
St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

~ God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith ~



Communion Sunday

October 4, 2015 - 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Worship Leader: Rev. Meg Masterson

**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

Prelude **Pavane** *(Maurice Ravel)*

Welcome

Welcome Song: x 2 *(sung in echo to "Frere Jacques")*

Piano Side:

Organ Side:

God is with us.

God is with us.

Every Day.

Every Day.

God will always love us

God will always love us

Thank you, God.

Thank you, God

Children go to class and come back for communion

* Processional Hymn **Come, Let Us Sing** VU 222

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

One: We light this candle to celebrate the presence of
Christ in our midst, to enlighten our way.

The Christ Candle is lit

Call To Worship:

One: Here in this place, God offers us food,

All: so we take and eat.

One: Here in this place, our neighbors are hungry,

All: so we share the bread and the cup.

One: Here in this place, the table extends

All: beyond our friends,

One: beyond those who agree with us,

All: beyond these walls,

One: beyond the borders,

All: around the world.

One: Let us taste and see that our God is good.

All: Let us worship God with joy.

Opening Prayer

One: God of deep, abounding, astounding, boundary-breaking love,

**All: Forgive our closed doors; forgive our closed eyes and ears;
forgive our insulated living, forgive our safe and comfortable tables.**

One: God of deep, abounding, astounding, boundary-breaking love,

**All: Help us to slow down; help us to put our trust in you; help us to find what we need through communion with you and our faith community.
Amen.**

Minute for Mission:

Anthem: "JLM" *(Bradley Phillips)*

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination:

Hebrew Scripture: Job 1:1-2:10

One: This ends the story of Job for today.

All: May God give us understanding for our times.

Message: "**When Bad Things Happen to Good People**"

Silence

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People:

Call for the Offering:

Offertory: **Voluntary in B-flat** *(Sir Edward Elgar)*

* 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*)

In the spirit of Jesus, we bring our gifts to you, O God. Help us to give them with a ready mind, a willing spirit, and a joyful heart. Amen.

COMMUNION

* Communion Hymn **One Bread, One Body** VU 467

Service of World Wide Communion

Young Man: What makes this morning different from other mornings?

Teacher: Today we've come together to share in a special meal - a meal that reminds us of Jesus' time on earth, long ago, and a meal that helps us to remember our connection to all of our family throughout God's world - people who have already lived and died; people who are living now; and people who are yet to be born. Today we've come together to share in a special meal - a meal that helps us to remember our connection to God.

Minister: All are welcome at God's table - at Christ's table - at **this** table. People from near and far. Neighbours and strangers. Young and old. Gay and straight. Rich and poor. In whatever way you know the Christ, know you are invited to eat and drink with him... and with us. Alleluia! God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

Minister: Let us give thanks to God.

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

Young Man: When we sit down for a meal, we try to remember to say grace... to say "thank you" to God for the food that God has given us. Do we say thank you for this food?

Teacher: Oh, yes! We give thanks to God, not just for the food, but for everything that God has shared with creation... every part of our lives.

Minister: We do say thank you, loving God. We thank you for creating the heavens and the earth. We thank you for being the source of all life and all creation – for sharing with us the tiniest seed and the grandest stars... for creating us – with our tears and our laughter, with our joy and our sorrow, with our curiosity and our thinking... with our life. We thank you for Jesus, the Christ - for all that he learned from you and in you, for all that he taught, for all that he shared with the disciples, and all that he shares with us. Thank you, loving God!

Young Man: Is the minister the only one who thanks God?

Teacher: Oh, no! We all have a chance to say, "Thank you!" But we believe that the minister's voice and our voices join with the voices of everyone who loves God. Not just people, but every part of God's creation. It's true - every part of God's creation! Here, let us read this song from the Bible together:

All: Responsive Reading **Psalm 98** (*No refrain*) VU 818

Minister: Therefore, we praise you, wonderful God, joining our voices to sing out the glory of your name!

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Love and life! Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the highest!**

Young Man: So, communion is a time to celebrate!

Teacher: It is a time to celebrate... but it is also a time to remember some sad things, as well. God's people haven't always been very good at listening to God's call. Sometimes we're afraid of what God asks us to do. Sometimes we're too tired. Sometimes we're interested in something else. Sometimes... well, sometimes we're just nasty. As part of our "thank you", we remember that we aren't always listening... and we celebrate that God still loves us - no matter what!

