
St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

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God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



March 6, 2022 – Lent 1 – Good Enough
Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling

Welcome!

Welcome to worship!

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

Centering Moment for Lent *adapted by a prayer by Brené Brown*

One: As we journey this Lent, may we find the courage to let go of who we think we're supposed to be so that we can fully embrace our authentic selves:

All: the imperfect, the creative, the vulnerable, the powerful, the broken, and the beautiful.

One: May we show ourselves and others the compassion that comes from knowing we are all made of strength and struggle.

All: God's love strengthens us in the struggle.

One: May we create a just and equitable world where privilege isn't a prerequisite for self-expression and authenticity, where everyone feels invited and safe to express their power and their vulnerability. And last, may we experience the strength of connection, the love of belonging, and the grace of pure joy, thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Sung Response

Take, O Take Me as I Am

MV 85

*Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.*

Opening Prayer *adapted from a prayer by Cheryl Lawrie*

One: i just realized that in my imagination the wilderness is *always* somewhere else; a foreign landscape i actively have to enter in the act of being faithful.

truthfully, the wilderness is always where i am
right now, even here in worship,
and faith is the courage to stay with it
when i'd rather pretend i am anywhere else.
stay with us as we worship, and even as we go,
nourish us, heal us, hear us, 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

When We are Tested

MV 65

Sung to SLANE – VU 642 – Be Thou My Vision

***When we are tested and wrestle alone,
famished for bread when the world offers stone,
nourish us, God, by your word and your way,
food that sustains us by night and by day.***

***When in the desert we cry for relief,
pleading for paths marked by certain belief,
lift us to love you beyond sign and test,
trusting your presence, our only true rest.***

***When we are tempted to barter our souls,
trading the truth for power to control,
teach us to worship and praise only you,
seeking your will in the work that we do.***

***When we have struggled and searched through the night,
sorting and sifting the wrong from the right,
Saviour, surround us with circles of care,
angels of healing, of hope, and of prayer.***

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Scripture Reading (CEB) **Luke 4:1-13**

¹ Jesus returned from the Jordan River full of the Holy Spirit, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. ² There he was tempted for forty days by the devil. He ate nothing during those days and afterward Jesus was starving. ³ The devil said to him, "Since you are God's Son, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴ Jesus replied, "It's written, *People won't live only by bread.*" ⁵ Next the devil led him to a high place and showed him in a single instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ The devil said, "I will give you this whole domain and the glory of all these kingdoms. It's been entrusted to me and I can give it to anyone I want. ⁷ Therefore, if you will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered, "It's written, *You will worship the Lord your God and serve only him.*" ⁹ The devil brought him into Jerusalem and stood him at the highest point of the temple. He said to him, "Since you are God's Son, throw yourself down from here; ¹⁰ for it's written: *He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you* ¹¹ and *they will take you up in their hands so that you won't hit your foot on a stone.*" ¹² Jesus answered, "It's been said, *Don't test the Lord your God.*" ¹³ After finishing every temptation, the devil departed from him until the next opportunity.

Anthem **Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee** (Mark L. Williams)

*Jesus, the very thought of thee
With sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far thy face to see
And in thy presence rest.*

*Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,
Nor can the mind recall
A sweeter sound than thy blest name,
O Savior of us all!*

*O hope of ev'ry contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
To those who fall, how kind thou art!
How good to those who seek!*

*But what to those who find?
Ah this, nor tongue nor pen can show.
The love of Jesus, sweet it is,
That love, that love his loved ones know.*

*Jesus, our only joy be thou,
as thou our prize be;
Jesus be thou our glory now,
And through eternity.*

Reflection

Hymn

All Who Hunger

VU 460

**1 All who hunger, gather gladly;
holy manna is our bread.**

Come from wilderness and wandering.

Here, in truth, we will be fed.

**You that yearn for days of fullness,
all around us is our food.**

Refrain **Taste and see the grace eternal.**

Taste and see that God is good.

**2 All who hunger, never strangers;
seeker, be a welcome quest.**

Come from restlessness and roaming.

Here, in joy, we keep the feast.

**We that once were lost and scattered
in communion's love have stood.** Refrain

**3 All who hunger, sing together;
Jesus Christ is living bread.**

Come from loneliness and longing.

