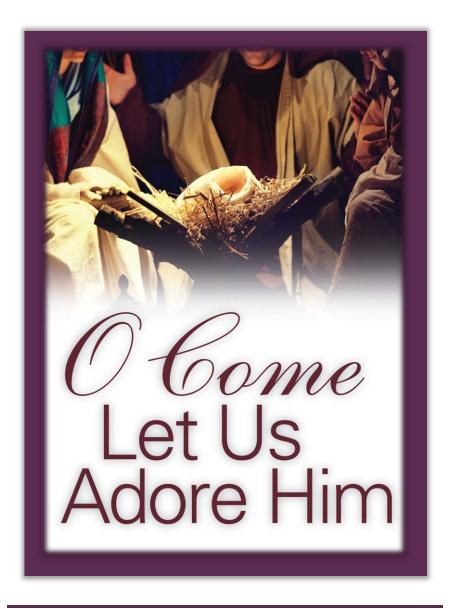
St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

~ God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith ~



December 24, 2015 – Christmas Eve 7 p.m. Worship Leader: Rev. Meg Masterson

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

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Please Rise in Body and/or Spirit when you see this symbol ()

Welcome

Prelude Ave Maria

(J.S.Bach/C.Gounod)

Dave Davidson, Trombone

Advent Candle Lighting & Call to Worship:

One: The celebration of Christ's birth draws close. Our Advent journey has taken us from the bleakness of dark days to the wonder and surprise of God's love, shown in the birth of the Holy Child. "Immanuel," God with us, is a surprise of Good News! God's love is amazing. God's love is life-giving! Again tonight, we light the first candle, reminding us of God's way of...

All: Hope.

One: We light the second candle, reminding us of God's way of...

All: Peace.

One: We light the third candle, reminding us of God's way of...

All: Joy.

One: We light the fourth candle reminding us of God's way of...

All: Love.

One: Tonight we light the Christ Candle in the centre of the wreath. "Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel, God with us."

All: May the love and light of this holy time be ever with us.

Opening Prayer: (unison)

Gracious God of Surprises, tonight we join our voices with all the angels in heaven and on earth who sing Glory to God in the highest. Tonight we give thanks for the brilliance of the stars over our heads. We give thanks for the peace of this

sanctuary. We give thanks for the hope we are offered as we gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ that fills us with such joy. For in the face of this small child, we are reminded that you are with us. As these candles burn, we proclaim that your light shines upon us. Hope, peace, joy and love have been born in us once again.

(Time of Silent Prayer)

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.

* Hymn Away in a Manger

vs 1 & 3 VU 69

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay Close by me forever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care, And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

OUR CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Hymn O Little Town of Bethlehem

vs 1 VU 64

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight. Hymn Silent Night, Holy Night

vs 1 VU 67

Silent night, Holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and child
Holy infant, tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Hymn **Jesus Our Brother** vs 1 VU 56

Jesus, our brother, kind and good, Was humbly born in a stable rude; And the friendly beasts around him stood, Jesus, our brother, kind and good.

Solo: I Wonder as I Wander (arr. John Jacob Niles)

Dave Davidson

Active Meditation: "What Can I Give Him?"

* Closing Hymn: Jesus Bids Us Shine vs 1 x 2 VU 585

Jesus bids us shine
with a clear, pure light,
Like a little candle
burning in the night;
In this world of darkness,
so let us shine,
You in your small corner,
and I in mine.

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

* Benediction

One: May all the wonder of the season be born

in us this day.

May we celebrate and know that God is present with us.

May it be a season of great joy and peace on earth.

Postlude: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (arr. Craig Curry)



In Memory of family & friends flowers have been placed in the sanctuary by:

Ena A. Lynda Barnaby & Joan S.

Janice B. Teresa & Jim C. Gordon & Shirley D. Bill & Dianne D.

Nancy, Collin, & Heather E. Margaret H.

Terry & Sandra J. Wally & Joan K. Bob & Betty M. Jim & Norma M.

Doug & Alison R. Jean S. Elizabeth T. Janet T.

Corinne W. Don & Anne W. Carol & Christopher W. Ted Y. & Family

Thanks to our Volunteers

AV Crew AV Team

Greeters Margaret H., Dorothy H.

Marion M. & Fran C.

Lay Reader Anne W.

We're so glad you joined us for this special Christmas Eve service!

If you're visiting with us today, we'd love to see you here again.

We meet every Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. and we welcome you to join us.

Visit our website for upcoming events: www.sjruc.ca

Questions?
We can be reached by email at mail@sjruc.ca
and by phone at 519-742-1002



FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

□ Dec. 27 **Hymn Sing Service** 10:30 a.m.

ourch Office will be closed the week of Jan 28th - Jan 1st



SJR Church Staff:

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

For Pastoral Care Emergencies call:

The church office

Alison Vicary B. Mus., B.Ed. Organist & Choir Director music@siruc.ca

Monica Mahn, Secretary Church Office: 519-742-1002 mail@sjruc.ca Office hours: Tues. - Fri. 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR