
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



October 24, 2021

Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling

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

WE GATHER IN GOD'S HOPE

Please remain seated for all of service, as you are able.

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

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: God of all time, God of eternity

All: our years belong to you.

One: Our endings are often your beginnings.

All: Our dreamings are often your realities.

One: You affirm our past

All: and give life to our future

Opening Prayer *adapted from a prayer by Rev. Bonnie Tarwater*

One: As people of faith, we cry out.

Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us! *Silence*

When we strive to be a church ever-reforming,
yet struggle with difficult decisions before us,
and choose to cling to comfortable ways:

All: Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us!

One: When we want to honor your "still speaking voice",
but are fearful of insights which challenge old
assumptions:

All: Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us!

One: When we want to live into Jesus' dream of oneness,
but fail to listen to the rich diversity found in creation:

All: Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us!

One: In the name of the one who brought change,
lived speaking love, and invited us to join the journey
along the Way, we pray,

Lord's Prayer (read/prayed slowly)

**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.

Hymn

Amazing Grace

VU 266

**1 *Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
* that saved a wretch like me!***

***I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.***

****or alternate *that saved and strengthened me!***

**2 *'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.***

**3 *Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.***

**4 *The Lord has promised good to me,
this word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.***

**5 *When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.***

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Readings from the Scriptures (MSG) **Mark 10:46-52**

⁴⁶⁻⁴⁸ They spent some time in Jericho. As Jesus was leaving town, trailed by his disciples and a parade of people, a blind beggar by the name of Bartimaeus, son of Timaeus, was sitting alongside the road. When he heard that Jesus the Nazarene was passing by, he began to cry out, "Son of David, Jesus! Mercy, have mercy on me!" Many tried to hush him up, but he yelled all the louder, "Son of David! Mercy, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹⁻⁵⁰ Jesus stopped in his tracks. "Call him over." They called him. "It's your lucky day! Get up! He's calling you to come!" Throwing off his coat, he was on his feet at once and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ Jesus said, "What can I do for you?" The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see." ⁵² "On your way," said Jesus. "Your faith has saved and healed you." In that very instant he recovered his sight and followed Jesus down the road.

Anthem

Open the Eyes of My Heart

Paul Baloche

Words:

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see you, I want to see you.
To see you high and lifted up,
shining in the light of your glory;
pour out your pow'r and love, as we sing,
"Holy, holy, holy."*

Reflection

Hymn

Live into Hope

VU 699

- 1 Live into hope of captives freed,
of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see
the year of God's own jubilee!**
- 2 Live into hope the blind shall see
with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear,
a vision of our God brought near.**
- 3 Live into hope of liberty,
the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one's daily bread,
to hear God's word and thus be fed.**

**4 Live into hope of captives freed
from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release
to faith and hope and joy and peace.**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

(Donate online at sjruc.ca)

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

Dedication of the Offering

Prayers of the People from *When Life is Messy* Richard S Gilbert

One: It is easy to pray when the sun shines

And we are grateful for another glorious day of being.

It is hard to pray when wind and rain and thunder

Plague our every step and spoil our every plan.

It is easy to be virtuous when life goes well

And our existence is a journey from bliss to beauty and

back. It is hard to be virtuous when life assaults us

And our very being is a pilgrimage from bad to worse
to worst.

It is easy to be cheerful when health bursts in us

So that we can feel the very pulse of life.

It is hard to be happy when pain and fatigue beset us

And we wonder if we can go on.

It is easy to do good when our goodness is rewarded

And we feel the power of pride in accomplishment.

It is hard to do good when we suffer for our efforts

And are troubled because we have been
misunderstood.

It is easy to feel religious impulses well up inside us

when inspiration lives at our elbow

and walks on our path.

It is hard to feel religious when we are tired with work

to be done and discouragement seems to mark our

every move.

O God of order and neatness, we give thanks for all that is good. We are grateful for manifold blessings bestowed upon us.

O God of chaos and disorder, be with us also when life is messy. Bless our coming in and our going out from this day forth. Amen

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Closing Hymn **I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say** VU 626

**1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.'**

**I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.**

**2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down, and drink, and live.'**

**I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.**

**3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.'**

**I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.**

Commissioning

* Choral Benediction **Go Now in Peace**

*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 in silence as we conclude our service with the postlude.

Postlude



Our heartfelt & best wishes to Marilyn G who celebrated her 82nd birthday on October 23rd, and to Art G who turns 86 on October 31st. Also, on September 6th Art & Marilyn celebrated travelling life's pathways together for 63 years!

Upcoming Worship

Indoor Worship: We have returned to indoor services! Registration, masks, & distancing are required. Capacity is limited with a waiting list for cancellations. Register online at <https://rsvp.church/r/C1yBpTR9> or on our website: sjruc.ca

- Sign up your “bubble” Do you drive to church together or socialize outside of church? Register as one group & sit together.
- Phone registrations is available through the office for any unable to access the internet. Leave a message with your phone number so we can confirm your registration with you.
- There is a separate registration in the link for Sunday School (children will be dropped off at the door near the fenced playground upon arrival). Do not include Sunday School children in the sign up for attending in the Sanctuary.
- If the sign-up list for the Worship Service is full, please sign up on the “Wait List” option. You will hear from the church office as spaces become available.
- In the church building please observe the distancing markers on the walls and floors and follow traffic flow indicators. Enter only the Sherwood Ave. doors.

Announcements



Christian Education: Drop your children off at the door near the fenced playground at 10:20 a.m. on Sundays for childrens' story time, worship, crafts, and play (indoor & outdoor). We will be using the downstairs Sunday School Room (formerly the

Preschool). Masks and distancing required. Please pre-register your children online at rsvp.church/r/C1yBpTR9 or on our website: sjruc.ca

We need volunteers to assist with the activity centers (no requirement to teach or know content). If you can help, please speak to Mearle ce@sjruc.ca or Rev. Chris revchris@sjruc.ca.

Christian Education – Halloween (Next Week – October 31):

We are asking children (and adults too!) to wear a costume to church. The children will be having a special gathering during worship with fun activities planned! Spacing is limited, so please sign up today at the link above. Join us for a spooky good time.



Library update: On October 31 stay tuned for information on the library re-opening!

Faith Study Sacred Pathways - by Gary Thomas. Gary Thomas uncovers nine of these spiritual "pathways" that people have used over the centuries to grow closer to God. Join us for this five-week study to discover the particular pathway that will best help you to experience God's presence. Contact Rev. Chris revchris@sjruc.ca to join us on Zoom.



Prayer Shawl Ministry: We give thanks for the Prayer Shawl ministry that continues to thrive here at SJR after more than 15 years, in spite of - or maybe, in part, because of - the pandemic. If you are interested in crocheting or knitting shawls, please contact

Teresa. Yarn is available if you need it. If you know of anyone who would benefit from a shawl - a tangible hug from God, whether it be a hug of comfort or a hug of celebration, or just a hug (there is no wrong reason to give a shawl!) - please contact Teresa. prayershawls@sjruc.ca

OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS WEEK:

Dave D
Steve W
Merle M
Lynda P
Christine M

Peggy & Keith S
Kathy B
Evelyn S
Nancy E
Grace A

