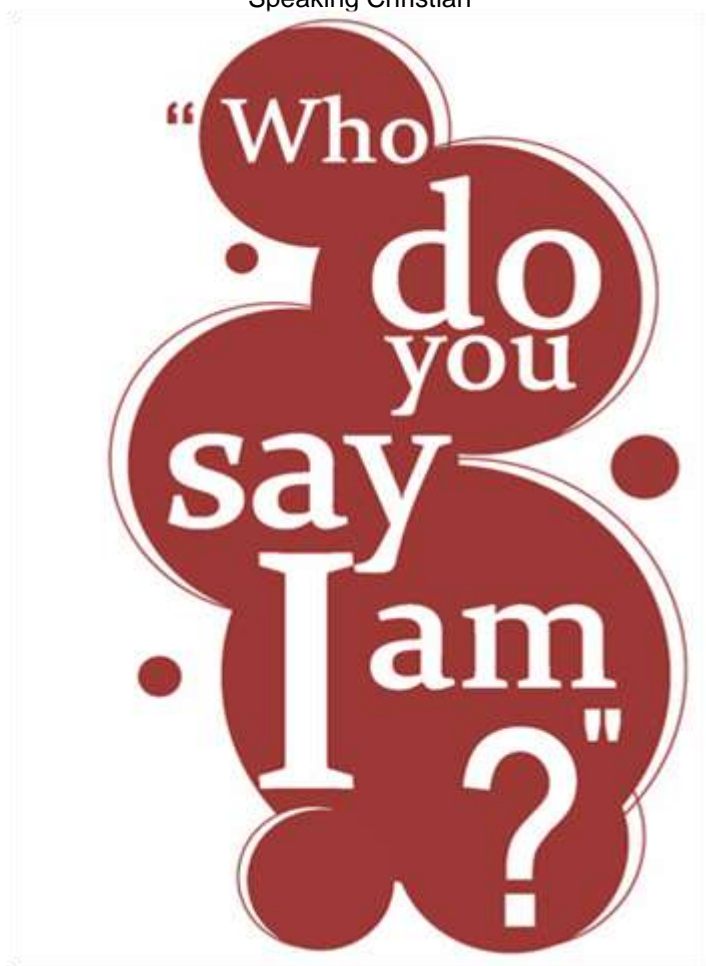

St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

~ God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith ~

Speaking Christian



March 26, 2017 – 4th Sunday in Lent
Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling

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

Welcome!

We extend a warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us this morning. Please join us in the Rainbow Room after worship for refreshments and fellowship.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S HOPE

VU: Voices United

MV: More Voices

* Please rise in body and/or Spirit as you are able.

Welcome & Announcements

Marking our Journey into Darkness (*extinguish candle*)

One: Light of our lives, burn even in the darkest moments.

Response: **Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery** VU 121


**All: Light of life beyond conceiving,
mighty Spirit of our Lord;
give new strength to our believing,
give us faith to live your word,
give us faith to live your word.**

**Give us eyes to see you clearly,
make us children of your light;
give us hearts to live more nearly
as your gospel shining bright,
as your gospel shining bright.**

Solo **How Beautiful Are the Feet**
from "The Messiah"

(G.F. Handel)

* Opening Hymn **Come Touch Our Hearts**

MV 12 

Call to Worship

written by Joanna Harader

One: We come to worship this morning
from different places.

All: O God, do not be far from us.

One: We come to worship this morning
for different reasons.

All: O God, do not be far from us.

One: We experience the presence of the Spirit
in different ways.

All: O God, do not be far from us.

One: We hear Jesus' words with different ears.

All: O God, do not be far from us.

One: "Deny yourselves."

All: O God, do not be far from us.

One: "Take up your cross."

All: O God, do not be far from us.

One: "Follow me."

**All: O God,
we thank you for drawing near to us
in this place,
in our lives.**

Prayer of Confession

One: Finding words for prayer can be difficult.

As we come to you God,
you knowing heart and head,
we offer the silence of our hearts,
listening for your love.

Silence

We listen for grace.

Silence

We listen for forgiveness.

Silence

Amen.

