
St. James'-Rosemount United Church

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God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



LESSONS & CAROLS

December 5, 2021 – 2nd Advent - Peace
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

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 our Advent Wreath © enflashed 2018, Rev. Anna Blaedel

One: The Peace of God-With-Us does not come as law and order, or enforcement and control.

Peace cannot be imposed from on high.
Peace cannot be commanded.

The Peace of God-With-Us is chaotic, wild, unruly, unpredictable. The Peace of God-With-Us is collective, liberating us from deadly complicity. Peace is gestating in darkness; it comes unexpectedly. Peace invites our expectation, and demands our participation. Prepare the way, for peace with justice. May Peace be birthed among, within, and through us, this Advent.

All: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel...

Light the Candles of Hope and Peace

Candle Lighting Hymn **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

***O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who orders all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in her ways to go.***

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come again and with us ever dwell.

Opening Prayer

One: In a time of Advent expectation, let us draw on the inspiration of our stories of faith, God of peace, and lift up our own praise of all that you have done, all that you are now doing, and all that you have yet to do.

May we join with you in that great adventure,
where things that seem devoid of life are filled
with new hope, whether situations that seem
irretrievably divided are filled with new peace.

Whenever we find ourselves silenced, unable to
speak up, may we remember Zechariah, and know
that a time will come when we can bear witness to
your love.

Forgive us for not making the most of those times,
for ignoring the opportunities to speak out,
for failing to be the loving and peaceful people
to which we are called.

May we know that, by your great mercy, we are free
to serve you. May we do so faithfully, Amen.

Opening Carol

Wexford Carol

(arr. Don Michael Dicie)

*Good people all, this Christmas time
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done
In sending his beloved son
With Mary holy we should pray
To God with love this Christmas Day
In Bethlehem upon that morn
There was a blessed Messiah born
Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep
To whom God's angels did appear
Which put the shepherds in great fear
'Prepare and go,' the angels said
'To Bethlehem, be not afraid
For there you'll find, this happy morn
A princely babe, sweet Jesus born
With thankful heart and joyful mind
The shepherds went, this babe to find
And as God's angel had foretold
They did our saviour Christ behold
Within a manger he was laid
And by his side the virgin maid*

*Attending to the Lord of life
Who came on earth to end all strife
Good people all, this Christmas time*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

1st Lesson The prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile (Isaiah 40:1-8)

Comfort, comfort my people! says your God.
Speak compassionately to Jerusalem,
and proclaim to her that her compulsory service has ended,
that her penalty has been paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins!
A voice is crying out: "Clear the Lord's way in the desert!
Make a level highway in the wilderness for our God!
Every valley will be raised up,
and every mountain and hill will be flattened.
Uneven ground will become level,
and rough terrain a valley plain.
The Lord's glory will appear, and all humanity will see it together;
the Lord's mouth has commanded it."
A voice was saying: "Call out!"
And another said, "What should I call out?"
All flesh is grass; all its loyalty is like the flowers of the field.
The grass dries up and the flower withers
when the Lord's breath blows on it. Surely the people are grass.
The grass dries up; the flower withers,
but our God's word will exist forever.

1st Carol There's a Voice in the Wilderness v1-3 VU 18

**1 *There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!***

***The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where God, our God, may go!***

**2 *O Zion, that bringest good tidings,
get thee up to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
the coming of their King.***

***Like the flowers of the field they perish,
like grass our works decay;
the power and pomp of nations
shall pass, like a dream, away.***

3 *But the word of our God endureth,
whose arm is ever strong;
God stands in the midst of nations,
and soon will right the wrong.
God shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
the lambs so gently hold;
to pastures of peace will lead them,
and bring them safe to fold.*

**2nd Lesson The birth of the Messiah and his Kingdom
are foretold by Isaiah (Isaiah 9:2, 6-7)**

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.
On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned.

A child is born to us, a son is given to us,
and authority will be on his shoulders.

He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

There will be vast authority and endless peace
for David's throne and for his kingdom,
establishing and sustaining it
with justice and righteousness now and forever.

2nd Carol

All Earth is Waiting

VU 5

- 1** *All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,
and open furrows await the seed of God.
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.*
- 2** *Thus says the prophet to those of Israel,
'A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel.'
One whose name is 'God with us', our Saviour shall be,
through whom hope will blossom once more
within our hearts.*
- 3** *Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain,
open new highways, new highways for our God,
who is now coming closer, so come all and see,
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.*
- 4** *In lowly stable the Promised One appeared.
Yet, feel that presence throughout the earth today,
for Christ lives in all Christians and is with us now;
again, on arriving, Christ brings us liberty.*

3rd Lesson **The angel Gabriel salutes the virgin Mary**

(Luke 1:26-35, 38)

When Elizabeth was six months pregnant,
God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee,
to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph,
a descendant of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary.

When the angel came to her, he said,
"Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!"

She was confused by these words
and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.
The angel said, "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you.

Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son,
and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and he will be
called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the
throne of David his father. He will rule over Jacob's house forever,
and there will be no end to his kingdom."

