St. James¹-Rosemount United Church 171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2 519-742-1002 www.sjruc.ca

God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



November 20, 2022 Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling

Welcome to worship! We're glad you're here!

WE GATHER IN GOD'S HOPE

VU: Voices United

* Please rise in body and/or Spirit as you are able. * Our services are recorded and shared online. If you would like to not be recorded, we ask that you sit near the back of the Sanctuary.

We acknowledge that we are on the Haldimand Tract, traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. We acknowledge their care of the land and gives our thanks for their conservancy.

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Prelude

Idylle

(Denis Bédard)

* Opening Hymn The Church's One Foundation VU 331

Opening Litany written by John Birch

- One: God who calls us to follow, who sent Christ to invite us along the way, and who encourages us in our faithful walking,
- All: be in us today.
- One: You call us to service; to be your eyes and ears, hands and voice in this, your world.

Silence

- All: be in us today.
- One: Open our eyes not only to the beauty and love which you create, but the injustice, hate and suffering that humankind generates. Both exist here and now,
- All: be in us today.

MV: More Voices

- One: Open our ears not only to the chattering of this coming week, but the searching, fears and questioning of all whom we shall meet. For you are in our midst,
- All: be in us today.
- One: Open our hands not only to those we choose our lives to share, but in welcome, love and fellowship to all who you draw near. Bind us together in one love,
- All: be in us today.
- One: Open our mouths not only to speak platitudes and simple words, but the truths you lay upon our hearts. Your Word for this, your world.
- All: be in us today.
- One: God of the countless generations, you call us to service, to be your eyes and ears, hands and voice in this, your world. For we do this in the name of Jesus...

Lord's Prayer (read and prayed slowly together)

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.

Renewal of Baptismal Faith with Linda Dawson, Neil Taylor, and Carrie Warrack A New Creed

All: We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:

- to celebrate God's presence,
- to live with respect in Creation,
- to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
- to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
 - our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Hymn What Does the Lord Require VU 701

Youth and Children are invited to head out to Sunday School!

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Readings from the Scriptures (CEB) Luke 1:68-79 ⁶⁸ "Bless the Lord God of Israel because God has come to help and has delivered his people. ⁶⁹ God has raised up a mighty savior for us in his servant David's house, ⁷⁰ just as he said through the mouths of his holy prophets long ago. ⁷¹ God has brought salvation from our enemies and from the power of all those who hate us. 72 God has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and remembered his holy covenant, ⁷³ the solemn pledge he made to our ancestor Abraham. God has granted ⁷⁴ that we would be rescued from the power of our enemies so that we could serve without fear,⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness in God's eyes, for as long as we live. ⁷⁶ You, child, will be called a prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way. ⁷⁷ You will tell his people how to be saved through the forgiveness of their sins. ⁷⁸ Because of our God's deep compassion, the dawn from heaven will break upon us. 79 to give light to those who are sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide us on the path of peace."

Reflection

Our God's deep compassion

Hymn

We Meet You, O Christ VU 183

Tune: VU 228 Sing Praises to God

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering (Donate online at sjruc.ca)

* Offering Response

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 Come, thou long-expected Jesus VU 2

* Commissioning

Anthem Benediction A Clare Benediction

(John Rutter)

May the Lord show his mercy upon you; May the light of God's presence be your guide: May God guard you and uphold you; May God's spirit be ever by your side. When you sleep, may God's angels watch over you; When you wake, may God fill you with his grace: May you love God and serve him all your days, Then in heaven may you see God's face.

Please remain seated in silence as we conclude our service with the postlude.

Postlude Crown Him with Many Crowns (arr. Cindy Berry)

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Printed copies of this Sunday's message are available in the Narthex for you to take home or share.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

□ Nov. 23 Faith Study " Faithful" - Parlour 7-9 pm (masks required)

- □ Nov. 24 Choir 7:30 pm 9 pm
- □ Nov. 27 Worship Service 1st Advent Hanging of the Greens 10:30 am
- □ Nov. 28 UCW Meeting Parlour 7 pm masks required
- □ Dec. 4 Worship Service 2nd Advent White Gift Sunday 10:30 am *Gather & Gab and Baked Goods Auction after service*
- Dec. 8 Last day for OneRoof drop off in Parking lot 6-7:30 pm

Check the bulletin boards and visit www.sjruc.ca for upcoming events.

If you are in need of emergency pastoral care please contact: Rev. Chris Fickling:

revchris@sjruc.ca Office: 519-742-1002 Cell: 226-989-6400

SJRUC Current Covid Measures

SJR follows Ontario Public Health guidelines: practice good hand hygiene, distance yourself from others if you choose, stay home if you are sick, and stay up to date on vaccinations. If you feel you are seated too close to someone, please feel comfortable to find another spot. We are also joining with the government in **strongly recommending** wearing a mask at this time.