Words of Assurance and Lord's Prayer (*sung* VU 959)

One: For even in the silences of our lives,
you speak new words of compassion,
that transform our world.
For the Word was spoken,
and did sing for us:

**All: Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Story Time

Hymn **Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands** VU 570

*Youth and Children are invited to head out
for Sunday School!*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Anthem **How Can I Keep From Singing?** (*R. Lowry/T. Shaw*)

Readings from the Scriptures: **Matthew 16:13-26**

Reflection ***Why Christian?***
Speaking Christian...

Hymn **The Church's One Foundation** VU 331

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering (*Donate online at sjruc.ca*)

Offertory **Aria on 'Aurelia'** (*John W. Vandertuin*) 

* Offering Response **Now Thank We All Our God** VU 236

**Now thank we all our God,
with heart, and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

*Dedication of the Offering

Prayers of the People

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

* Closing Hymn **The Church of Christ in Every Age** VU 601

* Commissioning

written by the Iona Community

One: Look at your hands,
see the touch and the tenderness.

All: God's own for the world.

One: Look at your feet,
see the path and the direction.

All: God's own for the world.

One: Look at your heart,
see the fire and the love.

All: God's own for the world.

One: Look at the cross,
see God's son and our Saviour.

All: God's own for the world.

One: This is God's world.


All: And we will serve God in it.

One: May God bless you.
May God keep you ever with great care
and lead your lives with love.

**All: May Christ's warm welcome shine in our lives,
and peace in heart and home
prevail through every day
till greater life shall call. Amen**

* Choral Benediction

May the Blessing of God Be upon You

VU 429 

May the blessing of God be upon you.

May God's love light all your way.

May the grace of Christ enfold you
and peace around you stay.

May the Spirit of God dwell within you.

May you live in joy each day.

Please be seated

Postlude

Toccata on 'Aurelia'

(John W. Vandertuin) 

* * *

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

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Prayer Cycle for the United Churches in Hamilton Conference:
Parkminster United Church, Waterloo

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Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of members who passed away recently:

Alice Lamarre, nee Bobroski (March 17, 2017)

Donald Cox (March 20, 2017)

Roger Higgins (March 22, 2017)

* * *



Dr. John W. Vandertuin began his formal study in music after moving from Brandon, Manitoba to attend the Ontario School for the Blind in Brantford, Ontario. He gave his first recital in Paris, France at age 14 while studying there. He later studied at the University of Western Ontario, the University of Michigan and the Sweelinck Conservatory in Amsterdam, and was twice invited to compete in the International Improvisation Competition in Haarlem, the Netherlands, the second Canadian to be so honoured. In addition to his international performance and competitions, Dr. Vandertuin has composed many works for organ and choir. Variations on "Aurelia" (The Church's One Foundation) was commissioned in 2007 to honour Douglas Haas' 40 years as Music Director of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kitchener.

Thanks to our Volunteers this week!

AV Crew	AV Team
Book Nook	Millie W.
Lay Reader	Steve W.
Counters	Valerie H., Charmian P., Nancy S.
Greeters	Les & Bev H.
Gather & Gab	Dianne D., George C.
Ushers	Bob & Carol S., Ron R., Doug R.
Nursery	Alison R., Krista H.
Choir	Thank you to the many voices that enhance our worship!



IN OUR CHURCH:



SJR Reads: We are meeting on ***Monday, March 27th at 1:30 p.m.*** in the church Parlour. We will be discussing 'All the Light We Cannot See' by Anthony Doerr. We have a KPL book club bag for this book - contact Charmian at ce@sjruc.ca if you would like one of the books. You are welcome to join us for a good discussion and fellowship.

UCW Monday, March 27th 7:30 p.m. in the church Parlour. Jim & Vikki T. will tell us about the Treasures of South Africa. It was on their bucket list. Come and enjoy their trip to Cape Town, Victoria Falls, and a safari! All women of the congregation are welcome! **Special Addendum: Men are invited to join us in the Long Sunday School room at 8 p.m. for this presentation!**



Reel Theology: Tuesday March 28th at 5:15 pm - Potluck with film and discussion to follow. Forrest Gump - A kind-hearted, gentle hero with a lower IQ makes his way in a world growing ever more complicated. Starring Tom Hanks and Sally Field. (There is no Reel Theology in April) Potluck sign-up sheet on-line.



