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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 ~*



## Carols Service

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December 27, 2015 - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas  
Rev. Meg Masterson & Alison Vicary, Organist

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

**We extend a warm welcome to all joining us  
today from Trinity United Church!**

**WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

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

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

One: Arise, shine, for your light has come;  
and over you the glory of God has dawned.  
Christ is with us.

**All: Christ is in our midst.**

Prelude **The First Nowell**

*(arr. Craig Curry)*

\*Opening Hymn: **O Come, All Ye Faithful** vs 1, 2, 3 VU 60

Call to Worship

One: Like the shepherds...

**All: We come to the stable.**

One: Like the angels...

**All: We sing our praises to God.**

One: Like the Wise Ones...

**All: We offer what we have, and who we are.**

One: As people following Jesus Christ...

**All: We come to celebrate God's presence in our lives!**

Hymn **Once in Royal David's City**

vs 1,2 VU 62

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

**God of the old and the new, who speaks to us  
through a tiny baby and a servant leader,  
transform our lives again this year. Speak to us  
through children and teens and adults; those who  
are similar to us and to our situation in life, and  
those who are very different. Open us to hear  
your message for us in many ways. Let your  
radical message of justice, love and peace be  
known in new ways this coming year.**

**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

Reading: **Luke 2: 1–7** The Birth of Jesus

Hymn **Still, Still, Still** vs 1, 3 VU 47

Hymn **Away in a Manger** vs 1, 3 VU 69

Reading: **Luke 2: 8–16** The Shepherds and The Angels

Hymn **Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** VU 58

\* Hymn **Angels We Have Heard On High** vs. 1, 2 VU 38

\* Hymn **The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy** vs 1, 3 VU 73

Reading: **Matthew 2: 1–11** Visitors from The East

Hymns: **We Three Kings**

We three kings of Orient are;  
 Bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
 Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
 Following yonder star.

*Refrain:*

O star of wonder, star of night,  
 Star with royal beauty bright,  
 Westward leading, still proceeding,  
 Guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain  
 Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
 King forever, ceasing never,  
 Over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I;  
Incense owns a Deity nigh;  
Prayer and praising, voices raising,  
Worshipping God on high.

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume  
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorr'wing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
Sealed in the stone cold tomb.

Glorious now behold Him arise;  
King and God and sacrifice;  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Sounds through the earth and skies.

Hymn **'Twas In the Moon of Wintertime** vs 1,3 VU 71

A Message of Christmas

Reading: **John 1: 1–9, 14** The Word of Life

\*Hymn: **Joy to the World** vs 1,3,4 VU 59

\*Hymn **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing** vs 1,3 VU 48

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music **Away In A Manger** (arr. Craig Curry)

\*Offertory Response **What Child Is This?** v 3 VU 74

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise a song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby  
Joy, joy for Christ is born,  
The babe, the Son of Mary.

\*Dedication of the Offering

\*Closing Hymn **Go Tell It On the Mountain** VU 43

\*Benediction

**May this coming year be a blessed one.  
May hope lead us on, peace be with us,  
love visit us,  
And joy accompany us throughout 2016.  
We go now in the peace of Christ,  
to bear God's light to the world.**

Postlude: **Angels We Have Heard On High** (arr. Cindy Berry)

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



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Prayer Cycle for the United Churches in Hamilton Conference:  
***Harcourt Memorial United Church, Guelph***

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The Christmas Carol: There have been nativity hymns since the fourth century but they were quite solemn. At this time the performance of carols (a word derived from the Greek word 'choros' meaning circle dance with singing), was frowned upon by the church because of its pagan connections. In the 13th century Christian teaching shifted away from a vengeful God, and the benefits of adding Christian poetry to the popular pagan carols became evident. This new form spread quickly across Europe and led to the creation of many carols still popular today, including 'In Dulci Jubilo', 'O Tannenbaum' and 'Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming'. The Reformation put an end to the use of carols in protestant countries such as England and Scotland from the 17th to the mid-19th century. By the early 19th century the carol was all but dead, except for those preserved by collectors. However, a renewed interest in carols came about with the introduction in 1878 of the Lessons and Carols service in Truro, England. From that point the interest in this musical form has led to the huge number available to us today through collectors and their arrangements, through translation and with those newly composed.

## IN OUR CHURCH:



**Thank you! Thank you! Thank You!** To all our bakers, donors, volunteers, & buyers who supported our fund raiser. The Cookie Walk & Silent Auction on Dec. 5 & 6 raised \$1732.45 to support the Christian Education Committee. We appreciated your support!

*Christine M., Norma M., Ena A.*

**“Uppity”** means rebelliously self-assertive not inclined to be tractable or deferential. It meant survival for Ruth and Naomi. Join us beginning **Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>** from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. for four weeks as we take a look at two more “uppity” women of the Old Testament - Esther and Judith. Please sign the sheet on the Narthex table if you plan to attend. Thanks!

**Mission & Service Giving** In 2014, our gifts totaled \$29,559.65 (\$24,559.65 from congregation; \$5,000 from the UCW). At October 31, 2015, we have given of October 2015 \$20,259 (from the congregation) toward our goal of \$30,000. Our gifts for Mission & Service and from people all across the United Church achieve more that we could alone. Please join us and make giving for Mission & Service a regular part of your life of faith. Through Mission & Service we share compassion, build community and bring hope. Mission & Service changes peoples' lives. Your Mission and Outreach Committee – Maureen D., Doug R. and Lynda B.



**Book Nook:** **If Like is a Game, These are the Rules**, by *Cherie Carter-Scott, Ph.D.* A template for living. Everyone needs to read these words of wisdom. It's “simple” yet important stuff! On display - Borrow for 3 weeks.

**Annual Reports:** It's that time of year again! Annual Reports are due January 4<sup>th</sup>. Please Email reports to: mail@sjruc.ca Thank you!

**Church Office will be closed the week of Dec 28<sup>th</sup> - Jan 1<sup>st</sup>**

### Thanks to our Volunteers this week!

<b>AV Crew</b>	AV Team
<b>Greeters</b>	Don & Fern W. Marion M. & Fran C.
<b>Gather n'n Gab</b>	Gord & Shirley D.
<b>Counters</b>	Steve W., Cec O., Eric W.
<b>Ushers</b>	Cec O., Doug R., Roy K., Evelyn S.
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Maureen D.

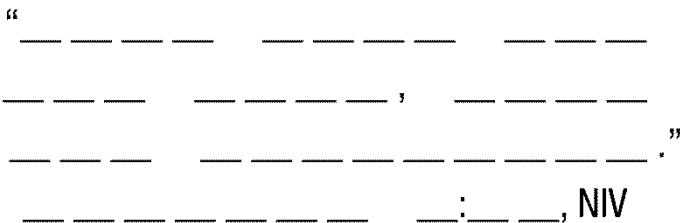


## CORNER *For the young at heart!*



When Jesus was born, a star led the wise men to him.

*below to complete Matthew 2:10, NIV.*



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## FOR YOUR CALENDAR:



- ☐ Jan. 6 **VBS Bible Study** - 7:00 p.m. in the Parlour
- ☐ Feb. 7 **Annual Congregational Meeting** - 12:00 noon



### **SJR Church Staff:**

**Rev. Meg Masterson**, Minister of Worship  
[revmeg@sjruc.ca](mailto:revmeg@sjruc.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@sjruc.ca](mailto:music@sjruc.ca)

**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.

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