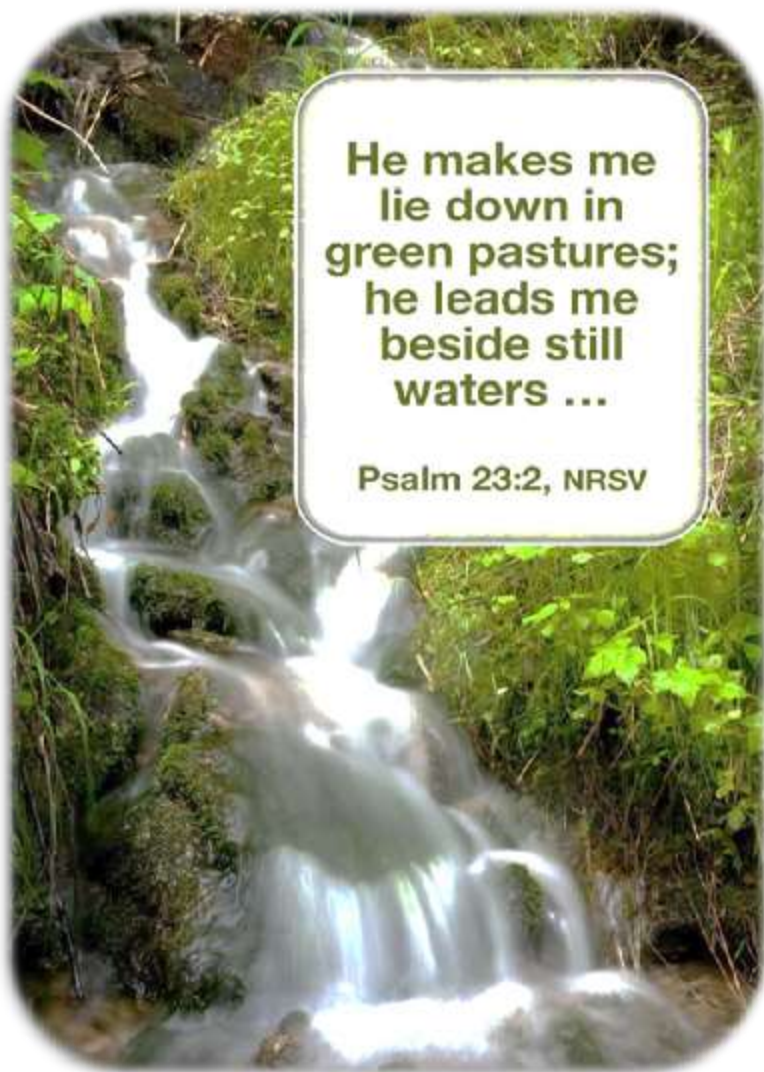

St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

~ God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith ~



He makes me
lie down in
green pastures;
he leads me
beside still
waters ...

Psalm 23:2, NRSV

April 2, 2017 – 5th 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.**

**God of all our fear and sorrow,
God who lives beyond our death;
hold us close through each tomorrow,
love as near as every breath,
love as near as every breath.**

Prelude **Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier** (*J.S. Bach*)
(*Dearest Jesus, We Are Here*)

* Opening Hymn **Great is thy Faithfulness** VU 288 

Call to Worship *written by Thom Shuman*

One: Day by day, God leads us:

**All: to the deep, deep pools of peace,
to the green, lush places of grace.**

One: Day by day, Jesus calls us:

**All: to pour out ourselves in service,
to anoint the stranger with hope.**

One: Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:

**All: the community we could be,
the family we are called to become.**

Prayer of Confession

One: In the places of hurt,
desiring healing,
we call out to you God of love..

Silence

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

One: For you hear our prayers, walking with us to new life.
And we sing,

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

Walk with Me

VU 649

refrain, verse 4, refrain

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

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Readings from the Scriptures: **Psalm 23** (*sung*)

VU 748

Reflection

Why Christian?

Loving the world that God loves

Anthem

Listen to the Lambs

(*R. Nathaniel Dett*) 

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

(*Donate online at sjruc.ca*)

Offertory

Mercy "La Grace"

(*George Phillip Telemann*)

* 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 *adapted from a prayer by Katherine Hawker*

One: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;

**All: We believe in the goodness of God.
We believe God hears and responds to our needs.
We believe God responds to the needs of those
who call.**

One: ...God restores my soul...

**All: We are grateful that we've been blessed with
enough water.
But we know that many do not have enough.
Not enough water, not enough food,
not enough peace.**

One: ...God leads me in paths of righteousness...

**All: Too many children do not see God's righteousness.
Too many children watch violence,
taste hunger, feel fear.
Too many children cry from the unspeakable
horror of war.**

One: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow
of death, I will fear no evil...

**All: To become involved is risky.
Pain is often contagious.
Our hearts may be broken
and our lives may be threatened.
Yet we hear God calling and we can no longer hide.**

One: Thou preparest a table for me...

**All: Our steps may be small and timid.
We may read a book, write a letter, or make a gift.
We may offer prayers,
giving over our control to God.
Each tiny step is blessed by God and multiplies.**

One: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me...

**All: God is more relentless
than the divisions we create.
God is more pervasive than hatred.
God is more insistent than despair.**

One: Amen.

All: Amen.

