
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



December 26, 2021 – First Sunday after Christmas
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 of the Christ Candle

Opening Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

VU 60

**1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
come and behold him, born the King of angels;**

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

**2 God of God, light of light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created:** Refrain

**3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest:** Refrain

**4 See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;** Refrain

**5 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given;
word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:** Refrain

Call to Worship

One: Boxing Day! A day for being with others,
around a table, at a meal or party,
in a church together or participating online.
Being together, one people,

one Spirit of love and fellowship.

Jesus, and his family, join in celebratory praise—
with pilgrims just like them,
attending a festival of praise.

Let us come into the presence of the
parent of all creation, and the child who is Lord of life.
Let us praise God together.

Carol

There's a Star in the East

VU 70

**1 *There's a star in the East on Christmas morn,
rise up, shepherd, and follow;
it will lead to the place where the Christ was born;
rise up, shepherd, and follow.***

Refrain ***Follow, follow, rise up, shepherd, and follow,
follow the Star of Bethlehem,
rise up, shepherd, and follow.***

**2 *If you take good heed to the angel's words,
rise up, shepherd, and follow,
you'll forget your flocks, you'll forget your herds;
rise up, shepherd, and follow.*** Refrain

Opening Prayer

One: God of eternity, present with us now,
God of all creation, present with us here,
in this ordinary, but particular place,
this unremarkable, but unique moment,
we experience the mystery of incarnation:
God with us, Immanuel.

You, the Eternal Mystery, the One with no name and
many, are with us here and now, and we marvel
as did the shepherds and sages,
the teachers in the Temple,
the confused but loving parents of one remarkable
child through whom you came close to us once,
and, amazingly, still sometimes do.
We have got used to hearing about all
that made him different from us.

We marvel still more at all that makes him the same:
his vulnerability and dependence as a baby;
his growing independence as a child;
his testing of the boundaries as an adolescent.

We give thanks for his questions,
and his sharp insights into truths
that the adults had forgotten or did not want to see.
May we see in him an example of what it means
to be truly and fully human – not perfect,
but always growing and learning,
increasing in wisdom as we do in years.
May his relationships be an example for ours,
with space in them, and tolerance and understanding,
and remembering that the Kingdom comes first.
Loving God, there with us then and here with us now,
continue with us in our worship and in the daily living
that leaves us forever changed. Amen.

Hymn

The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy

VU 73

**1 *The virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,
and they say that his name is Jesus.***

Refrain ***He come from the glory, (clap, clap)
he come from the glorious kingdom.
He come from the glory, (clap, clap)
he come from the glorious kingdom.
Oh, yes! believer! Oh, yes! believer!
He come from the glory, (clap, clap)
he come from the glorious kingdom.***

**2 *The angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born,
and they say that his name is Jesus.*** Refrain

**3 *The shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born,
and they say that his name is Jesus.*** Refrain

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Readings from the Scriptures (CEB) **Luke 1: 46-57**

²¹ When eight days had passed, Jesus' parents circumcised him and gave him the name Jesus. This was the name given to him by the angel before he was conceived. ²² When the time came for their ritual cleansing, in

accordance with the Law from Moses, they brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. (23 It's written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male will be dedicated to the Lord.") 24 They offered a sacrifice in keeping with what's stated in the Law of the Lord, *A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.* 25 A man named Simeon was in Jerusalem. He was righteous and devout. He eagerly anticipated the restoration of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. 26 The Holy Spirit revealed to him that he wouldn't die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 Led by the Spirit, he went into the temple area. Meanwhile, Jesus' parents brought the child to the temple so that they could do what was customary under the Law. 28 Simeon took Jesus in his arms and praised God. He said, 29 "Now, master, let your servant go in peace according to your word, 30 because my eyes have seen your salvation. 31 You prepared this salvation in the presence of all peoples. 32 It's a light for revelation to the Gentiles and a glory for your people Israel." 33 His father and mother were amazed by what was said about him. 34 Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "This boy is assigned to be the cause of the falling and rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that generates opposition 35 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your innermost being too." 36 There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, who belonged to the tribe of Asher. She was very old. After she married, she lived with her husband for seven years. 37 She was now an 84-year-old widow. She never left the temple area but worshipped God with fasting and prayer night and day. 38 She approached at that very moment and began to praise God and to speak about Jesus to everyone who was looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

Anthem

Maria Wiegenlied

(music Mark Reger, words Martin Boelitz)

Translation from the German:

*Amid the roses Mary sits and rocks her Jesus child,
While among the treetops, sighs the breeze so warm and mild.
And soft and sweetly, sings a bird upon the bough
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now.
Happy is thy laughter, silent is thy holy rest
Lay thy head in slumber,
Fondly on thy mother's breast
Ah, baby dear one, slumber now*

Reflection

1 *Sing till sundown, hum your joy,
 dress in starlight, girl and boy.
 Man and woman climb the hill,
 warmed beyond December's chill,
 reeling, clapping, touch the air:
 is that fragrant music there?
 Come the glory, gone the gloom:
 in a wondrous huddled room.
 Christ the Word we've longed to know
 calls us dancing through the snow.*

2 *Gladness deepens into grace,
 weaves its light on every face.
 Let us wake the sleeping earth,
 celebrate the sweetest birth,
 pierce the night with festive cry,
 bloom in colours of the sky.
 Bring the flute, the tambourine,
 wave the branch of evergreen.
 Lost we were a grief ago,
 now we're dancing through the snow.*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

(Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Offering Response **As with Gladness Those of Old** VU 81

3 *As they offered gifts most rare
 at that manger crude and bare,
 so may we with holy joy,
 pure and free from sin's alloy,
 all our costliest treasures bring,
 Christ, to you, our heavenly King.*

Dedication of the Offering

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.

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Closing Carol **Angels, from the Realms of Glory** VU 36

1 *Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:*

Refrain *come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

2 *Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant Light:* Refrain

3 *Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star:* Refrain

4 *Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear:* Refrain

Commissioning

Choral Benediction **He is Born** VU 50

***He is born, little Child divine;
play on the reeds while the lutes are strumming.
He is born, little Child divine;
join the song to announce the day.***

*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. Note the separate registration for Sunday School. If the list for the Worship Service is full, please sign up on the “Wait List”. We will contact you if spaces become available. **We require proof of vaccination to attend.** For those who have chosen to be unvaccinated, please join us online or in print

Annual Committee Reports: Due at the Church Office by **December 31, 2021.**
Word (.docx) format preferred

SJR Donations & Receipts To have your donations reflected in your 2021 tax receipt, ensure that your gifts are received by December 26th. Thank you for your continued support of the ministries at SJRUC!

Gifts & Memorials book previously located in the Narthex has gone missing. Do you know where it is? Contact the office 510 742-1002

Chasing Vines Join us on Wednesday, January 12th as we start the new year with a six-session journey through Scripture to discover the true meaning of a fruitful, God-pleasing, meaning-filled life. Just how do those vineyards hold the secret of how we can have a more abundant life? Please contact Rev. Chris or sign up on the website to be included on the zoom meetings on Wednesday nights from 7pm - 9pm.

Winner of "Finding Rev. Chris" in the Library Nook: Congratulations to Grace B! Your guess was correct! Grace will be receiving a \$10 gift card. Thank you to all who entered the contest & toured the library!



Keep Saving Those Stamps for the Leprosy Mission! Place them in the caring bin in the brown wooden cabinet in the cloak room. Questions? Contact Jim O