

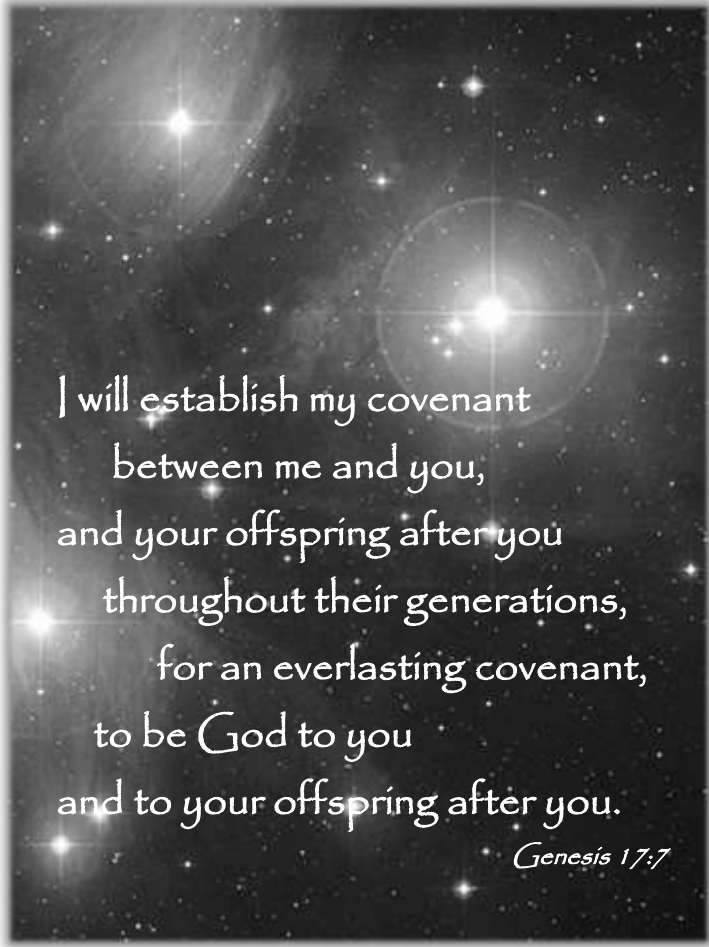
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# St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

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~ God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith ~



I will establish my covenant  
between me and you,  
and your offspring after you  
throughout their generations,  
for an everlasting covenant,  
to be God to you  
and to your offspring after you.

*Genesis 17:7*

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March 1, 2015 – Lent 2

Worship Leader: Rev. Heather Davies

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**Large Print Bulletins & Hearing Devices  
are available: Please ask an usher**

*(Please Rise in Body or in Spirit when you see this symbol \* )*

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

Welcome & Announcements

Greet Your Neighbour

Prelude                    **Be Thou My Vision**                    *(arr. Joel Raney)*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

One: Let us strive to know God,  
      whose coming is as sure as the sunrise.  
      God will come to us like the rain,  
      like spring rains that water the earth.

*Hosea 6:3*

*The Christ Candle is lit*

\* Processional Hymn            **O God of Bethel**            VU 650

Call to Worship

One: Lent is a time of repentance and reconciliation,  
      risk and renewal;

**All: a time to face all that which hems us in  
and holds us back.**

One: We gather to name the despair that surrounds us:

**All: our abuse of power;  
the harm we do to others and to the earth.**

One: We gather to give voice to the helplessness within us:

**All: the injustices that silence us;  
the pain that drains us of hope.**

One: We gather to claim God's liberating love  
      in the face of all the fear we know.

**All: Come let us worship God.**

Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

**All: God of Sarah and Abraham, God of us all:  
you have called people throughout the ages  
to journey in faithfulness.  
Give to us a sense of anticipation through this  
Lenten season,  
that we may move  
with confidence and hope  
toward the new life of Easter.  
We pray in Jesus' name, our Companion and  
Guide and who taught us to pray...  
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.  
For ever and ever. AMEN.**

Minute for Mission: "Brighter Futures"

Old Testament Lesson: **Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16**

One: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God for the Word**

\* Children's Hymn **To Abraham and Sarah** VU 634

Children's Time: "**Covenant Promises**"

Children's Prayer

Anthem

**O Silence**

(*John Foley*)

## WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

One: God of call, God of transformation,  
God of the Lenten journey;  
help us to discern your still, small voice.  
Open us to change and growth  
that we may walk with Christ. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Gospel Lesson: **Mark 8: 31-38**

One: This is the Gospel of Christ

**All: Praise to Christ the Word**

Sermon: **"Free Falling"**

Silence

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\* Hymn **Long Ago and Far Away** MV 195

Prayers of the People

Call for the Offering

Offering

Offertory Music **Chorale Prelude on 'St. Peter'**

*(C. Hylton Stewart)*

\* Offering Response: **We Bring Our Gifts to Share**

**We bring our gifts to share,  
and lift our grateful prayer  
That with our faithful care,  
our world will grow.  
Through work of minds  
and hands in gestures small or grand,  
Let willing hearts expand the love You sow.**

