
St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

~ God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith ~

Anniversary Sunday



April 26, 2020 – 3rd Sunday of Easter
Worship Leader: Rev. Rob Selby

Welcome!

Welcome to worship!

We hope it will be a quiet space for you as you prepare to spend time with God amid life's busyness and storms. We honour each other's desire for peace as we gather. We're glad you're here!

WE GATHER IN GOD'S HOPE

VU: Voices United

MV: More Voices

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the Haldimand Tract, traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Faith of Our Fathers

VU 580

*Faith of our fathers, living still
in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;
O how our hearts beat high with joy,
whene'er we hear that glorious word:
faith of our fathers, holy faith,
we will be true to you till death.*

*Faith of our mothers, daring faith,
your work for Christ is love revealed,
spreading God's word from pole to pole,
making love known and freedom real:
faith of our mothers, holy faith,
we will be true to you till death.*

*Faith of our sisters, brothers too,
who still must bear oppression's might,
raising on high, in prisons dark,
the cross of Christ still burning bright:
faith for today, O living faith,
we will be true to you till death.*

***Faith born of God, O call us yet;
bind us with all who follow you,
sharing the struggle of your cross
until the world is made anew.
Faith born of God, O living faith,
we will be true to you till death.***

Call to Worship

One: The church is the place where the broken gather:

All: let us worship the One who reconciles us to one another and to God.

One: The church is the place where we, the broken and wounded are always welcome:

All: let us worship God who with forgiving hands, shapes us into new people.

One: The church is the place where the lost, the least, the forgotten, the ignored gather:

All: let us worship God who looks at us all with the eyes of love.

One: The church is the place where we are together, even when we are apart:

All: let us worship God wherever we find ourselves this day, isolated in our homes, in our apartments, and in our residential places.

Opening Prayer

One: Loving God, thank you for drawing us into community, and specifically into this community, St. James'~Rosemount United Church. Inspire us through lives of those who have walked before us, those who have lived here in faith, and opened up, and given away your love to those who needed it. May you give each of us a vision to continue here, as a constant presence, for those who travel through life, a community of welcome that cares for all in our larger community, believing into what is still yet to be. Teach us to discern your voice, as those before us discerned your voice. May we hear your word, a comforting word, in a familiar setting, yet a disturbing word in what it speaks anew and longs for us to become. And may we join our voices with the voices of those who walked before us, in the one great song of love. This we pray in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

Invitation to Reconciliation

Prayer of Confession and Reconciliation

One: We who are one in community, confess the times we have isolated ourselves into our individual lives and forgotten to pray for, and care for, each other.

All: Bring to us your surprising grace, Jesus Christ.

One: We who are one in community, confess the times we have isolated ourselves to areas of personal interest, and competed against each other for power, money, influence and personal safety.

All: Bring to us your surprising grace, Jesus Christ.

One: We who are one in community confess the times we have been exclusive; times we have thrown out the welcome mat for those who are like us, but shut the door in the face of those who are different from us.

All: Bring to us your surprising grace, Jesus Christ.

One: This we prayer in the name of the one who taught us this prayer; *saying together...*

Lord's Prayer

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.

Assurance of Pardon

One: God whose breath gives us life, walks through the closed doors of our worries and our doubts, to stand in our midst, offering us grace, which heal us.

Thanks be to God, we are a forgiven people. Amen

Story Time

*Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet
 Like the starry night sky, God is over our heads
 Like the sun on the horizon, God is ever before
 Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in God evermore!*

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Readings from the Scriptures: Luke 24: 45-49 (The Message)

He went on to open their understanding of the Word of God, showing them how to read their Bibles this way. He said, "You can see now how it is written that the Messiah suffers, rises from the dead on the third day, and then a total life-change through the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed in his name to all nations—starting from here, from Jerusalem! You're the first to hear and see it. You're the witnesses. What comes next is very important: I am sending what my Father promised to you, so stay here in the city until he arrives, until you're equipped with power from on high."

Anthem

May You Have it All!

(Jason Mraz)

Reflection: My Wish for You, May You Have it All!

Hymn Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore VU 563

*Jesus, you have come to the lakeshore
 looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
 you only asked me to follow humbly.*

Refrain: *O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me,
 and while smiling, have spoken my name;
 now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
 by your side I will seek other seas.*

*You know so well my possessions;
 my boat carries no gold and no weapons;
 - you will find there my nets and labour. Refrain*

*You need my hands, full of caring
 through my labours to give others rest,
 and constant love that keeps on loving. Refrain*

***You, who have fished other oceans,
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,
my loving friend, as thus you call me. Refrain***

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to the Offering

(Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Offertory

*** Offering Response ***

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow VU 541

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.***

Prayers of the People *adapted from a prayer Rev. Barbara Glasson*

One: Loving God,

If we are ill, strengthen us.

If we are tired, fortify our spirits.

If we are anxious, help us to consider the lillies of the field and the birds of the air.

Help us not to stockpile treasures from supermarkets in the barns of our larders.

Don't let fear cause us to overlook the needs of others more vulnerable than ourselves.

Fix our eyes on your story and our hearts on your grace.

Help us always to hold fast to the good,

See the good in others,

And remember there is just one world, one hope,

One everlasting love,

with baskets of bread for everyone.

In Jesus we make our prayer,

The one who suffered, died

and was raised to new life,

In whom we trust these days and all days, Amen.

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Closing Hymn The Church's One Foundation VU 332

*The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word;
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.*

*Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with every grace endued.*

*'Mid toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore,
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.*

*Yet she on earth hath union
with God the three in one,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.*

*O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.*

Commissioning

One: We are called to the adventure of God's passionate life.

All: May God carry us beyond the boundaries, the near horizons of our small dreams.

One: We are called to paint our world in vivid colours so that we may see a whole new vision of God's possibilities.

All: God holds the cup of living water to our lips and breathes into our souls, life renewing Spirit.

One: May we be those who dare to take into our hands God's cross of courage, justice, hope and love and plant it as the tree of life, throughout our community and in all the earth.

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



***We extend sincere thanks to our guest minister,
Rev. Rob Selby, for leading us in our
Anniversary worship service this morning. Rev.
Rob ministered with us from
2006-2008.***