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

* Closing Hymn **Bless Now, O God, the Journey** VU 633 

* Commissioning

One: The kingdom of love is coming because:

**All: somewhere someone is kind
when others are unkind,
somewhere someone shares
with another in need,
somewhere someone refuses to hate,
while others hate,
somewhere someone is patient –
and waits in love,
somewhere someone returns good for evil,
somewhere someone serves another, in love,
somewhere someone is calm in a storm,
somewhere someone is loving everybody.**

One: Hold fast to this good news:

God is always somewhere,
working through someone.
Today, may God work through you.

* 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

Grand Jeu

(Jean Adam Guilain)

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



* * *

Thank you to today's guest musicians Zola Magwood, Jennifer Carter, Chris Clarke, Jack Ford Stevens, and Matt Oxley. Their talents are much appreciated in helping us to perform today's special anthem.

* * *

Prayer Cycle for the United Churches in Hamilton Conference:
Pine River United Church, Bruce Presbytery



R. Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943) was born in Drummondville (now Niagara Falls) Ontario. His ancestors were among the slaves who travelled to Canada on the Underground Railway. He began piano and organ studies in Canada and continued at U. S. conservatories and colleges after his family moved to New York State. Dett taught at a Black college in Hampton, Virginia from 1913-32 where his choirs quickly gained recognition for excellence. They were invited to perform at such venues as Carnegie Hall, Boston Symphony Hall, the Library of Congress, and in 1930 toured Europe to introduce audiences to Black American music. Dett passionately encouraged the preservation and performance of spirituals. During his lifetime he was recognized as the first composer to fuse African American music with European classical music, and today he is acknowledged to be one of the most important musicians in American history.

IN OUR CHURCH:



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



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 sign the sheet in the narthex or on the bulletin board by the Church Office **by April 9th**. Place your donation in an envelope with your name and **mark "Easter Flower Fund"** and leave on the collection plate.

One Night Only! Join us **Wednesday, April 26th at 7 p.m.** in the Parlour for the DVD: "One Who Was There". Mary Magdalene is traveling from Jerusalem to Galilee in AD 64. This lonely survivor is one of the few left who saw Jesus arrested and crucified. Time has left her haunted by memories of death. Her spiritual strength and faith have eroded and are overshadowed by despair. Mary is transformed by the discoveries of her journey. The people she meets dredge up past memories. Her despair is challenged by the faith of a new generation of believers who celebrate the Lord's living presence. Others who question the validity of the faith force her to relive the events she experienced as a younger woman. She is reassured as she joins her life to others. Her past, present and future come together as she relives the powerful moment of Jesus' resurrection. She who was among the first to see the risen Lord finds a surge of new life & a renewal of faith. What began as a journey of despair ends with her return to serve the living God.

The Garage Sale - Saturday, May 6th, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

House cleaning this Spring? We'd love to help! Collect the treasures you don't want and deliver them to SJR from Wed. May 3rd to Fri., May 5th, 10 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. We'll take small appliances and tools that work, dishes, yard tools, glassware, household decorations, pots & pans, hand tools, kid's toys, books DVDs, CDs, jewelry, clean used clothing, plants that you have split and are ready to be planted and anything else you don't need or want. **"Many hands make light work"** so check the sign-up sheets outside the upstairs kitchen and let us know when you can help. All funds will go to the Mission & Service Fund. Questions? Contact Cec O., via boardsec@sjruc.ca

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.



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



Join the SJR Lawnmower Racing Team!

Cruise with the wind in your hair on the riding lawn mower! Keys to the garage are available for the asking - see Dave B. **Sign up in the narthex.**

Thanks to our Volunteers this week!

AV Crew	AV Team
Book Nook	Christine M.I
Lay Reader	Valerie H.
Counters	Steve W., Les & Bev H.
Greeters	Jim & Norma M.
Gather & Gab	Nancy E., Maureen K.
Ushers	Debbie S., Donna S., Jim & Vikki T.
Nursery	Alison R., Donna S.
Choir	Thank you to the many voices that enhance our worship!



IN OUR COMMUNITY:



24th Kitchener Cubs & Scouts Annual Food Drive We have been collecting food for over 20 years. It seems almost every year we come up just a bit short of our 1 ton goal. Last year we collected 1776 lb. Please help us reach our goal! Bring your (heavy) non-perishable food items **next Sunday (Apr 9)** and we will add them to our collection and hopefully pass our 1 ton goal. (We will also be collecting door to door in the community on April 10) For more info go to 24th.ca or sjruc.ca Thank you for helping our kids help others!

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:



- Apr. 2 **Bake Sale** for Sick Kids Foundation - after Worship
- Apr. 9 **Easter Flowers donation deadline**
- May. 6 **Annual Garage Sale** - 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. SJR upstairs

SJRUC EASTER EVENTS:

April 9 Palm Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

April 13 Seder Supper 5:45 p.m. - Rainbow Room
Family-friendly Jewish Seder Meal followed by fellowship with a potluck supper.

Register on the website: www.sjruc.ca/events/seder-supper

April 14 Good Friday Service 10:30 a.m.

April 16 Sunrise Service 7:00 a.m. Labyrinth (weather permitting)
Easter Breakfast - serving until 9:30 Rainbow Rm

Register: <https://sjruc.ca/events/easter-morning-breakfast/>

Worship & Communion 10:30 a.m.

Friendship Lunch after Worship - Gym



SJR CHURCH STAFF:

Rev. Chris Fickling, Minister of Worship revchris@sjruc.ca

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