*Words & music © A. Baer, 2013, arr. S. Porter*

\* Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

**All: Gracious God,  
bless and transform all that we offer:  
our faltering steps, our brokenness,  
our hope, our risking, our hearts,  
that your covenant may be written on our hearts  
and we may be a blessed  
and transformed covenant people.  
In Jesus' name. Amen.**

### **WE ARE FED AT GOD'S TABLE**

Invitation to the Table:

One: In the name of the One who said,  
"I am the bread of life,"  
I invite you to come and eat.  
In the name of the One who said, "I am the true vine,"  
I invite you to come and drink.  
In the name of the One who said,  
"Love one another, as I have loved, you,"  
I invite you to the table of Jesus Christ.

Call to Give Thanks:

One: May God be with us.

**All: God is here among us.**

One: Let us open our hearts to God.

**All: We open them to God and to one another.**

One: Let us give thanks to God.

**All: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving:

One: Blessed are you, gracious God,  
Creator of light, Giver of all life, Source of love.  
From the dust of the earth, you created us in your  
image.  
From the bondage and slavery, you delivered us.  
Through all our wilderness wanderings you guide us.  
You call us to renewal and repentance,

to justice and compassion,  
to healing and wholeness.

We thank you for sending us Jesus,  
your Chosen One, Bread for our journey.  
He lived and loved this human life,  
taking upon himself our suffering and sorrow,  
being tested as we are tested,  
and reaching out to broken victims  
of the world's brokenness.

In him we come to know your truth,  
to feel the life that is Christ within us.  
So it is that throughout these Lenten days and nights  
we worship you, and bless your name:  
So it is that we join  
with those who have gone before us,  
with the angels of the heavens, and  
with all who will follow us  
in the holy community of faith, as we sing:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

One: On the night before he died,  
Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you,  
he broke it, and gave it to those who sat with him,  
saying:  
"Take, eat.  
This is my body, given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me."  
In the same way he took the cup, saying:  
"This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,  
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this in remembrance of me."  
Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace,  
remembering Christ's life and death,  
proclaiming his resurrection,  
waiting in hope for his coming again.

Grant that in praise and thanksgiving,  
we may so offer ourselves to you  
that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

One: Send your Holy Spirit, God, on us and what we do,  
that as we break bread and drink wine,  
we may be united with Christ, he in us and we in him,  
that we who are many may be one in him.  
Make us strong in faith and love,  
that we may become truly human,  
as Christ was truly human.  
Help us to love as Christ loved.  
Knowing our own weakness,  
may we stand with all who stumble.  
Sharing in his suffering,  
may we remember all who suffer.  
Held in his love,  
may we embrace all whom the world denies.  
Rejoicing in his forgiveness,  
may we forgive all who sin against us.  
Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever.  
Let the people say, "Amen!"

**All: Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread and the Filling of the Cup:

One: These are the Gifts of God, for you the people of God  
Come for now all things are ready.

Communion is Served

Hymns During Communion:

**Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence**                      VU 473  
**Spirit of the Living God**                                      VU 376

*(Congregation is invited to join in the singing of these hymns)*

Prayer After Communion (*unison*)

**All: We give thanks, almighty God,  
that you have refreshed us at your table  
by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ.  
Strengthen our faith,  
increase our love for one another,  
and send us forth into the world  
united in courage and peace,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

### **WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE GOD**

\* Hymn **I Have Called You By Your Name** MV 161

Commissioning:

One: May the blessing of God give us  
strength for the journey;  
may the Spirit of wisdom give us vision for the road;  
may the love of Christ make us caring companions;  
as together we go forth in the Lenten time. Amen.

\* Choral Benediction

Go now in peace, never be afraid  
God will go with you each hour of every day  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true  
Know God 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.

*("Go Now in Peace" Written by Besig & Price ©1988)*

POSTLUDE **Prelude in d minor** (*J. S. Bach*)

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Prayer Cycle for the United Churches in Hamilton Conference:  
***Lion's Head and Pike Bay United Churches, Bruce Presbytery***

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## ♪ MUSIC NOTES ♪

"Today's offertory is based on the hymn tune 'St. Peter', written by Alexander Robert Reinagle in 1836. The tune was named after St. Peter-in-the-East, a church in Oxford, England where Reinagle was organist from 1822-53. Of Austrian descent, he came from a family of musicians and became a well-known organ teacher. 'St. Peter' is most commonly associated with 2 different texts, 'How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds' (1774) by John Newton, a reformed slave trader who also wrote 'Amazing Grace', and 'In Christ There Is No East or West' (1908) by John Oxenham, a prolific English journalist, novelist and poet."

