

Corner Brook United Church

19 Park Street, Corner Brook, NL A2H 2W8

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Website: www.firstunitedcb.com

Ministers: Rev John van Vliet
Rev Jocelyn Cook

Ministers Emeritus: Rev Clayton Parsons
Rev Harry Whitehorne

Music Director: Jennifer Billard

Office Staff: Cathy Quigley

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 10 am – 2 pm

We're able to receive bulletin info until **Wed. at 1 pm**

Rev van Vliet's email is firstministercb@gmail.com

His phone is **632-7129**.

Rev Cook's email is 13scoutie@gmail.com

Her phone is **689-6795**.

Washrooms

Upstairs: through the door to the right of the stage

Downstairs: the exit between the two coat racks

We strive to be a **scent free** facility.

Corner Brook United Church

November 2, 2025



Most tours through the Palestinian Territories take you to see this sycamore tree that Zaccheus climbed in Jericho. The oldest of sycamore species live about 500 years, although middle eastern varieties usually live for only half that time. Not taking the claim too literally, then, this is a sycamore *similar* to Zaccheus' tree.

November 2, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Silent Prayer

Call to Worship: (adapted from Psalm 119: 129 – 144)

L: Gracious God, you are holy, and your laws are right.

P: Shine your face on your servant and teach me your statutes.

L: Your laws are trustworthy.

P: Access to your words gives light, and gives simple folk understanding.

L: Your word has been tried and tested...

P: ...and your righteousness lasts forever!

L: Help me understand your statutes, so I can live in your way.

Hymn: *God, Whose Almighty Word* VU 313

Prayer of Thanksgiving for God's Presence

Anthem:

Readings: Luke 5: 27–32

Luke 19: 1–10

Message: Today salvation has come to this house

Hymn: *Seek Ye First the Kingdom* VU 356

Offertory Hymn: *Praise God From Whom...* VU 541

Offertory Prayer

Community Prayer / LORD's Prayer

Hymn: *Take My Life and Let It Be* VU 506

Blessing

Postlude

Memorials

Redevelopment: In loving memory of our daughter, Katherine Tavenor by Kitty & Edgar Stratton

Redevelopment: In loving memory of sister & aunt, Katherine Tavenor by Daphne & Brad Gardner and family

Redevelopment: In loving memory of sister & aunt, Katherine Tavenor by Dion & Joelle Stratton and Christian Davis.

Snow Shovelling

For the past 6 years a team of volunteer snow shovellers have rotated to clean the steps and walks around the church. But it's become increasingly difficult to recruit any new volunteers. We no longer have enough people to do this work properly, so the Property Stewards and Board have decided to contract this work out. It will add another \$6900 to the 2026 budget – but there is no alternative.

Thank you to: Alan Kirby, Charles Cameron, Calvin Pretty, Jeff Follett, Bruce Penney, Edwin Bezzina, John van Vliet, Len Moores, Daniel Moores, Paul Wells, Dave Gillard, Doug Sweetapple and Barry Morgan for all the work put in over the past 6 years – and a special thanks to Alan who did even more work in coordinating the schedule.

Announcements

There will be a **Congregational Meeting** in the Lower Hall after worship today to apprise congregants of Corner Brook United's financial situation.

The next **Sunday Café** will be on November 9th.

Worship will be at 11 AM until Dec 14th.

The **office** will be closed Monday, November 3rd and Tuesday, November 4th. Regular office hours will resume on Wednesday, November 5th.

The next **Outreach Luncheon** will be on Wednesday, November 12th from 11:30am – 12:30pm. Volunteers are always welcome.

The **choir** rehearses on Fridays at 2PM in the music room. New members are always welcome.

A short refresher on the Synoptic Gospels

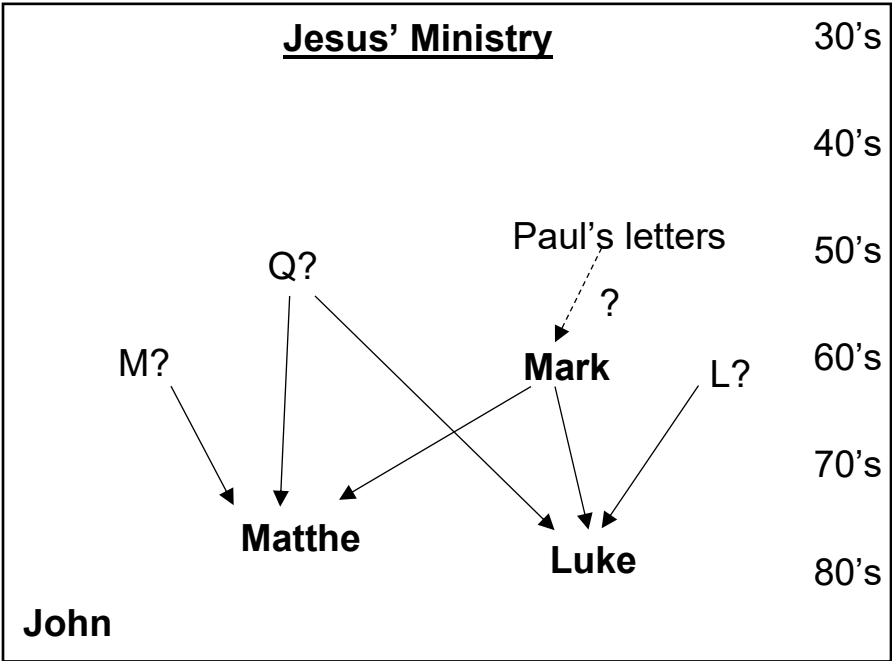
Matthew, Mark, and Luke contain large tracts of similar (sometimes identical) material – so similar, in fact, that they are called the Synoptic Gospels – the prefix *syn* meaning ‘together’.

Virtually all mainstream scholars believe that Mark was written first, sometime in the mid to late 60’s (about 35 after Jesus’ time), and that Matthew was written sometime around the year 80, with Luke a few years later, around 85. (John was probably written in the 90’s – although it has very little in common with the other three.)

None of the gospel writers were eyewitnesses to Jesus’ ministry, so they got their information from other sources.* Mark *may* have been partially influenced by Paul’s writings. It’s widely accepted that both Matthew and Luke independently used parts of Mark. A smaller majority of scholars also believe that both Matthew and Luke used a now-lost collection of Jesus’ sayings commonly called Q. (The full name is *Quelle*, after the German word for ‘Source.’)

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* It’s not directly related to today’s topic, but it’s very likely that none of the Gospel writers were actually named Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John. The gospels circulated for the better part of a century before names were attributed to them, sometime in the second century.

The basic situation can be diagrammed in this way:



There are still many differing concerns and arguments regarding the details, but for the better part of a century a majority of mainstream biblical scholars have regarded this as the general solution to what they call the ‘Synoptic Problem’ (Which isn’t really a *problem* as much as a *puzzle*.)

Notice, though, that in addition to Mark and Q there are two other sources of material used by Matthew and Luke. Small sections, neither from Mark or Q, are found *only* in Matthew and *only* Luke, and are simply called M and L. Matthew and Luke’s nativity narratives are both from M and L respectively – and the story of Zaccheus is also from L.