St. James'-Rosemount United Church

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God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



May 8, 2022 – Easter 4 – Celebrating 60 Years of UCW Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling



The UCW's mission is to love God; foster Christian commitment, faithfulness, and spirituality; and promote respect and love for all God's creation.

Welcome!

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.

This service is adapted from a service written by Elaine Burrows, President of Maritime UCW (January 2022)

Welcome & Announcements and Lighting the Christ Candle

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: We gather today to celebrate, to remember, to offer gratitude for 60 years of Christian witness, study, fellowship, and service.

All: We give thanks.

One: For the leadership inside and outside the walls of the church, and at all levels of the United Church Women.

All: We give thanks.

One: For the hospitality, pastoral care, and outreach ministries provided through receptions and events of all kinds.

All: We give thanks.

One: For the willingness to fill in when needed – to lead a church service, to organize an event, and to provide money for an item not on any budget line.

All: We give thanks.

One: For attending meetings – local, provincial, regional and national, and bringing back ideas, new study books, and new hymns suggestions.

All: We give thanks.

One: For supporting camping ministries, Vacation Bible Schools, Sunday School, World Day of Prayer, Mission and Service, food banks, and much more.

All: We give thanks.

One: For decorating at Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving or finding someone to take on the task.

All: We give thanks.

One: For pushing for changes when the carpet got worn, the curtains shabby, and the room needed a cleaning and a painting,

All: We give thanks.

One: For their many and varied ministries over 60 years,

All: We give thanks for their gifts and talents, and sharing their treasures.

Opening Prayer

One: We gather this day in gratitude and thanksgiving for the thousands of women across Canada who gave over 60 years of Christian witness, study, fellowship, and service to their churches, their pastoral charges and communities of faith, their Presbyterial which became regions, and to the national UCW. Even throughout the changes in our church, the United Church women continued to serve. We give thanks to the families who supported them in their endeavours while eyeing the goodies on the counter – that were going to the church. For their energy, vision, outreach, and pastoral care, we give thanks. In gratitude, we offer the prayer of Jesus, using these words or words more familiar to us, praying...

Lord's Prayer (read/prayed slowly)

For ever and ever. Amen.

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.

Sung at the inauguration of the United Church Women, 1962

- 1 How firm a foundation, you servants of God, is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!
 What more can be said than to you has been said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
- 2 'Fear not, I am with you; O be not dismayed!
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;
 I'll strengthen and help you, and cause you to stand,
 upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand.
- 3 'When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow; for I will be with you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress.
- 4 'When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply: the flame shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.
 - 5 'The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose I will not - I will not desert to his foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake, I'll never - no, never - no, never forsake!'

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading (CEB) 1 Corinthians 12:12-26

¹² Christ is just like the human body—a body is a unit and has many parts; and all the parts of the body are one body, even though there are many. ¹³ We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body, whether Jew or Greek, or slave or free, and we all were given one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Certainly the body isn't one part but many. ¹⁵ If the foot says, "I'm not part of the body because I'm not a hand," does that mean it's not part of the body? ¹⁶ If the ear says, "I'm not part of the body because I'm not an eye," does that mean it's not part of the body? ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, what would happen to the hearing? And if the whole body were an ear, what would happen to the sense of smell? ¹⁸ But as it is, God has placed each one of the parts in the body just like he wanted. ¹⁹ If all were one and the same body part, what would happen to the body? ²⁰ But as it is, there are many parts but one body. ²¹ So the eye can't say to the hand, "I don't need you," or in turn, the head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." ²² Instead, the parts of the body that people think are the weakest are the most necessary. ²³ The parts of the

body that we think are less honorable are the ones we honor the most. The private parts of our body that aren't presentable are the ones that are given the most dignity. ²⁴ The parts of our body that are presentable don't need this. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the part with less honor ²⁵ so that there won't be division in the body and so the parts might have mutual concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part gets the glory, all the parts celebrate with it.

Anthem

Loving Shepherd

(J.S. Bach)

Loving shepherd, comfort and guide us, Keep us in thy tender care. And in thy mercy stay beside us, Safely thy lambs gather, Bring us in faith together, And thy pastures now prepare.

And when I walk with darkness around me, Thou art near and I will fear no ill. So with thy love and kindness surround me, Goodness and mercy bringing, From living water springing, Lord of Love grant me thy comfort still.

Reflection

Hymn

O God of the Women (tune: Be Thou My Vision)
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God of the women who answered your call, Trusting your promises, giving their all, Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth — Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way, Giving their resources, learning to pray, Mary, Joanna, Susannah, and more — May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test, Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed, Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" — In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

God of the women who ran from the tomb, Prayed with the others in that upper room.

Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day — May we so gladly proclaim you today.

O God of Phoebe and ministers all, May we be joyful in answering your call. Give us the strength of your Spirit so near That we may share in your ministry here.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Minute for Mission

Invitation to Offering

(Donate online at siruc.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 The Church's One Foundation VU331

Words written by Betty Turcott for UCW 50th Anniversary 2002.

We celebrate our history, rejoice to know our past.

And thank God for those women
who to the faith held fast.
They toiled in God's service,
they worshipped, worked and prayed
And following a vision they journeyed unafraid.

In this world of great turmoil, the call of God we heed; And to that call stay faithful, in action, word and deed. Thus challenged by our purpose, and struggling on the way, We journey where God leads us, toward a better day.

We look toward the future, and joyfully we go With faith into tomorrow the seeds of life to sow.

We follow still that vision, that will not be denied, The coming of an Eden where all in love abide.

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

Announcements

Executive Update As a result of our meeting on May 3, registration is no longer necessary to attend Worship. We are still requiring masks for those able to wear them, and strongly encourage social distancing even while appreciating how much we want to reconnect as a community. In the pews, we encourage you to continue to sit by a cone. Recognising that everyone is at a different comfort level if you find yourself closer to someone than you're comfortable with, you are welcome to find another spot. If you feel moved to sing, we are still encouraging only humming at this time, but we are planning an outdoor service (weather permitting) on May 22 when you will be encouraged to sing your heart out, and plan on staying for Gather and Gab after service!

<u>Christian Education:</u> 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. Can you volunteer to assist with the activity centers? If so, contact Mearle Morton ce@siruc.ca.

<u>Ukraine</u>: We have raised over \$4000 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' <u>Living & Dying Mini-series Resumes</u> We are continuing our series started in January over two years ago. Jim Tait, a retired lawyer, will address the **LEGAL PAPERS THAT ALL ADULTS SHOULD HAVE IN PLACE**. Preparing ahead is

so important for each person and the families involved. Come and hear Jim's presentation on <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>May 18 at 2 pm</u>. He will also answer questions. We require you to register with the office (mail@sjruc.ca) and if numbers warrant, we will move to one of the large spaces instead of the Rainbow Rm as we want to follow social distancing. All are asked to wear their masks.

<u>Canadian Food for Children</u> 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! <u>We will be collecting items</u> every Saturday in May from 12 noon to 1 p.m. in the SJRUC parking lot.

Items needed for CFFC - Clothing, hats and shoes for all ages (hot and cold weather items), household goods (bedding, towels, curtains etc), School & 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 as we continue 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

Monica Place collection We are collecting for Monica Place, a charity that provides supports for pregnant and parenting youth in the KW and Cambridge region. When donating make sure your regular church envelope number is added as well as clear indication on the 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 is in the foyer for these items.



If you do not have a name tag and would like one, please contact the church office: mail@sjruc.ca or leave a message at 519-742-1002

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