



*They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not
fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay
green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and
it does not cease to bear fruit. - Jeremiah 17:8*

October 25, 2023

Dear Siblings in Christ,

During this annual stewardship campaign, you have been hearing about the theme, *Rooted in Abundance*, and its reminder to us that we are inspired to give because so much has been given to us. This is not transactional – we do not give in proportion to how we feel we have benefitted or suffered – rather we give because of the love we have experienced along our journey of faith. We have explored trees, roots, food and flowers all as metaphors for the way we dig deep into what nourishes us to transform that goodness into work, service, and joy in a world that needs us.

I love hearing the stories that you tell about what connects you to St. James' and how you and/or your family flourishes where you've been planted. Every gift matters this year, and each gift will be accepted, brought to the altar, and blessed before God and our community.

This year, as you pray about your commitment to our church, please tap into that nourishing structure of faith and generosity shown to us by an extravagant God, a patient Shepherd, and a gathering Spirit who call us to extend our networks and share our gifts with the world. When you acknowledge that you are rooted in abundance, you realize that your giving can be as boundless as the Creation that gave birth to us all. Thank you for your generosity and your prayerful consideration of your offering to St. James'.

In gratitude,

Jeannette Brown,
Stewardship Chair

P.S. The last Sunday of our campaign is Sunday October 29th. If you have not already done so, please think and pray about your financial offering to St. James' and send or submit your gifts by that date so that we may gather them together and bless them.