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# St. James'-Rosemount United Church

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God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



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October 11, 2020 – Thanksgiving Sunday

## **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**

#### **Opening Litany – based on Psalm 13 and 23**

One: In the midst of this ongoing pandemic, there have been moments of our awareness of God's presence, and others when we felt most alone.

**All: We listen for God's voice, as it speaks through us, and through God's scripture.**

One: O LORD, how long will you forget us? Forever? How long will you look the other way?

**All: The LORD is my shepherd;  
I have everything I need.  
God lets me rest in green meadows;  
God leads me beside peaceful streams.**

One: How long must I struggle with anguish in my soul, with sorrow in my heart every day?

**All: God restores my soul.  
God guides me along paths of righteousness  
for the sake of goodness.**

One: How long must I suffer?  
Turn and answer me, O LORD my God!  
Restore the sight to my eyes,

and the hope to our hearts.

**All: Even when I walk through the dark valley of death, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me.**

One: Don't let my enemies gloat, saying,  
"We have defeated him!"  
Don't let them rejoice at my downfall.

**All: You prepare a feast for me right in front of my enemies. You welcome me as a guest, anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings.**

One: But I trust in your unfailing love.  
I will rejoice because you have rescued me.  
I will sing to the LORD because God has been so good to me.

**All: Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the LORD forever.**

Opening Hymn      As Those of Old      VU518

*1 As those of old their first-fruits brought  
of vineyard, flock, and field  
to God, the giver of all good,  
the source of bounteous yield;  
so we today our first-fruits bring:  
the wealth of this good land,  
of farm and market, shop and home,  
of mind and heart and hand.*

**2** *A world in need now summons us  
to labour, love, and give,  
to make our life an offering  
to God, that all may live.  
The church of Christ is calling us  
to make the dream come true:  
a world redeemed, by Christ-like love,  
all life in Christ made new.*

**3** *With gratitude and humble trust  
we bring our best to you,  
not just to serve your cause, but share  
your love with neighbours too.  
O God, who gave yourself to us  
in Jesus Christ, your son,  
help us to give ourselves each day  
until life's work is done.*

## **Story Time**

### **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

#### **Minute for Mission - Food Drive**

#### **Readings from the Scriptures Deuteronomy 8:7-18**

The Lord your God is bringing you to a wonderful land, a land with streams of water, springs, and wells that gush up in the valleys and on the hills; 8 a land of wheat and barley, vines, fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of olive oil and honey; 9 a land where you will eat food without any shortage—you won't lack a thing there—a land where stone is hard as iron and where you will mine copper from the hills. 10 You will eat, you will be satisfied, and you will bless the Lord your God in the wonderful land that is given you.

11 But watch yourself! Don't forget the Lord your God by not keeping the commands or case laws or regulations that I am commanding you right now. 12 When you eat, get full, build nice houses, and settle down, 13 and when your herds and your flocks are growing large, your silver and gold are multiplying, and everything you have is thriving, 14 don't become arrogant, forgetting the Lord your God: the one who rescued you from Egypt, from the house of slavery;

15 the one who led you through this vast and terrifying desert of poisonous snakes and scorpions, of cracked ground with no water; the one who made water flow for you out of a hard rock;

16 the one who fed you manna in the wilderness, which your ancestors had never experienced, in order to humble and test you, but in order to do good to you in the end.

17 Don't think to yourself, My own strength and abilities have produced all this prosperity for me. 18 Remember the Lord your God! God who gives you the strength to be prosperous in order to establish the covenant made with your ancestors—and that's how things stand right now.

**Reflection**

*Tainted glory*

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE**

**Invitation to Offering**

**Offertory**

**\* Offering Response \***

***We bring our gifts to share,  
and lift our grateful prayer  
That with our faithful care, our world will grow.  
Through work of minds and hands  
in gestures small or grand,  
Let willing hearts expand the love You sow.  
Words & music © A. Baer, 2013, arr. S. Porter***

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS**

**Hymn      Now Thank We All Our God      VU 236**

***1 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.***

***2 O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us,  
and keep us strong in grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ill in this world and the next.***

**Commissioning**

## \* 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)*

*Please remain seated as we conclude  
our service with the postlude.*

## Postlude

*We thank you for joining with us today in celebration  
of Thanksgiving! As we prepare to go, as difficult as  
it is, we ask you to head directly to your vehicles.  
We all want to hang around and reconnect with  
everyone, but as we are endeavouring to keep  
everyone safe, please continue to keep masks on  
and respect the 6ft distance until you reach your  
vehicles.*

*Until we meet again, continue to reach out to one  
another as we go to be the people of God, the  
people of SJRUC, wherever you go!*

*May God be with you.*

## Announcements

**Mission and Outreach** Despite the negative impact of covid-19 our church congregation continues its impressive outreach in support of local charities as well as its generous financial donations for Mission & Service to support of the world-wide work of the United Church of Canada.

The Mission & Outreach committee of SJRUC is pleased to announce, that besides recently donating a pickup truckload of useful items to Monica Place, our congregation has generously donated a total of \$1,680 for this very worthy charity.

Presently, and until October 22nd, we will be focusing on our 2nd food drive of 2020 in support of the Waterloo Regional Food Bank. During this time span food items can be dropped off at the church, and placed at the usual location within the church. **As in the past, a special collection evening will take place in the church parking lot on Thursday, October 22nd, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM.** We have already collected cash donations for the Food Bank equaling \$320. Anyone wishing to make a cash donation can do so by placing cash, or a cheque made out to St. James Rosemount United Church, into an appropriate envelope, making sure to indicate the purpose of your donation and your SJRUC envelope number. Cash donations can be mailed to the church, or personally placed into the church mail slot.

**Mission and Service Fund** Thank you to all those who supported the Turkey Trot! With your generosity, we were able to support the M&S Fund of the United Church by almost \$1000 (final figures still coming). As we're tracking a little lower in our donations for M&S, we are grateful to all the help in ensuring we continue to care for those across our planet.