
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



April 3, 2022 – Lent 5 – 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 Thom Shuman*

One: because we have preserved our joy
in manna jars for the long winter of despair,
storing them in the dark corners of our souls,
we have forgotten its gritty taste;

because we have put a tight lid on our joy,
and put it in the back of the pantry,
we have forgotten how it can tickle our noses;

because we are so busy prattling pious platitudes
about the poor, the least, the lost, we ignore your words
which anoint them as your children;

because we have put up the shutters and storm doors
to keep your future from sneaking in, we have missed
the sweet breeze carrying your hope to us;

because we are who we are, restore us, Holy Grace,
and make us a fragrant offering to the world.

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 **Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here**

***Great God, your love has called us here
as we, by love, for love were made.***

***Your living likeness still we bear,
though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.***

***We come, with all our heart and mind
your call to hear, your love to find.***

***We come with self-inflicted pains
of broken trust and chosen wrong,
half-free, half-bound by inner chains,
by social forces swept along,
by powers and systems close confined,
yet seeking hope for humankind.***

***Great God, in Christ you call our name
and then receive us as your own,
not through some merit, right or claim,
but by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat
and find you kneeling at our feet.***

***Great God, in Christ you set us free
your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty
to turn from guilt and dull despair
and offer all that faith can do
while love is making all things new.***

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Scripture Reading (CEB) **John 12: 1-8**

¹Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, home of Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ²Lazarus and his sisters hosted a dinner for him. Martha served and Lazarus was among those who joined him at the table. ³Then Mary took an extraordinary amount, almost three-quarters of a pound, of very expensive perfume made of pure nard. She anointed Jesus' feet with it, then wiped his feet dry with her hair. The house was filled with the aroma of the perfume. ⁴Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), complained, ⁵"This perfume was worth a year's wages! Why wasn't it sold and the money given to the poor?" (⁶He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief. He carried the money bag and would take what was in it.) ⁷Then Jesus said, "Leave her alone. This perfume was to be used in preparation for my burial, and this is how she has used it. ⁸You will always have the poor among you, but you won't always have me."

Anthem

We are Not Alone

(Pepper Choplin)

*We are never alone, for God is with us.
Now, through all our days, always.
Forever and ever, we are never alone.
And God will make us strong, for God is with us.
We will press on, for God is with us.
Now, through all our days, always.
Forever and ever, we are never alone.
Our God is with us now.*

1 *Out of the depths, O God, we call to you.
Wounds of the past remain, affecting all we do.
Facing our lives, we need your love so much.
Here in this community, heal us by your touch.*

2 *Out of the depths of fear, O God, we speak.
Breaking the silences, the searing truth we seek.
Safe among friends, our grief and rage we share.
Here in this community, hold us in your care.*

3 *God of the loving heart, we praise your name.
Dance through our lives and loves;
anoint with Spirit flame.
Your light illumines each familiar face.
Here in this community, meet us with your grace.*

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

Sharing the Sacrament of Holy Communion

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Closing Hymn

O Jesus, I Have Promised

VU 120

1 *O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
remain for ever near me, my Saviour and my friend:
I shall not fear the journey if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.*

**2 O let me feel you near me: the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, then draw nearer and shield my soul from
sin.**

**3 O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
now speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my soul.**

**4 O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you,
that where you are in glory your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Saviour and my friend.**

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 lavishly blesses us, and
Jesus, whose own fragile life bore the mark of the
divine, and the Holy Spirit who breaks open the world
that we can see the world for its fragrant beauty, go
with you, to witnesses to the blessings we share.

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



Year End Recitals At SJR we have been lucky enough to share time with choral scholars over the last few years, and so it is fitting that we share two upcoming year end recitals! On **April 12 at 4pm** Colin Watts' (tenor) recital will be at the Maureen Forrester recital hall at Wilfred Laurier University. For tickets, please register at: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/graduation-recital-colin-watts-voice-tickets-304997274057>. As well Madison Marino's (former soprano) recital will take place in the same place on **April 24 at 4:30pm**. We don't have any ticket information yet, but will pass along when we do!

Holy Week with SJR

April 10, Palm Sunday, 10:30am – Join us as we wave our branches, and cry out Hosanna (Save us!) for Jesus' ‘good enough’ arrival in Jerusalem.

April 14, Maundy Thursday, 6pm we'll eat dinner together on Zoom (just like a chaotic family dinner) and then share in Communion. We start dinner at 6pm and if you need the zoom link, please check your weekly worship email, or please email Rev. Chris @ revchris@sjruc.ca

April 15, Good Friday, 10:30am, The saddest day of the church year is a time for us to come and mourn together. We are reminded even with this ‘good enough’ God that death is a part of faith; we are to make peace in that all things end.

April 17, Easter Sunday, 7:30am and 10:30am, we'll share in two services to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. First, we will gather on the labyrinth at 7:30am to share in the joy of Easter communion with the light of a new day! And then at 10:30am we will continue our Easter celebration indoors. For the 10:30am service, masks, registration, distancing will be required.



Easter Flowers To remember a loved one by contributing to the Easter Flower Fund, put your donation of \$10.00 in an envelope marked “Easter Flowers” and place it on the collection plate by April 10. A tax receipt will be issued. Questions? Contact Anne Willcox 519-744-5074



Ukraine 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’

Can we Count on You? Our current list of Counters (of the Sunday offering) is less than half of the size that it was before Covid. There has been no Counters schedule for the past two years and as we ramp up our Sunday services, it is time to put together a Counters Schedule. We like to have a Head Counter with one or two Counter helpers. If we can get enough volunteers, your commitment would be once every 4-7 weeks. The counting has traditionally been done after our Sunday worship service.



Who are all of these people? Reminder for anyone who didn't pick up your new name tag – these are available in the Long Sunday School Room. If you don't have a name tag – please let the office know!

Lenten Faith Study We conclude our Lenten Faith Study on Zoom from 7pm to 9pm this Wednesday evening with “Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week.” Please contact Rev Chris to get the link.

Mother's Day Takeout Dinner! The UCW is partnering with “DeliWorks” to bring you a full take-out dinner to help raise money to meet our 2022 goal for the Mission & Service Fund of the United Church of Canada. We are offering brioche rolls with butter, caesar salad, Apricot Chicken thighs with roasted garlic mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables. Dessert is a lemon pastry with berries. And all for \$25! To order call Muriel or Bernice or order on line at sjruc.ca by Friday, April 29th. All dinners must be prepaid - you can pay by cash or cheque (made out to SJR UCW). Put your payment in an envelope marked “MOTHER'S DAY” and drop it off at the church. If you cannot drop the payment off please let Muriel or Bernice know and it will be picked up.

Accommodation Need! A member of the congregation is need of accommodation (one bedroom apartment if possible) as of April. If you have any connections, please contact Rev. Chris.

Executive Update While mandatory masking has been lifted in Ontario, we continue to keep status quo for the month of March. Masks, distancing, and vaccination status will still be required for worship. Our hopes will be that by our Executive meeting on April 5, we will be 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.

Rev. Chris Fickling, Minister of Worship revchris@sjruc.ca
Office: 519-742-1002 Cell: 226-989-6400