
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 24, 2022 – 68th Anniversary and Earth Day
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

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Prelude

Call to Worship *adapted from a prayer by Tim Graves*

One: We gather as people on a journey.

**All: We believe & we have doubts,
we do good & we fail and fall short.
We are good enough people,
still beloved by God.**

One: Love and grace. Hope and faith.

These are the essence of the one we call God.

**All: We seek forgiveness & grace from the One
seeking wholeness and wellbeing for all.**

One: Assured of that grace, we are ready to grow again.

**All: We yearn for a new way, a new perspective,
and a clear path.**

One: Though we trust, we are full of doubt, we are here.

Speak to us, God! Continue creating us!

**All: Inspire our hearts. Enlighten our minds.
Guide our actions. Recreate our hearts.
Inspire community between us in this time of
worship.**

Opening Prayer

**All: We thank you Lord for the story of Thomas
showing us that faith was never easy
and that doubt never breaks your love for us**

**We lift up to you our demands: show me,
prove it, give me a sign NOW, our doubts...**

may your peace be with us

**We offer you: our fumbling answers,
our wounded hearts that we keep from healing,
the pain we'd rather carry than put in your hands.**

may your peace be with us

**We ask you to meet those in need of peace,
in need of blessing, in need of an end to their
waiting**

may your peace be with them...

may your peace be with us...

may your peace prevail...

For we do believe...help our unbelief. Amen

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

Morning Has Broken

VU 409

- 1 *Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!***
- 2 *Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.***
- 3 *Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!***

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Scripture Reading (CEB) **John 20:19-31**

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Anthem

The Earth is Our Cradle

(Christopher New)

The earth is our cradle, our ground and our home.

The sky is our blanket, protective and warm.

The stars are our ancestors, ancient and bright,

Their glow is a glimpse of our life's burning light.

The creatures of land, the swimmers of sea,

The birds of the air, the green plants and trees:

They're all our siblings with equal share

In Earth as our home and duty to care.

Our ancient atoms arranged and reformed,

Connect us and bind us with the stuff of the stars.

When all is over, our substance returned

To our elements birthplace, our atoms' next turn.

**1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.**

**3 In every insult, rift, and war,
where colour, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.**

**4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

**5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.**

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

Prayers of the People

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Closing Hymn

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

VU 179

Refrain ***Hallelujah, hallelujah.
Give thanks to the risen Christ;
hallelujah, hallelujah!
Give praise to God's name.***

**1 Jesus is Lord of all the earth,
firstborn of all creation.** Refrain

**2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and is risen.** Refrain

**3 We have been crucified with Christ,
now we shall live for ever.** Refrain

**4 Come let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Saviour.** Refrain

Commissioning

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



***In memory of Family and Friends,
flowers have been placed in the sanctuary***

Ena Arnot
Tom & Kathy Butt
Jim & Teresa Carse
Suanne Crouse
Bill & Dianne Dyck
Nancy Ebel & Family
Dorothy Hibbard
Terry & Sandra Jardine

Joan Kaehler
Jim & Norma Mosgrove
Cecil & Jan Omand
Lynda Perkes
Edna Rhoda
Doug & Alison Riddell
Donna & Ralph Szilock
Maria Taylor

Bernice Uebele
Ernie & Betty
VanNatter
Corinne Wettlaufer
Don & Anne Willcox
Carol Wilson

Announcements

Please register for Worship: Vaccination, masks, & distancing are required. Register at: sjruc.ca or www.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. 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 www.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

Canadian Food For Children is a registered charity with the Canadian government. Their goal is to feed and clothe those experiencing poverty. All donations collected go towards feeding and clothing the poorest of the poor in developing countries throughout the world. The UCW of St. James'-Rosemount has collected items for CFFC for over 35 years! **We will be collecting items every Saturday in May from 12 noon to one o'clock in the parking lot at SJRUC.**

Items needed for CFFC - Clothing, hats and shoes for all ages (hot and cold weather items), household goods (bedding, towels, curtains etc), School and office supplies (paper), yarn, beads, craft items, medical and hygiene supplies, tools, braces, canes and all assist items.

What's So Amazing About Grace? 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 explore 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 from 7pm to 9pm

Ukraine We have raised \$3300 to date in support of those in Ukraine, and we will continue to collect over the next months in support of those affected by war. Thank you for your generosity! For those who would still 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 Sunday worship service. Please contact finance@sjruc.ca if you're able to help!

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 online at sjruc.ca by **this 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.

Monica Place collection 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. In addition to financial donations until 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.

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 forward to resuming life together and worship as we would like. At this time, we are increasing attendance numbers to allow more people to enjoy the Easter season together, moving from limits of 55-60 to 70-ish. During this time, masks, distancing, and vaccination status will still be required for worship. We had hoped to lift more restrictions however the current case load in our community is proving that a little more time is necessary. In the months to come, we still hope to reach 100% capacity, Gather in Gab in person, and all the other activities we so miss.