Here, in peace, we have been led.

**Blest are those who from this table
live their lives in gratitude.** Refrain

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

(Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Offering Response **We Bring our Gifts to Share**

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

*Kyrie eleison...Christe eleison...
Lord, have mercy...Christ, have mercy...*

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Closing Hymn **Before You Now, O God** VU 511

- 1 *Before you now, O God, your servants stand
in answer to your call and Christ's command
to take the gospel with them everywhere,
till all creation knows your endless care.***
- 2 *With diligence and love they shall proclaim
your living Word that breaks away our chains.
With reverence and with joy they'll bless and give
the holy sacraments by which we live.***
- 3 *God, who are we that you still choose and bless,
guide, lead, and feed us through all wilderness?
Give them the strength to rise from every fall.
Confirm with burning hearts this answered call.***
- 4 *Arise, O God, in power and in might.
Lift up your countenance and give us light!
Your saints shall sing with joy what they profess.
Now clothe each one, O God, with righteousness.***

Commissioning *from "Good Enough" by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie*

One: Blessed are you who realize there is simply not
enough—time, money, resources.
Blessed are you who are tired of pretending that raw
effort is the secret to perfection.
It's not. And you know that now.
Blessed are you who need a gentle reminder that
even now, even today, God is here, and somehow,
that is good enough.

And now, may the God who loves all of creation,
especially the ordinary parts, and Jesus, our
companion along this crooked path called life,

and the Holy Spirit, who loves to improvise in surprising ways, go with you, dwell among you, and give you joy. Amen.

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

Announcements

Please register for Worship: Vaccination, masks, & distancing are required. Register at: rsvp.church/r/C1yBpTR9 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!

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

Ukraine On February 24 the armed conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine erupted, costing precious lives and creating a humanitarian crisis as people flee from the conflict. The United Nations estimates that hundreds of thousands of people are seeking refuge in neighbouring countries. Many have lost friends and loved ones, struggle to meet their basic needs, and face an uncertain future. **The Executive has pledged a minimum of a \$2000 support, so if you would like to help, please make your donation out to SJR with the note: ‘Ukraine’**

Lenten Faith Study We continue our Lenten Faith Study on Zoom from 7pm to 9pm on Wednesday evenings. In "Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week" Amy Jill Levine will take us on a step-by-step journey through the last days of Jesus. She will shed fresh light on familiar passages in the Gospels to see the passion of Jesus through Jewish eyes. Please contact Rev Chris to get the link.

Pastoral Care a reminder if any Crafters had worked on our Easter project, please drop off at church in the library or let Brenda know we can arrange for pick up by March 8th.

Gather and Gab RETURNS! Back by popular demand - we're going to continue our Sunday morning gatherings of Gather and Gab! Grab your coffee and join us on Zoom. For those coming for in person worship, you'll hopefully have enough time to get home and fire up your Zoom! See you at noon, every Sunday and if you need the Zoom link, send a note to Rev. Chris.



Waterloo Regional Food Bank Beginning February 27th, and ending Thursday, March 24th, we will undergo our first of three fundraisers for the Waterloo Regional Food Bank. Boxes will be set up at the usual locations within the church to collect food items. Financial donations will be greatly appreciated during this time span. Make sure all financial donations are in envelopes indicating donor identification & donation destination. Any cheques should be made out to SJRUC with the purpose indicated. A final collection of all items will take place in the church parking lot on Thursday, March 24th from 6:00PM to 7:30PM.

Executive Update On March 1st the Executive of SJR met to discuss further reopening plans, especially in light of Ontario's further lifting of vaccination passports, etc. After a lengthy discussion, we decided to keep status quo for the month of March. Masks, distancing, and vaccination status will still be required for worship during this time as we monitor cases and learn from the community around us as they take steps to embrace a new normal. Our hopes will be that by April we are able to increase numbers to 75% capacity, and potentially eliminate vaccine requirements. In the months that follow we hope to embrace 100% capacity, Gather in Gab in person, and all the other activities we so miss. Until then... *Let's not get tired of doing good, because in time we'll have a harvest if we don't give up.* Galatians 6:9

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If you know of anyone needing a visit, please let Rev. Chris know.