
St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

519-742-1002 www.sjruc.ca

God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



May 30th, 2021 – Trinity Sunday
Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling

Welcome!

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

WE GATHER IN GOD'S HOPE

VU: Voices United

MV: More Voices

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

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship *written by Rev. J. Lee Hill*

One: Let us worship the Triune God.

**All: Let us worship the One
who spoke in the beginning
and created something out of nothing.**

One: Let us worship the Triune God.

**All: Let us worship the One
who took on the clothing of humanity
to set those who were oppressed free.**

One: Let us worship the Triune God.

**All: Let us worship the One
whose Spirit rests continually upon us,
calling us from sorrow-filled endings
to bright new beginnings.**

Opening Prayer *adapted from Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer*

One: God in Three Persons, Blessed Trinity,
We ask for your presence to enter this space.
We know that in self-giving love,
Your very nature teaches us how to love one another.

Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer,
Fire, flame and light,
Bee, butterfly, and breeze,
Wisdom, Word and Wondering,
Source, life, and being,
Father, Son, and Spirit...

The limits of our language do not fully capture who
you are.

But we know enough that you care for us.

We call upon you to teach us this hour.

Teach us to pray. Teach us to love.

Teach us to be united, even in our diversity,
to be one, as you are one.

With all of our divisions we create with our own
biases,

From social class to race,

From gender to age,

From ability to different abilities,

We know we still have much to learn from you.

Teach us to pray. Teach us to love.

Teach us to be united, even in our diversity,
to be one, as you are one.

Bless us. Love us. Never tire of us, we pray, amen.

Opening Hymn Holy, Holy, Holy VU 315

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!

***Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!***

**2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea;**

***cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.***

**3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.**

**4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth
and sky and sea;**

***holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!***

Story Time

Hymn

Bring Many Names

VU268

- 1 *Bring many names, beautiful and good,
celebrate, in parable and story,
holiness in glory, living, loving God.
Hail and hosanna! Bring many names!*
- 2 *Strong mother God, working night and day,
planning all the wonders of creation,
setting each equation, genius at play:
Hail and hosanna, strong mother God!*
- 3 *Warm father God, hugging every child,
feeling all the strains of human living,
caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:
Hail and hosanna, warm father God!*
- 4 *Old, aching God, grey with endless care,
calmly piercing evil's new disguises,
glad of good surprises, wiser than despair:
Hail and hosanna, old, aching God!*
- 5 *Young, growing God, eager, on the move,
saying no to falsehood and unkindness,
crying out for justice, giving all you have:
Hail and hosanna, young, growing God!*
- 6 *Great, living God, never fully known,
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:
Hail and hosanna, great, living God!*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Readings from Scripture (CEB) John 3:1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a Jewish leader. ²He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one could do these miraculous signs that you do unless God is with him."

³ Jesus answered, “I assure you, unless someone is born anew, it’s not possible to see God’s kingdom.”

⁴ Nicodemus asked, “How is it possible for an adult to be born? It’s impossible to enter the mother’s womb for a second time and be born, isn’t it?”

⁵ Jesus answered, “I assure you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it’s not possible to enter God’s kingdom. ⁶ Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Don’t be surprised that I said to you, ‘You must be born anew.’ ⁸ God’s Spirit blows wherever it wishes. You hear its sound, but you don’t know where it comes from or where it is going. It’s the same with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹ Nicodemus said, “How are these things possible?”

¹⁰ “Jesus answered, “You are a teacher of Israel and you don’t know these things? ¹¹ I assure you that we speak about what we know and testify about what we have seen, but you don’t receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you don’t believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Human One. ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so must the Human One be lifted up ¹⁵ so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. ¹⁶ God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won’t perish but will have eternal life. ¹⁷ God didn’t send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Anthem

Reflection

Song

Stand in the Light

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Today, we pray for the family of Gwen Heer – longtime member of SJR and very active in the UCW over the years. Gwen and her husband Richard (who died in 2004) added to the life and the light of SJR and we keep their family in our prayers in this difficult time.

As well, we pray for Gladys Sanders and George Gould, facing difficult health struggles of their own – and all those named before God, who go unnamed now...in the silence of this moment – we name before God the concerns and conflicts and confusion of our heart...

for those families affected by the discovery of the remains of their children in BC...

for the ongoing nighttime of our fears, as we so long for the light...

Grant us understanding, patience and kindness.

Grant us love that stands up for justice, that is deep in trust, that hopes and strives for all, endures this time in order to bring about God's kin-dom come.

Grant us a love that never fails.

For we pray these particular words of love, not because they constrain us, as if this is the only way to pray, but there's power in these words to unify, bringing the diversity of hearts and minds and bodies together in the divine...as the Word spoke these words...

Lord's Prayer *(read and prayed slowly together)*

**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.**

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Hymn When Long Before Time VU 248

1 *When long before time and the worlds were begun,
when there was no earth and no sky and no sun,
and all was deep silence and night reigned supreme,
and even our Maker had only a dream...*

2 *...the silence was broken when God sang the Song,
and light pierced the darkness and rhythm began,
and with its first birth-cries creation was born,
and creaturely voices sang praise to the morn.*

3 *The sounds of the creatures were one with their Lord's
their harmonies sweet and befitting the Word;
the Singer was pleased as the earth sang the Song,
the choir of the creatures re-echoed it long.*

4 *Though, down through the ages, the Song disappeared
its harmonies broken and almost unheard,
the Singer comes to us to sing it again,
our God-Is-with-Us in the world now as then.*

5 *The Light has returned as it came once before,
the Song of the Lord is our own song once more;
so let us all sing with one heart and one voice
the Song of the Singer in whom we rejoice.*

6 *To you, God the Singer, our voices we raise,
to you, Song Incarnate, we give all our praise,
to you, Holy Spirit, our life and our breath,
be glory for ever, through life and through death.*

Commissioning *adapted from a prayer by Richard Rohr*

One: Loving God, you fill all things with fullness and hope
that we can never comprehend.

Thank you for leading us into a time
where more of reality is being unveiled for us all to see.

We pray that you will take away our natural temptation
for cynicism, denial, fear and despair.

Help us have the courage to awaken to greater truth,
greater humility, and greater care for one another.

May we place our hope in what matters and what lasts,
trusting in your eternal presence and love.

Listen to our hearts' longings for the healing of our
suffering world. Knowing, good God, you are hearing us
better than we are speaking, walk with us as we
continue the journey of faith together. In peace, we go.

* **Choral Benediction** ("Go Now in Peace" Written by Besig & Price 1988)

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.

Postlude

Announcements

June 6th – Communion

June 13th – Celebrate our Children – In addition to our regular
Youtube Service – we'll have a Zoom gathering
with kids at 11am! Link to follow–watch your email!

June 20th – Father's Day and First Nations Sunday

June 27th – Hymn Sing Sunday – Zoom link will be provided!

Monica Place – Thank you for those who have already dropped off their
gifts in support of Monica Place. We have yet to announce our dropoff
date, so if you can, please keep your donations at home until we
announce a date!

Shared Summer Services - Over the month of July and August, we are
partnering with local churches in the area to share services. We will host
a wide variety of preachers in order that we can travel the region from the
comfort of our couches! We are grateful for all those joining with us
together in worship – as we share the faith that unites us! Rev. Chis will
be off for the month of August, with Rev. Tim Graham providing pastoral
coverage during this time.