Then Mary said to the angel, "How will this happen since I haven't
had sexual relations with a man?" The angel replied, "The Holy
Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will
overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy.

He will be called God's Son. Then Mary said, "I am the Lord's
servant. Let it be with me just as you have said."

Then the angel left her.

3rd Carol

Ave Maria

(arr. Allan Bullard)

*Hail, blessed Mary, perfect in grace,
Hail, blessed Mary, the Lord is with thee.
And favour'd art thou among all women,
hallow'd be the pure fruit that thou bearest, Jesus.*

*Hail, blessed Mary, perfect in grace,
Mary, beloved, perfect in grace,
Mary, the holy Mother of God,
Pray for us now and at the hour of death,
most loving Mother, pray for us. Amen.*

4th Lesson **Luke tells of the birth of Jesus** (Luke 2:1-7)

In those days Caesar Augustus declared that everyone
throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists.
This first enrollment occurred when Quirinius governed Syria.

Everyone went to their own cities to be enrolled.
Since Joseph belonged to David's house and family line,
he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to
David's city, called Bethlehem, in Judea.
He went to be enrolled together with Mary,

who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant.
While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby.

She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son,
wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger,
because there was no place for them in the guestroom

4th Carol

Still, Still, Still

VU 47

**1 Still, still, still: the night is calm and still.
The Christchild in his crib lies sleeping,
angels round him watch are keeping.
Still, still, still: the night is calm and still.**

**2 Sleep, sleep, sleep: sweet Jesus, softly sleep,
while Mary sings and gently holds you,
safely in her arms enfolds you.
Sleep, sleep, sleep: sweet Jesus softly sleep.**

**3 Joy, joy, joy; glad tidings of great joy!
For through God's holy incarnation
Christ is born for our salvation.
Joy, joy, joy; glad tidings of great joy!**

5th Lesson

**Jesus is worshipped by shepherds
and angels** (Luke 2:8-16)

Nearby shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night.

The Lord's angel stood before them,
the Lord's glory shone around them, and they were terrified.
The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—
wonderful, joyous news for all people.

Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord.
This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby
wrapped snugly and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly forces was
with the angel praising God. They said, "Glory to God in heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors."

When the angels returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other,
"Let's go right now to Bethlehem and see what's happened.

Let's confirm what the Lord has revealed to us."

They went quickly and found Mary and Joseph,
and the baby lying in the manger.

5th Carol

Gesu Bambino

(arr. by Pietro A. Yon)

Duet: Simone Lemieux, Colin Watts

*When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows
Upon a winter night
Was born the Child, the Christmas Rose
The King of Love and Light.*

*The angels sang, the shepherds sang
The grateful earth rejoiced
And at his blessed birth the stars
Their exultation voiced.*

Refrain: *O come let us adore him
O come let us adore him
O come let us adore him
Christ the Lord.*

*Again the heart with rapture glows
To greet the holy night
That gave the world its Christmas Rose
Its King of Love and Light.*

*Let ev'ry voice acclaim his name
The grateful chorus swell
From paradise to earth he came
That we with him might dwell. Refrain*

6th Lesson **The Wise Men are led by the star to Jesus**

(Matthew 2:1-11)

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the territory of Judea during the rule of King Herod, magi came from the east to Jerusalem. They asked, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews?"

We've seen his star in the east, and we've come to honor him."

When King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and everyone in Jerusalem was troubled with him. He gathered all the chief priests and the legal experts and asked them where the Christ was to be born. They said, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what the prophet wrote:

You, Bethlehem, land of Judah, by no means are you least among the rulers of Judah, because from you will come one who governs, who will shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and found out from them the time when the star had first appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search carefully for the child.

When you've found him, report to me so that I too may go and honor him." When they heard the king, they went; and look, the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it

stood over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. They entered the house and saw the child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, they honored him. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

**1 What child is this, who laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?**

**Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?**

Refrain **This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

**2 Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?**

**Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.** Refrain

**3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, one and all, to own him.**

**The King of Kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.** Refrain

7th Lesson **John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation** (*John 1:1-14*)

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God
and the Word was God. The Word was with God in the beginning.

Everything came into being through the Word,
and without the Word nothing came into being.

What came into being through the Word was life,
and the life was the light for all people.

The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light.

A man named John was sent from God. He came as a witness to testify
concerning the light, so that through him everyone would believe in the
light. He himself wasn't the light, but his
mission was to testify concerning the light.

The true light that shines on all people was coming into the world.

The light was in the world, and the world came into being through the
light, but the world didn't recognize the light.

The light came to his own people, and his own people didn't welcome
him. But those who did welcome him,

those who believed in his name, he authorized to
become God's children, born not from blood nor from human
desire or passion, but born from God.

The Word became flesh and made his home among us.