IN OUR CHURCH

SJRUC ChristmasTreats Auction! **December 4**th after Gather & Gab. Gluten free will be available. Proceeds support SJRUC. Bakers: We would like Christmas cookies, loaves, pies, tarts,



cupcakes, sweets. Boxes for putting your baked goods in will be available to pick up Nov. 20 & 27. Drop off your treats before service on Dec. 4th. For more info contact the church office.

Confirmation Classes We hope to be starting Confirmation classes for youth 12 years old and up with the first meeting in December. Please speak to Rev. Chris or contact the office. We are pleased share in your journey of faith and hope you will make St. James'~Rosemount United Church your home.

<u>Annual Committee Reports</u> are due to be received at the SJR Office <u>mail@sjruc.ca</u> no later than **Dec.31, 2022.**





<u>Supporting OneRoof</u>: SJRUC is currently running our annual fundraiser on behalf of OneRoof Youth Services. The fundraiser will

officially end on Thursday evening, December 8th, when a truck will be in the church parking lot from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to collect donated items for delivery. A table will be set up in the usual location to collect items, and a OneRoof Wish List will be on the table for you to observe. As the winter approaches items needed include gloves and finger mitts, winter socks, hoodies, sweatshirts (gently used), gift cards, underwear (male & female - new), winter boots (women's size 7 - 10 & men's size 10 and up). Monetary donations are greatly welcome and can be dropped off in the church mailbox or with your Sunday offerings until December 8th.

UCW Meeting: Come join us in the **Parlour on Monday, November 28th at 7:00pm** as we gather to be together as women of St. James'-Rosemount! Our own Marjorie T will share her stories and treasures from her trip this past summer to Sydney, Nova Scotia to celebrate 60 years of UCW with women from across Canada. Unfortunately, coffee and nibbles will not be served... please bring your own drinks and be prepared to wear a mask.

Faith Study Join us for **"Faithful - Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph"**, a closed captioned four-week video study **Wednesdays**, **7pm to 9pm in the Parlour**. We're not that different from Joseph. He encountered circumstances that he never chose for himself, but he didn't walk away. Joseph provides a great example of humbly obeying God even when we don't understand, faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides. If you are interested in joining us contact the office @ 519-742-1002

<u>Kenya Student Fund</u> In 2023 we will be sponsoring 27 students from Ugunja, Kenya so they can get an education. We have sponsors for all the students; however, we have been informed of fee increases that will affect 2nd Year NYATI technical college students in 2023 and subsequent years. We hope to raise an



additional \$500 to help cover these costs. If you can help, please make your donation payable to St. James'-Rosemount United Church - Kenya Student Fund. For more information, please contact the church office. Thank you! **Unified Board Search**: The Unified Board will be searching for new members and several committee chairs to begin on the Board effective at our Feb. annual meeting. We are also in need of a Worship committee chair effective Jan. 1, 2023. We are now meeting in person and not on Zoom (with the exception of an occasional Zoom meeting if required). Hopefully this will encourage those of you who don't have (or don't like!) Zoom meetings to volunteer. Please prayerfully consider how you can serve your church in this capacity.

<u>Be a Stamp Saver</u> for the Leprosy Mission! Christmas is a great time to obtain used stamps from parcels & cards. A half inch cut around used stamps is ideal. Post cards, especially old (1920 & prior) are also very useful with or without stamps. Place them in the caring bin in the wooden cabinet in the cloak room behind the narthex. Your stamps make a difference! Questions? Contact the church office.

Donations, Deposits, & Counters: We are looking for additional counters for a commitment of once every 4-7 weeks. We are currently making a deposit twice a month and this means delays for cheques clearing the bank. We would like return to weekly counting & deposits. If you're willing to help contact finance@sjruc.ca or the church office.

<u>United Church Bears</u>: The Pastoral Care & Membership Committee is selling stuffed toy bears with the United Church of Canada emblem on them to support our UCW. Funds will be directed to Mission & Service. Look for us just before & after church located near the Nursery. The bears will be \$10 ea.

Need a Name Tag? Need donation envelopes? Add your name to the list in the Narthex or contact the church office: mail@sjruc.ca or 519-742-1002

IN OUR COMMUNITY

<u>Christmas Oratorio</u>: The Choir and Orchestra of Spiritus Ensemble perform Bach's Christmas masterpiece, Christmas Oratorio, on *Sunday December 4 at 3:00 p.m.* at St Peter's Lutheran Church, 49 Queen Street North, Kitchener, soloists Rebecca McKay, Daniel Cabena, Bud Roach, and Daniel Lichti. Tickets: www.spiritusensemble.com & Eventbrite.