Minister: We rejoice that, through Eve and Adam and all of their children, you entered into relationship with us. We rejoice that, through Sarah and Abraham and all of their children, you entered into covenant with us. But... we also remember that the covenant and relationship with you has been broken, many times... by our ancestors - and by us. Each time the covenant was broken, you invited us back! Through prophets and pastors and wise ones, you invited us back! And still we broke faith with you. But, when the time was right, you sent Jesus to live with us. Given life by the Holy Spirit, given life by the decision and action of your favoured one, Mary, he came to share our life - to bring us back to each other and to our covenant with you! At the Jordan River your Spirit came upon him, calling him to tell the world the good news of your love. He healed people who were sick and fed people who were hungry. He cried with those who mourned and danced with those who celebrated. He looked for people who were lost and alone... and helped them to understand that they were welcome at your table! He lived out the fullness of your grace. We saw his holy love.

Young Man: God has loved us in so many ways!

Teacher: Yes... we can see that in Jesus' life and in the lives of his followers. Now comes one of the parts of communion that I find difficult. You see, Jesus didn't only show us God's love by his life... but also by his death. It's alright if you don't understand it. I've been thinking about it for many years, and I still don't really understand it myself. But Jesus' made a decision to accept what was going to happen. He believed that his death – and whatever came afterward - was an important part of helping God's people to be re-connected to God's love. So we remember that night.

Minister: On the night before he was put to death, Jesus gathered with his friends for a special meal. He took bread and gave thanks to you, O God. He broke the bread and offered it to those gathered around him,

saying, "Take this and eat; this is my body which is given for you, do this in remembrance of me."

Taking a cup, he once again gave thanks to you, and shared the cup with those gathered, saying: "This is the cup of the new covenant in my blood. Drink from this, all of you. This is poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins."

After the meal, Jesus was arrested. His disciples and friends ran away. He was beaten for what people *thought* he had said. He stood trial... and was put to death on a cross. He gave all of himself to your people, O God. His life and his death. Then you raised him from that death, holy God - that he might be one with you, now and forevermore!

Young Man: What does she mean - eating Jesus' body and drinking his blood!?!

Teacher: When we eat the bread and drink the juice, we see these things as symbols of all that Jesus gave, and the Christ gives, to the world. When we eat the bread and drink the juice, we're taking in part of Christ's spiritual body to help us remember that we are part of that body. I think Jesus might have been trying to show how important all of this was, by using pictures that people might find scary.

Young Man: But... it's just bread and juice, right?

Teacher: It's bread and juice... ordinary food made special by God's love for us and our love for God.

Minister: Through that love, you gave to your people the gift of your Spirit, bringing us together from the ends of the earth - helping us to be the church, sharing your love in the world. Gracious God, we celebrate with joy all that you gave us in Jesus the Christ. We ask that we might live out of his love - that we might be a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable in your sight, that our lives might sing out the mystery of faith:

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

Minister: Remembering his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again, we offer to you, O God, this bread and this cup. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, so that everyone who eats and drinks at this table might be one in Christ's body... your holy people. Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever more!

Young Man: Everything is ready?

Teacher: Just about! Each of us reminds ourselves of Christ's call, by sharing together in the prayer that he gave to his disciples. Let's all pray together:

**All: 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.**

Minister: Jesus Christ, the bread of life. Jesus Christ, the true vine. The gifts of God, for the people of God. Thanks be to God! Come, for the table is prepared and our cup is overflowing.

Young Man: *Now* everything is ready?

Teacher: Yes! Today we are going to stay in the pews. The bread and the juice will be served to us, one at a time. When we get the bread, we'll hold on to it, until everyone is served... and then we'll all eat it together. We'll do the same thing with the juice.

Young Man: I know! We eat and drink at the same time to remind us that we are all part of the same family - all parts of God's house and Christ's body!

Teacher: Exactly!

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Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Hymns During Communion:

Bread of the World

(Richard Shepherd)

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

VU 478

Prayer After Communion

All: Thank you, Loving God!

Thank you for sharing Jesus with us.