Bake Sale! The older Sunday School class will be hosting a bake sale **April 2nd after church**. All proceeds will be going to the Sick Kids Foundation.

Membership: Anyone wishing to become a member of St. James Rosemount please contact Rev. Chris, or Monica in the church office @ 519-742-1002.

Greeters needed! If you are interested and can help out with greeting on Sunday mornings please contact Margaret H. via the church office, or leave her a note in her mailbox # 14 stating your name, & phone number. It only takes half an hour of your time every couple of months. You get to meet people, learn their names and be a welcoming face for our congregation.

Easter Lilies & Hydrangeas will be purchased through the Flower Fund to decorate sanctuary for Easter. If you would like to make a memorial donation of \$10.00 to the Flower Fund, please complete the online form **by April 9th**. Place your donation in an envelope with your name and mark "**Easter Flower Fund**" and leave on the collection plate.



Book Nook: Confronted By Jesus written by Debbie McMillan. This book contains daily reflections for Lent. They are retold in the intimate style of a master storyteller. On display - borrow for 3 weeks.

Two-Wheeled Cart? Does anyone have a 2-wheeled appliance cart they no longer need? Please let Dave B. know- property@sjruc.ca

Campbell Soup Labels: We no longer collect Campbell Soup labels. Loyalty models change and so we have to adapt. Thank you for your support through the years!!! *The UCW Caring Bins.*

Dancing with DisABILITY Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Rainbow Room. Four places have been reserved for SJR friends **free of charge**. To learn more see the info on the Community Bulletin Board. Sign up or take a leaflet to give to someone who enjoys music & loves to dance despite physical challenges. <http://bodymindandmovementprogram.com>

IN OUR COMMUNITY:

Expanding the Circle HIV+ Talk You are invited to hear Priscilla Muzira from ACKWA: HIV+ Talk **TODAY Sun. March 26, 2017 Coffee and snacks at 6:30 pm Talk starts promptly at 7:00 pm.** Priscilla will help us to learn about the challenges people face, and to clear up our misconceptions. She will be joined by two guest speakers who are living with HIV. Parkminster United Church 275 Erb St. E., Waterloo. For more information, e-mail eforde@sentex.ca

Ecumenical prayer services with Taizé songs Sunday, March 26 at 7:30 pm at Church of the Good Shepherd, Queen St. N. Kitchener, phone 519-743-3845 followed by: Palm Sunday, April 9, 7:30 pm at St. Agatha Christian Communities at St. Agatha Catholic Church 1839 Notre Dame Drive, St. Agatha. Phone 519-747-1212

Ladies - Come Celebrate 55 years of UCW at the Waterloo Presbyterial Annual Gathering: "Journey Where God Leads Us" **Monday April 3rd, 9 a.m. 3:30 p.m.** (8 a.m. continental breakfast) Speaker: Jenn Hind. Guelph Country Club, 133 Woodlawn Rd E., Guelph. Tickets \$25 (breakfast & lunch) To RSVP mail cheque ASAP (payable to Elizabeth Kocker), noting: diet allergies; your phone number; and email to: Elizabeth Kocher 519-578-8248 bettykocher@yahoo.ca 140 Dinison Cr Kitchener ON N2E 2V2 Margot White 519-742-6047 margot.white@sympatico.ca

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:



- ☐ Mar. 27 **SJR Reads** - Parlour 1:30 p.m.
- ☐ Mar. 27 **UCW 'Treasures of S. Africa'** 7:30 p.m. Parlour
- ☐ Mar. 28 **Reel Theology Potluck** Long Sun. Sch. Rm. 5:15
- ☐ Mar. 29 **DVD Study "Resurrection"** - Parlour 7 p.m.
- ☐ Apr. 2 **Bake Sale** for Sick Kids Foundation - after Worship
- ☐ Apr. 9 **Easter Flowers donation deadline**

See monitors, bulletin boards, & www.sjruc.ca for more events.

SJR CHURCH STAFF:

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Office: 519-742-1002 Cell: 226-989-6400

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

Monica Mahn, Office Admin. mail@sjruc.ca Tues.- Fri. 519-742-1002