
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



June 6th, 2021—Communion, Union, and Pride 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

One: We look to the rulers of this earth
for leadership, wisdom, and strength.
We look to these bodies of ours
for stability, fulfillment, and joy.
We look to families and friends
for love, compassion, and hope.
When rulers betray, when bodies fail,
and when families disappoint,
God offers another look.
God will guide us.
God's Spirit will sustain us.
Christ will welcome us home.
Come, my sisters and brothers,
no one is a stranger here – everyone belongs.

Opening Prayer *adapted from a prayer by Rev. Nancy J.*

One: Holy God, Creator of Life,
you call us out of our dark places,
offering us the grace of new life.
When we see nothing but hopelessness,
you surprise us with the breath of your spirit.
Call us out of our complacency and routines,
set us free from our self-imposed bonds,
and fill us with your spirit of life, compassion, and
peace, In the name of Jesus, your anointed one,
who calls us. **Amen.**

1 *We gather here in Jesus' name,
his love is burning in our hearts like living flame;
for through the loving son God fashions us as one:*

*Come take the bread, come drink the wine,
come, share the Lord.*

*No one is a stranger here, - everyone belongs;
finding our forgiveness here,
we in turn forgive all wrongs.*

2 *He joins us here, he breaks the bread,
the One who pours the cup is risen from the dead;
the One we love the most is now our gracious host:*

*Come take the bread, come drink the wine,
come, share the Lord.*

*We are now a family of which Christ is the head;
though unseen he meets us here
in the breaking of the bread.*

3 *We'll gather soon where angels sing;
we'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King;
now we anticipate the feast for which we wait:*

*Come take the bread, come drink the wine,
come, share the Lord.*

Story Time and

Sharing the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Hymn

We are Pilgrims

VU595

*Will you let me be your servant
Let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I may have the grace
To let you be my servant too.*

*We are pilgrims on a journey
Fellow travelers on the road
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.*

*Je te tendrai la Lumière
du Christ en tes nuits, tes peurs;
T'offrirai mes main ouvertes,
dirai la paix à ton coeur.*

*I will weep when you are weeping
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through.*

*When we sing to God in heaven
We will find such harmony
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.*

*Will you let me be your servant
Let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I may have the grace
To let you be my servant too*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission Prayer in the Park @ 2pm today, June 6

Readings from Scripture (CEB) Mark 3:38-35

²⁸ I assure you that human beings will be forgiven for everything, for all sins and insults of every kind. ²⁹ But whoever insults the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven. That person is guilty of a sin with consequences that last forever.” ³⁰ He said this because the legal experts were saying, “He’s possessed by an evil spirit.”

³¹ His mother and brothers arrived. They stood outside and sent word to him, calling for him. ³² A crowd was seated around him, and those sent to him said, “Look, your mother, brothers, and sisters are outside looking for you.”

³³ He replied, “Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?” ³⁴ Looking around at those seated around him in a circle, he said, “Look, here are my mother and my brothers. ³⁵ Whoever does God’s will is my brother, sister, and mother.”

Song **God Weeps**

Reflection

Anthem **Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer written by Rev. Murray Pruden, Executive Minister, Indigenous Ministries, UCC

Creator, we give thanks for this day and each day you grant us life to walk on this great land, our Mother. Give us the heart and strength to come together in prayer in time of mourning, reflection, and peace.

The news we have heard these last few days of our relations, our families, the children who have been physically taken away from us and who have now been found.

And with this news, we grieve for their memory, for their struggle, for their spirit.

We pray for good understanding, guidance, and love for all our families and communities who will need direction and resolution at this time.

And we come together in prayer and ask for your light to guide us to be a part of that needed peace, support, and resolve for everyone who is reacting to this great tragedy in our Indigenous Nations of this great land.

Creator be with us, allow us to be brave. Allow us to be strong. Allow us to be gentle to one another. Allow us to be humble. But most of all, allow us to be like the Creator's love.

Peace be with us, we lift up our prayers to you. In love, trust, and truth, peace be with us all. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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 For the Faithful who have Answered VU 707

1 *For the faithful who have answered
when they heard your call to serve,
for the many ways you led them
testing will and stretching nerve,
for their work and for their witness
as they strove against the odds,
for their courage and obedience
we give thanks and praise, O God.*

2 *Many eyes have glimpsed the promise,
many hearts have yearned to see.
Many ears have heard you calling
us to greater liberty.
Some have fallen in the struggle,
others still are fighting on.
You are not ashamed to own us.
We give thanks and praise, O God.*

3 *For this cloud of faithful witness,
for the common life we share,
for the work of peace and justice,
for the gospel that we bear,
for the vision that our homeland
is your love - deep, high, and broad -
for the different roads we travel
we give thanks and praise, O God.*

Commissioning *adapted from a prayer by Jeff Shrowder*

One: Wait for the LORD,

**All: We wait with deep longing;
and in God's word we stand, waiting in hope.**

One: Hope in the LORD!

**For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with the LORD is great power to strengthen.**

One: Go into the world with assurance, hope and promise:
the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ rest upon you – and

even unsettle you; the love of God, creator and giver of life, embrace you – and even confront you; and the presence of the Holy Spirit encourage you – and surprise you, this day and all your days. **Amen**

* **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

George Gould – It is with deep sadness that we share of the death of George Gould. Margaret and George came to our congregation recently (pre-pandemic) and we were blessed to get to know them both, and so in this difficult time we keep Marg and family in our prayers. Service details are on Henry Walser’s website <https://www.henrywalser.com/>

Upcoming Services

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 – **Slight change – send your requests now to revchris@sjruc.ca. We’ll do our best to accommodate your requests!**

July 11th at 10:30am – Join with us on the labyrinth for in-person worship. Bring your masks, lawn chairs, as we socially distance worship together!

Aug 8th at 10:30am – Join with us on the labyrinth for in-person worship. Bring your masks, lawn chairs, as we socially distance worship together!

Responding to the tragedy in Kamloops – The Executive of SJR is drafting a letter in support of those seeking healing in connection to residential schools. If you wish to make a donation to the Healing fund of the United Church please make your donation to SJR with a note in the memo line “Healing Fund of the UCC.” In mourning and peace we join together.

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.

Silver Lake Mennonite Camp (www.slmc.ca): Are you looking for an outdoor day camp in Waterloo Region? Silver Lake Mennonite Camp, a summer camp with 60 years of experience in camp, is running outdoor day camps in Kitchener and Waterloo this summer! Campers can sign up for a week of camp filled with nature exploration, fun crafts and games, spiritual discovery, and opportunities to connect with each other. Qualified Silver Lake staff will lead activities, ensuring that your campers stay safe and have a blast this summer! Payment will only be taken once it's likely camps can run, so you can sign up without penalty if COVID-19 prevents operation. Camps will follow all COVID-19 guidelines. **Agnes 5-15. \$235+tax. [Visit our website](#) for more information and to register.**
Locations: First Mennonite Church, First Hmong Mennonite Church, Waterloo North Mennonite Church.

June 12 - MennoHomes **[Out-Spok'n XI for Affordable Housing bike-a-thon](#)**. A virtual event to raise funds for a very real need. Hikers, recreational bikers, and avid cyclists will be choosing their own routes this year. Construction is nearing completion at 544 Bridgeport Rd. Kitchener and your support is making it possible. Contact Dan Driedger at 226-476-2535 or ddriedger@mennohomes.com for more details, or visit www.mennohomes.com