Thank you for sharing your Spirit with us.

Give us compassion and love,

so that we might share it in the world and for the world, in your Name! Amen.

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SERVE GOD

* Hymn **Sent Forth By God's Blessing**

VU 481

Commissioning: *(Congregation)*

Those on the organ side:

The peace of Christ be with you.

The love of God be with you.

The Holy Spirit keep you.

Those on the piano side:

The peace of Christ be with you, too.

May you know the love of God in all you do.

May the Holy Spirit lead you to actions of love and grace.

* 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 **Fugue in A Major**

(Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau)

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***Please join us for Gather n' Gab
immediately after today's service!***



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Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of, Bob Sanders, who passed away Saturday, September 26th, 2015.

The funeral was this past Thursday, October 1st, at the Henry Walser Funeral Home.

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Prayer Cycle for the United Churches in Hamilton Conference:
Calvary Memorial United Church, Kitchener, Waterloo Presbytery



Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau (1663-1712) was a German musician and composer of vocal and keyboard music. During his time as cantor (head singer) and organist of the Market Church in Halle, Germany, he became renowned as a composer of dramatic cantatas (extended musical works similar to opera, based on a sacred text, without the staging, costumes etc.) He is best remembered as George Frideric Handel's first music teacher. Zachau taught him how to play the violin, organ, harpsichord and oboe as well as composition. It is said that after Zachau died, Handel became a benefactor to his widow and children in gratitude for his teacher's instruction. Johann Sebastian Bach became Zachau's successor at the Halle church after his death.

New phone directories will be available soon!

We're updating our own church directory (not the same as the photo directory.) A large print "draft" copy is on the table near the Rainbow Room today. Please review your information and make any corrections.



IN OUR CHURCH:

Help! Cookies! Do we have your attention yet? ☺ There will be a short meeting in the parlour **TODAY at noon** to begin planning for our upcoming Annual Cookie Walk. If you'd like to help out, please join us for today's meeting.



Brown Bag Lunch Fellowship: Tuesday Oct. 6th in the parlour. Bring your lunch and enjoy a time of fellowship together. Questions? Call Ellen E. **via the church office.** Everyone is welcome!



Highchairs and Booster Seats (must have safety restraints) for the church for our little ones who are present at the lunches, dinners, etc.

Donut cushion for our cushion cupboard, Do you happen to have a spare? Call Muriel: **via the church office**

SJR Reads: Monday, Oct. 5th at 1:30 p.m in the church parlour we will be discussing 'Anne of the Island' by L.M. Montgomery (available at KPL). Our last meeting for 2015 will be **Monday, Nov. 9th** discussing 'Water for Elephants by Sarah Gruen (available at KPL & WPL)

Be a Stamp Saver for the Leprosy Mission! Christmas is the best time to obtain used stamps from parcels & cards. Just place them in the caring bin in the brown wooden cabinet in the cloak room. Questions about the Stamp Project or The Leprosy Mission? Please contact Jim O. **via the church office.** See posters in the narthex for more details.



Thanks to our Volunteers this week!

AV Crew	AV team
Greeters	Joan K. Marion M. & Fran C.
Nursery	Allison R.
BookNook	Steve W.
Counters	Candy D., Les & Bev H.
Ushers	Ena A., Valerie H., Nancy E., Grace A.
Gather 'n' Gab	Gord & Rosemary A.
Readers	Anne W., Jan O., Cody K.



IN OUR COMMUNITY



Remember to check the bulletin boards for more information and more events!

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:



- Oct. 7 **VBS Bible Study** - 7:00 p.m. in the Parlour
- Oct. 8 **Choir Rehearsal** - 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room

Upcoming event? Please inform: office (mail@sjruc.ca)
and webmaster (webmaster@sjruc.ca or Box #36)

SJR Church Staff:

Rev. Meg Masterson, Minister of Worship
revmeg@sjruc.ca Office: 519-742-1002
In the office Tues., Wed., & Thurs.



For Pastoral Care Emergencies call:
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Alison Vicary B. Mus., B.Ed.
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Monica Mahn, Secretary
Church Office: 519-742-1002 mail@sjruc.ca
Office hours: Tues. - Fri. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



We Share The Air!
SJR is a smoke-free & fragrance-free facility.