**Teresa Carse, LLWL** - At the Waterloo Presbytery meeting at SJR on Tuesday, Feb. 24, the annual interview process reaffirmed my status as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader within Waterloo Presbytery for another year. Your ongoing support plays an important role in this journey. Please know how sincerely thankful and grateful I am for each and every prayer, word of encouragement, the feedback and all support that you offer. This truly is a path we continue to walk together!

### IN OUR CHURCH:



**Brown Bag Lunch Fellowship:** A few of us have been meeting for a brown bag lunch on the first Tuesday of each month in the parlour. We just enjoy our own sandwich but have a time of fellowship together. Some feel it is much better than eating alone. If you feel you would like to join us, you are most welcome. Just appear at 12 noon this Tuesday, Mar. 3 or if you have any questions, contact the church office.

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**Next week:** ***March 2-8*** Rev. Heather will be on Continuing Education. She will be attending a workshop at Conrad Grebel College called: Leading the the Church through Change, Transformation and Renewal. Heather will be exploring the possibilities of: "finding ways of engaging change, transformation and renewal that energizes the church while allowing the church to live more fully into the future to which God calling forth?" Teresa Carse will be the worship leader on March 8.

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**Book Nook: Confronted by Jesus, written by Debbie McMillan.** The stories of Jesus and of ordinary people merge in this book. They are retold in the intimate style of a master storyteller. On display - Borrow for 3 weeks.

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**Seven Storytellers of Faith** is a VBS (Video Bible Study) Wednesday, at 7 p.m. in the Parlour. Come and hear seven well known theologians share their stories of faith during this Lenten Study. No homework....lots of discussion! Please sign the sheet on the Narthex table if you plan to attend.

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**Wednesday - Weekly Lenten Lunch** - St. James is the host church with a different congregation offering food & leadership each week. Lenten Lunches began this past week and will be held through the six weeks of Lent, from **12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.** All are welcome!



**This Week:**

- |                      |                                  |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>AV Crew</b>       | Jim C & Crew                     |
| <b>BookNook</b>      | Christine M                      |
| <b>Counters</b>      | Teresa C, Randy & Nancy D        |
| <b>Ushers</b>        | Gord & Rosemary A, Bob & Carol S |
| <b>Nursery</b>       | Margaret S                       |
| <b>Sunday School</b> | Kelly S                          |
| <b>Lay Reader</b>    | Janice B                         |

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## IN OUR COMMUNITY

**The Drop Box:** Be sure to see the upcoming award winning film "The Drop Box." It is a documentary about Pastor Lee Jong-Rak and his work to rescue abandoned babies in Seoul, South Korea. It will be playing at the Landmark Cinemas 10, Waterloo on **March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>**. Tickets can be purchased on-line at <http://dropbox.focusonthefamily.ca/>

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**World Day of Prayer Service** for SJR: Friday, March 6th, 2015, 2:00 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church, 30 Shaftsbury Dr., Kitchener

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**Inshallah Community Choir:** 100+ Voices singing with our neighbours. **March 8 at 3:00 p.m.** at St Matthews Lutheran Church, 54 Benton St., Kitchener, Reception to follow. Freewill offering. See Janice Bock for more info

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### **Grieving the Loss of a Companion Animal:**

For anyone who is grieving the death of a beloved pet: A workshop will be held on **Saturday, March 14th from 8:30-4:30** at All Saints Anglican Church, 685 Highpoint Ave., Waterloo. Cost: \$65 includes refreshments. To register please contact Cheryl Walsh at 519-746-8307 or [cheryl.walsh@sympatico.ca](mailto:cheryl.walsh@sympatico.ca)



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**Maundy Thursday Seder Meal** - Bridgeport United - **April 2, 6:00 p.m. and Service 7:00 p.m.**

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## FOR YOUR CALENDAR:



- Mar. 3 **Lunch Fellowship** - Noon in Parlour - All welcome!
- Mar. 4 **Lenten Lunch** - Noon in the Rainbow Room
- Mar. 4 **VBS Video Bible Study** - 7:00 p.m. in the Parlour
- Mar. 6 **World Day of Prayer** - Hope Lutheran 2 p.m.

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### **SJR Church Staff:**

**Rev. Heather Davies**, Minister of Worship  
[hdavies@sjruc.ca](mailto:hdavies@sjruc.ca) Office: 519-742-1002  
In the office Tues., Wed., & Thurs.

**\* For Pastoral Care Emergencies call:**  
519-589-6327 (Rev. Heather's cell)  
519-508-6327 (home)

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**Alison Vicary B.Mus., B.Ed.**  
Organist & Choir Director  
[music@sjruc.ca](mailto:music@sjruc.ca) Home: 519-837-2678

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**Monica Mahn**, Secretary  
Church Office: 519-742-1002 [mail@sjruc.ca](mailto:mail@sjruc.ca)  
Office hours: Tues. - Fri. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



**Daylight Savings Time:**  
**Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead  
by an hour next weekend!**