
St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

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God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



**April 10, 2022 – Palm Sunday – 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

Processional Hymn **Hosanna, Loud Hosanna** VU 123

**1 Hosanna, loud hosanna
the happy children sang;
through pillared court and temple
the joyful anthem rang;
to Jesus, who had blessed them
close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
the simplest and the best.**

**2 From Olivet they followed
'mid an exultant crowd,
the victory palm branch waving,
and singing clear and loud;
the Lord of earth and heaven
rode on in lowly state,
content that little children
should on his bidding wait.**

**3 'Hosanna in the highest!'
That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer;
earth, let your anthems ring.
O may we ever praise him
with heart and life and voice,
and in his humble presence
eternally rejoice!**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

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

One: As we've journeyed this Lent, as we've entered the Jerusalem of our vulnerabilities and fear, may we embrace our authentic selves:

All: the imperfect, the creative, the vulnerable, the powerful, the broken, and the beautiful, the king riding on a donkey.

One: May the strength and struggles of this life be the place where we root our compassion for ourselves and our world.

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

One: Even as we shout – Hosanna – save us – we pray for God's help, to 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. May we ensure that all can experience the strength of connection, the love of belonging, and the grace of pure joy, thanks be to God. For Jesus sings from atop the donkey:

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.*

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 LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Scripture Reading (CEB) **Luke 19:29-40**

²⁹As Jesus came to Bethphage and Bethany on the Mount of Olives, he gave two disciples a task. ³⁰He said, "Go into the village over there. When you enter it, you will find tied up there a colt that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks, 'Why are you untying it?' just say, 'Its master needs it.'" ³²Those who had been sent found it exactly as he had said. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴They replied, "Its master needs it." ³⁵They brought it to Jesus, threw their clothes on the colt, and lifted Jesus onto it. ³⁶As Jesus rode along, they spread their clothes on the road. ³⁷As Jesus approached the road leading down from the Mount of Olives, the whole throng of his disciples began rejoicing. They praised God with a loud voice because of all the mighty things they had seen. ³⁸They said, "Blessings on the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens." ³⁹Some of the Pharisees from the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, scold your disciples! Tell them to stop!" ⁴⁰He answered, "I tell you, if they were silent, the stones would shout."

Anthem **Ain't No Rock Gonna' Shout for Me** (Larson)

*Here comes the Lord ridin' on a donkey
with people waving branches and callin' him "King".
Here comes the Lord ridin' through Jerusalem.
If the people don't shout, the rocks will cry out!*

Refrain:

*Rocks keep silent! Jesus comes to set me free.
Rocks, keep silent! I'm gonna' shout in victory!
Rocks, keep silent! Jesus reigns in majesty
Ain't no rock gonna' shout for me.*

*Here comes the Lord as thousands throng to see him.
Children stand on tiptoe to see the King.
Here comes the Lord, excitement in the air.
If the people don't shout, the rocks will cry!
Oh, yes, the rocks will cry out! **Refrain***

*Here comes the Lord! Hosannas fill the air,
The people bow and worship the promised King!
Here comes the Lord. "Hosanna in the highest!"
If the people don't shout, the rocks will cry out! **Refrain***

Reflection

- 1 Ride on, ride on, the time is right:
the roadside crowds scream with delight;
palm branches mark the pilgrim way
where beggars squat and children play.**
- 2 Ride on, ride on, your critics wait,
intrigue and rumour circulate;
new lies abound in word and jest,
and truth becomes a suspect guest.**
- 3 Ride on, ride on, while well aware
that those who shout and wave and stare
are mortals who, with common breath,
can crave for life and lust for death.**
- 4 Ride on, ride on, though blind with tears,
though voiceless now and deaf to jeers.
Your path is clear, though few can tell
their garments pave the road to hell.**
- 5 Ride on, ride on, God's love demands.
Justice and peace lie in your hands.
Evil and angel voices rhyme:
you are the man and this the time.**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

(Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Offering Response

Praise God (Doxology)

VU 541

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.***

Dedication of the Offering

Prayers of the People

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Closing Hymn

Stay with Us Through the Night

VU 182

- 1 Stay with us through the night.
Stay with us through the pain.
Stay with us, blessed stranger
till the morning breaks again.**

**2 Stay with us through the night.
Stay with us through the grief.
Stay with us, blessed stranger
till the morning brings relief.**

**3 Stay with us through the night.
Stay with us through the **strife**.
Stay with us, blessed stranger
till the morning breaks new **life**.**

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 pointed Jesus towards
the injustice of Jerusalem, and Jesus who
purposefully walked towards danger, and the Holy
Spirit who inspires us all to believe that change is
possible, may these be a model for community and
connection for you, and may this be enough for you to
believe that you are not alone.

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 still 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

Holy Week with SJR

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 and we are to make peace in that all things end. (Registration not required for this Service).

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 **today, April 10**. A tax receipt will be issued. Questions? Contact the church office.

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-wattsvoice-tickets-304997274057>. Colin's recital will also be livestreamed for those interested. 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!

Ukraine We have raised \$2600 to date in support of those in Ukraine, and we will continue to collect over the next few months in support of those affected by war. Thank you for your generosity, and for those that would still like to help, please make your donation out to SJR with the note: ‘Ukraine’

Faith Study: Join us beginning Wednesday, April 27th for this six session video Bible Study by best-selling author Philip Yancey. We will explore the concept of grace - the one thing the world cannot duplicate and the one thing it craves above all else. We will discover what grace looks like in action and we will also examine how Christians, as the sole dispensers, are doing at lavishing grace on a world that knows far more of cruelty and unforgiveness than it does of mercy. Please contact Rev. Chris or sign up on the website to be included on the zoom meeting Wednesday nights 7pm - 9pm

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. Please contact finance@sjruc.ca if you're able to help!

Monica Place collection Beginning this week, we are collecting for Monica Place, a registered charity that provides supports for pregnant and parenting youth in the Kitchener-Waterloo and Cambridge region. When donating make sure your regular church envelope number is added as well as clear indication on the outer envelope that your gift is for Monica Place. All cheques should be made out to SJRUC. Also, between April 10 and May 19, we will be collecting the following, much-needed items to be delivered to Monica Place: diapers (size newborn to 6), diaper wipes, diaper rash cream, gently used clothing, etc. A table will be set up for these items.

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 at 519 -893-8124 or Bernice at 519-893-0766 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 As a result of our meeting on April 5, we are taking tentative steps towards resuming life together and worship as we would like. At this time, we are increasing attendance numbers to allow more people to enjoy Easter together, moving from limits of 55-60 to 75-80. Due to the current increasing Covid cases and hospitalizations, we are still requiring on-line (or phone) registration, masks, distancing, and vaccination. In coming months, we hope to further lift restrictions, reach 100% capacity, and offer in-person Gather in Gab, along with all the other activities we so miss.