St. James'-Rosemount United Church

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God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



-All Saints

November 1st – All Saints and Communion

Welcome!

Welcome to worship! We're glad you're here!

WE GATHER IN GOD'S HOPE

VU: Voices United MV: More Voices

* Please remain seated for all of service.*

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

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship adapted from a prayer by Janet Morley

- One: For all the saints who went before us who have spoken to our hearts and touched us with your love and passion,
- All: we praise you, O God.
- One: For all the saints who live beside us whose weaknesses and strengths are woven with our own,
- All: we praise you, O God.
- One: For all the saints who live beyond us who challenge us to change the world with them,
- All: we praise you, O God.
- One: Bless us. Break us. Be with us

Opening Prayer

One: God of our beginnings and endings, call us from our past, through the voices of our ancestors, in the songs they have sung and the prayers they have spoken. Through their living and their loving, it has shaped the peace we inherit, and the faith we are charged to carry. Enable us to carry forward that which is lifegiving, and lay down all that is not. Remind each of their belovedness, chosenness, and sainthood in order that together we may share a message of hope with the world. Amen

Hymn Voices United #705/706 – For all the Saints/Give Thanks for Life

For all the saints, who from their labours rest, all who by faith before the world confessed, your name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Give thanks for those who made their life a light caught from the Christ-flame, bursting through the night, who touched the truth, who burned for what is right, Hallelujah, hallelujah!

And for our own, our living and our dead, thanks for the love by which our life is fed, a love not changed by time or death or dread, Hallelujah, hallelujah!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day the saints triumphant rise in bright array: as God to glory calls them all away. Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Sharing the Sacrament of Holy Communion

One: You have blessed us with saints all of our lives, God of the ages: those who put up with us, and those who prepared us for discipleship; those who have touched us with their compassion, and those who illumine the way for us.

Through the valleys and over the hills, down the dusty streets of every village, saints traveled with you, Jesus, Child of grace and glory: those who impetuously chased after you, and those whose feet longed to turn back; those who jostled for your attention, and those who made sure little children were able to meet you.

You surround us with saints, even when we don't recognize or much less appreciate them, Spirit of wonder: some live down the corner from us, while others are on the other side of the world;

some run to catch the leaves spiraling to the ground, while others make a meal for a sick neighbour's family.

For all the saints of every age, especially those who surround us today, we give you our gratitude and praise, God in Community, Holy in One. For we welcome the bread of life.

Anthem Bread of Life

Breaking the Bread and Sharing the Cup

Around this table, we gather to hear of the night before Jesus died, where he met with saints and sinners, apostles and angels, to reveal the new community formed in his life.

In Christ, the shroud of death has been destroyed.

In Christ, all creation is given new life. In Christ, we will be God's people forever when he returns.

We pray blessing upon this meal, that this time may not remind us of our loneliess – or our separateness but speak instead to the mystery of community, through the power of the Holy Spirit, that works with all, for the blessing of all.

For around that table, on that night, Jesus gave thanks for all, and prayed blessing upon all, saying this is my life – broken for you – in the pieces of our lives may you find community.

Pouring the cup he said: in all love poured out, in all signs of grace and forgiveness extended to all, in the signs of my love that take root in your heart, and connect you with others, may you find community.

Grateful that in our brokenness we find wholeness, and in the ways we pour our love into the world, may this sacred act remind us of Jesus.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Readings from Scripture (Message) Matthew 5:1-12

5 ¹⁻² When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said:

³ "You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God.

⁴ "You're blessed when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.

⁵ "You're blessed when you're content with just who you are—no more, no less. That's the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can't be bought.

⁶ "You're blessed when you've worked up a good appetite for God. He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat.

⁷ "You're blessed when you care. At the moment of being 'care-filled,' you find yourselves cared for.

⁸ "You're blessed when you get your inside world your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.

⁹ "You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family.

¹⁰ "You're blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God's kingdom.

¹¹⁻¹² "Not only that—count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens—give a cheer, even!—for though they don't like it, *I* do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble.

Reflection All Saints

Song Remember Me

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

Beatitudes for a Global Pandemic and Lord's Prayer

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Hymn Today We All are Called VU 507 1 Today we all are called to be disciples of the Lord, to help to set the captive free, make ploughshare out of sword, to feed the hungry, quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.

> 2 God made the world and at its birth ordained our human race to live as stewards of the earth, responding to God's grace. But we are vain and sadly proud, we sow not peace but strife, our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.

 3 Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,
 with righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.
 For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,
 a world that was created for a harmony of peace.

4 May we in service to our God act out the living Word,
and walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord to God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.

Commissioning

One: We are called together by Christ as a community of broken but hopeful believers, loving what he loved, living what he taught, striving to be faithful servants of God in our time and place. We go as this communion of saints, ready to experience the fulfillment of God's reign, even as we actively anticipate (and work towards) a new heaven and a new earth.

* Sung Blessing

Postlude

Announcements

oneRoof – We continue our collection today in support of oneRoof. We will be collecting needed items (toothbrushes, dixie cups, pump soap/shampoo refills, grocery gift cards) from October 25th until Thursday, November 26th when once again we will be at the church from 6:00 PM to7:30 PM for final donations of items. We hope to obtain significant financial donations in support of oneROOF. Thank you for finding ways of supporting this important service in our community.

Today! – November 1st at 11am - We will be sharing in the Sacrament of Communion during our Youtube service – however we are having a special 'Kid-munion' at 11:00am. Zoom links have been sent!

Broadview Have you considered subscribing to the BROADVIEW? For \$25.00 per year you can receive, 10 issues each year. Broadview is current and topical. Through articles, columns and letters, it provides a forum for people to speak their minds on to-day's issues. Broadview helps us discuss our differences, but also our common ground in Christ. <u>To subscribe,</u> <u>please phone, Muriel Steeb 519-893-8124</u> Send a cheque for \$25.00 to the church, made out to St. James'-Rosemount United Church (Broadview in Memo line)

Next week, November 8th – Remembrance Service – We will observe the tradition of a virtual remembrance service this year as with gratitude and grace we give thanks for those who served in the quest for peace.

November 15th and 22nd – Licensed Lay Worship Leader Teresa Carse will lead us in worship. We are grateful for Teresa sharing her gifts with us!

November 29th – Advent 1 – Hanging of the Greens Service – stay tuned for more information as we plan how to start our journey of Advent.