We have seen his glory, glory like that
of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**1 Down to earth, as a dove, came to dwell holy love:
Jesus Christ from above
bringing great salvation meant for every nation.**

Refrain **Let us sing, sing, sing,
dance and spring, spring, spring;
Christ is here, ever near! Gloria in excelsis.**

**2 This is love come to light, now is fear put to flight.
God defeats darkest night,
giving for our sorrows hope of new tomorrows.** Refrain

**3 Christ the Lord comes to feed
hungry souls in their need; in the house there is bread:
Jesus in a stable, in the church a table.** Refrain

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

(Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Offering Solo

The Little Drummer Boy

Solo: Roland Kessler

*Come they told me, a new born king to see,
our finest gifts we bring to lay before the king,
So to honor him, when we come
Pa rum pum pum pum, Rum pum pum pum,*

*Little baby, I am a poor boy too, I have no gift to bring
That's fit to give our king, shall I play for you
Mary nodded, the ox and lamb kept time
I played my drum for him, I played my best for him
Then he smiled at me, me and my drum
Pa rum pum pum pum, Rum pum pum pum.*

White Gift Dedication

Prayers of the People

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.**

Communion Hymn **Let All Mortal Flesh v1, 2** VU 473

**1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with awe and reverence stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to us approacheth
our full homage to demand.**

**2 King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.**

Sharing the Sacrament of Holy Communion

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Commissioning

Choral Benediction **Go, Tell it on the Mountain** VU 43

Refrain **Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.**

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

**3 Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent our salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.** Refrain

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

Postlude

Announcements

Please register for Worship: Vaccination, masks, & distancing are required. Register at: sjruc.ca Sign up your "bubble" & sit together. Phone registration is available through the office. There is a separate registration for Sunday School If the 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. **We are now asking for proof of vaccination to attend worship in person.** For those who have chosen to be unvaccinated, please join us online or in print.

Turkey Trot Don't forget to pick up your turkey dinner **December 11th!**

Annual Committee Reports: Due at the Church Office no later than **December 31, 2021.**

Christian Education: Drop your children off at the door near the fenced playground at 10:20 a.m. on Sundays for story time, worship, crafts, and play (indoor & outdoor). Masks & distancing required. Pre-register your children online at rsvp.church/r/C1yBpTR9 **Can you volunteer** to assist with the activity centers? If you can help, contact Mearle Morton ce@sjruc.ca or Rev. Chris revchris@sjruc.ca

Sanctuary Christmas Flowers: To remember a loved one by contributing to the Christmas Flower Fund, please add your name to the form in the Narthex or on bulletin board by the church office. Put your donation of \$10.00 in an envelope marked "Christmas Flowers" and place it on the collection plate **by Sun. Dec. 12**. A tax receipt will be issued. Questions? Contact Anne Willcox 519-744-5074



OneRoof Youth Services – Our fundraising effort for oneROOF will continue until this Tuesday, **December 7th**. Monetary donations, gift cards, new socks & underwear, hygiene products, gloves, warm clothing, footwear, winter boots are some of the items indicated on their "wish list". All donations can be dropped off beforehand at our normal locations within the church or brought for pick up on Tuesday evening at SJR om 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM.

Love and Memory Sunday As we prepare for our annual Love and Memory Sunday on December 19th, remembering those who have died in 2021, we are asking for your help. If there is anyone you would like mentioned in the service, please speak to Margaret Shoosmith, 226-647-0645, or to Rev. Chris to ensure we don't miss anyone. Please know that if we miss your loved one's name, we are still keeping you in prayer.

Broadview Magazine at SJRUC we have a group subscription price, of \$25.00 per year. A wonderful price, for a wonderful magazine! We now **order subscriptions in January**. (This is a new time of year for ordering). If you are interested, please contact Muriel. Current subscribers will be contacted in January. Thank you for your loyalty to Broadview.

Financial Update As we are reaching the end of the year, the Finance Committee of SJR wanted to give you an update on your giving status. We know not everyone has been able to physically join us in the building, but we are grateful for your faithful support. We have done well given the circumstances, but it is likely we will end the year in a deficit. You have recently received a givings update (available year-round by request). There are several ways to give: can place your envelope in the mailbox on the outside wall, to the left of the Sherwood doors, or donate through Canada Helps, www.Canadahelps.org (look for St. James-Rosemount) or sign up for PAR (pre-authorized remittance). This may be done by cheque or credit card. Contact the office for sign-up: 519-742-1002 or mail@sjruc.ca.

Save your Stamps for the Leprosy Mission! Cut your used stamps from parcels & cards and place them in the caring bin in the brown wooden cabinet in the cloak room. Questions about the Stamp Project or The Leprosy Mission? Please contact Jim Oliver, 519-893-4092.

Our Upcoming Christmas Services and Events:

- Dec. 12 Joy Sunday** (Vaccination required)
- Dec. 14 UCW Christmas Service Online Service** – view on our website
- Dec. 19 Love & Memory Sunday** (Vaccination required)
Join us as we remember and celebrate the love that makes us whole
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve:**
 - 6 p.m. Family Christmas Service in the Gym** A Putz' service - more info soon!
 - 7 p.m. Caroling on the Labyrinth-**
 - 8 p.m. Communion & Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary** (Vaccination required)
- Dec. 26 Pajamas and Carols** (Vaccination required)

