, 12–28

Joseph is sold into servitude by his brothers.

Psalms 105:1-11, 16-22, Parts One & Two, p. 828 VU

Remembering Joseph.

Refrain spoken only, not sung.

R: Bless God, my soul. Hallelujah!

Part One (1-11)

Give thanks and call on God's name.
 Make known to the nations what God has done.

**Sing, O sing the songs of praise;
 tell of all God's wonderful deeds.**

Exult in God's holy name;
let those who seek God be joyful in heart. R

Turn for help to the One who is your strength;
seek God's presence continually.

**Remember the marvels the Most High has done,
the wonders and judgements God has given,**

O children of Abraham and Sarah, God's servants,

O offspring of Israel, chosen of God. R

You are the eternal God,

your justice reaches every corner of the earth.

You are every mindful of your covenant,

the promise you gave to a thousand generations,

the covenant you made with Sarah and Abraham,

the oath you gave to Isaac.

You confirmed it for Jacob as binding.

To Israel your everlasting covenant you declared,

"To you I give the land of Canaan,

as your appointed inheritance." R

Part Two (16-22)

You called down famine on the land,

and cut off the supply of bread.

But you sent one ahead of them,

Joseph, whom they had sold as a slave.

His feet were hurt with fetters, his neck collared with iron;

until his predictions came true, your word tested him.

Then the king sent and released him,

the ruler of nations set him free.

He made Joseph master of his house,

ruler of all his possessions,

to correct his officials at will,

to teach his counsellors wisdom. R

Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus walks across stormy waters.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 313 VU GOD, WHOSE ALMIGHTY WORD

(MOSCOW) (Words: John Marriott / Music adapt. from Felice de Giardini)

God, whose almighty word

chaos and darkness heard, and took their flight,

hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel day

sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light.

Jesus, who came to bring
on your redeeming wing, healing and sight,
health to the troubled mind, sight to the Spirit-blind,
O now to humankind let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
lifegiving, holy dove, speed forth your flight;
move on the water's face, bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place let there be light.

Blessed and holy three,
glorious trinity, wisdom, love, might,
boundless as ocean's tide rolling in fullest pride,
through the world far and wide; let there be light.

SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(We pray for Emmanuel Pastoral Charge)

HYMN 567 VU *WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME*

(KELVINGROVE) (Words: The Iona Community /
Music: Scottish traditional, arr. The Iona Community)

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Christ, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

BENEDICTION

May the God who loves you
Give you the strength and compassion
To love our neighbours tangibly
To protect the vulnerable, marginalized, and threatened
To make space for the stranger
To embrace our siblings
Go, in peace, to redeem the pain of the world
Through ordinary and extraordinary acts of love and hope

CONGREGATIONAL SUNG POSTLUDE

GO NOW IN PEACE

(Words: Don Besig, Nancy Price / Music: Don Besig)

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

POSTLUDE

TREES OF THE FIELD

(Music: Stuart Dauermann, Steffi Geiser Rubin)

During the postlude the congregation is welcome to depart.

Lived as an Alien: Service Prayers for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost Year A
was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology
for the United Church of Christ.

***You are invited to join us in the Owen Fraser Hall
for a time of fellowship and refreshments.***



The bulletin is dedicated in Loving Memory of
Fraser Murray
by Daughter, Lynn Murray

MEMORIAL

*Donations have been made to
St. John's United Church in loving memory of*

Barbara Bacongallo
*(wife of Ben Bacongallo, deceased)
by Margaret & Aubrey Rogers*

George Love
by Jean MacKeigan

Rev. Dr. Douglas MacEachern
*(husband of June MacEachern)
by Mac Dayton, Ken & Karen Geldart,
Kimberley & Luiz de Jesus, Brenda McFarlane,
Susan Reid & Tom Moynihan and Valerie Roy*

Edgar Wade
by Florence & Brian

*Donations have been made to the
Mission & Service Fund in loving memory of*

Rev. Dr. Douglas MacEachern
*(husband of June MacEachern)
by Pat & Dennis Arsenault, Nancy Black &
John Patterson, Martha & Stephen Brown,
Amy Chase, Judy Chase, Molly Dempsey,
Virginnia Murray, Adeline Ramsay, Kathy Seymour,
Ralph Smith and Doris Wilbur*

NOTICES, UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Check our website at www.stjohnsmoncton.ca
for **Sunday online Worship links**, calendar, and more.

Aug. 9	Sun.	10:00 a.m.	WORSHIP (note time change) - Music Director: Lorilee Redmond
Aug. 10	Mon	7:00 p.m.	Al-Anon (weekly-Owen Fraser Hall)

Aug. 13	Thur.	9:30 a.m.	Rehearsal, 10am-12pm – Open Doors Chamber Festival (Sanctuary)
Aug. 13	Thur.	6:00 p.m.	Concert, 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Open Doors Chamber Festival (Sanctuary)
Aug. 16	Sun.	10:00 a.m.	WORSHIP (note time change) - Music Director: Lorilee Redmond
Aug. 22	Sat.	2:00 p.m.	Funeral for the Rev. Dr. Douglas MacEachern (Sanctuary)

Announcements from other United Churches, Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region 14 and the community are shown on the TV in the Owen Fraser Hall and also located on the bulletin boards located at the Alma St. entrance and outside the Church Office.

SOBEYS & SUPERSTORE GIFT CARDS are sold each Sunday before and after Worship and at the Church Office M-F, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.



We make 4% on every card sold. Your support is needed and appreciated.

WELCOME!

We would like to warmly welcome any new faces to our church family today! Please feel free to introduce yourself to a fellow member or reach out to our minister if you have any questions. We invite you to stay after the service for fellowship. Fill in the “welcome” envelope located on the table at our two main entrances and place in the offering box (no money required) or email the church office at stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com to let us know you are worshipping with us.



DIME BLITZ



Don't spend a dime this summer - save them for the UCW summer fundraiser. Plastic pill bottles have been placed at the Church entrances for your convenience. Deposit in the offering box



on a Sunday morning or drop off in the mail slot located on the Victoria St. entrance door. Thank you for your continued support of UCW projects.

The fundraiser ends **Sept. 27, 2026.**

Please ensure each container is labelled with your name.

STEWARDSHIP SECOND – Caring for the financial health of your community of faith is not a sprint to be accomplished with one time of worship or one campaign. It is a marathon which is accomplished by developing relationships, expressing gratitude, and teaching generosity as a spiritual practice.

ST. JOHN’S UNITED CHURCH CARES... To notify the Minister of personal concerns, anxieties, illnesses, hospitalizations or deaths, or to pass along a prayer request, contact Rev. Aaron Billard at 506-858-8289 or sjucrev@gmail.com

<u>Greeters & Offering</u>	
<i>South Door – Alma St</i>	<i>North Door – Victoria St.</i>
Sylvian Ribble & Rheal Leger	Carolyn Beers and Shirley Lutes

CHURCH MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND STAFF



Rev. Aaron Billard, *Minister*
sjucrev@gmail.com



Shelley Arsenault, B.Mus.B.Ed.
Music Director



Karen Geldart
Office Administrator
stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com



Pat Arsenault, *Custodian*



Rev. Dr. Douglas MacEachern
Minister Emeritus
douglasimaceachern@gmail.com

