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St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

519-742-1002 [www.sjruc.ca](http://www.sjruc.ca)

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God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



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December 11, 2022 - Advent 3 - Joy  
Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling

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

**WE GATHER IN GOD'S HOPE**

**VU: Voices United**

**MV: More Voices**

\* Please rise in body and/or Spirit as you are able.

Our services are recorded and shared online.

If you would rather not be recorded,  
we invite you to 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 give our thanks for their conservancy.*

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude **Prelude on 'Saviour of the Nations, Come'** (Charles Callahan)

\* Opening Hymn      **Angels We Have Heard on High**      VU 38

Call to Worship

One: In this holy season of prayer and song and laughter,  
you lift our spirits God, as we joyfully praise you for the  
great wonders you have sent us:  
for shining stars and the angel's holy disruption,  
those willing to have faith in you no matter the risk,  
for new life's cry in lowly manger,  
and those willing to follow you into the darkness.  
We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child,  
and how you have made room for each of us  
at the manger.

Lighting our Advent Wreath

Sung Response

**Blessing**

(Lee Dengler)

*Walk in the joy of Jesus,  
God's promised Son will come to earth.  
Watch for the Bright and Morning Star.  
Behold redemption's birth.  
Walk in the joy of Jesus;  
giving you strength to travel on,  
guiding your feet upon the path that leads you to the dawn.  
Walk on in joy! Walk on in joy! Amen. Amen.*

Hymn (sung by the children) **Away in a Manger**

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

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

Minute for Mission

Reading from W.H. Auden's *For the Time Being*

**THE FIRST SHEPHERD**

The winter night requires our constant attention,  
Watching that water and goodwill,  
Warmth and well-being, may still be there in the morning.

**THE SECOND SHEPHERD**

For behind the spontaneous joy of life  
There is always a mechanism to keep going,

**THE THIRD SHEPHERD**

And someone like us is always there.

**THE FIRST SHEPHERD**

We observe that those who assure us their education  
And money would do us such harm,  
How real we are just as we are, and how they envy us,  
For it is the centerless tree  
And the uncivilized robin who are the truly happy,  
Have done pretty well for themselves:

**THE SECOND SHEPHERD**

Nor can we help noticing how those who insist that we ought to  
stand up for our rights, and how important we are, keep insisting  
also that it doesn't matter a bit If one of us gets arrested or injured,  
for it is only our numbers that count.

**THE THIRD SHEPHERD**

In a way they are right,

**THE FIRST SHEPHERD**

But to behave like a cogwheel when one knows one is no such thing,

**THE SECOND SHEPHERD**

Merely to add to a crowd with one's passionate body, is not a virtue.

**THE THIRD SHEPHERD**

What is real about us all is that each of us is waiting.

Anthem      **The Seven Joys of Mary**      (arr. Richard Shephard)

*1 The first good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of one:  
To see her blessed Jesus Christ, when He was first her son.  
When He was first her son, good man; And blessed may he be,  
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity.*

*2 The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of two:  
To see her own son, Jesus Christ to make the lame to go.  
To make the lame to go, good man; and blessed may he be,  
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity.*

*3 The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of three:  
To see her own son, Jesus Christ to make the blind to see.  
To make the blind to see, good man; and blessed may he be,  
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity.*

*4 The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of four:  
to see her own son, Jesus Christ to read the Bible o'er.  
To read the Bible o'er, good man; and blessed may he be,  
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity.*

*5 The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of five:  
to see her own son, Jesus Christ, to bring the dead alive.  
To bring the dead alive, good man; and blessed may he be,  
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity.*

*6 The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of six:  
to see her own son, Jesus Christ upon the crucifix.  
Upon the crucifix, good man; and blessed may he be,  
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity.*

*7 The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of seven:  
To see her own son, Jesus Christ to wear the crown of heav'n.  
To wear the crown of heav'n, good man; and blessed may he be,  
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity.*

Reflection *Finding our place at the manger: Shepherds, etc.*

\* Hymn

**Good Christian Friends**

VU 35

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE**

Invitation to Offering

(Donate online at [sjruc.ca](http://sjruc.ca))



\* Offering Response      **What Child is This**      VU 74 v3  
***So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, one and all, to own him.  
The King of Kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary!***

\*Dedication of the Offering

Prayers of the People

**WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS**

\* Closing Hymn      **Joy to the World**      VU 59

\* Commissioning

\* Choral Benediction      **O Come, All Ye Faithful**      VU 60 v4  
***See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***

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

Postlude **Chorale Prelude on ‘In Dulci Jubilo’** (*Johann Michael Bach*)

\* \* \*

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

**FOR YOUR CALENDAR:**

- Dec. 13 UCW Candlelight Communion Service 7 pm (Dinner 5:45)
- Dec. 15 Choir 7:30 pm - 9 pm
- Dec. 18 Worship Service – 4<sup>th</sup> Advent - Lessons and Carols
- Dec. 18 Congregational Mtg re: Christ the King amalgamation 11:30 a.m.
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve: Candlelight Family Service 6 pm
- Candlelight & Communion Service 8 pm
- Dec. 25 Christmas Morning Service 10:30 a.m. come in PJs if you like!
- Jan. 1 New Year’s Day Service 10:30 a.m.

*Check the bulletin boards and visit [www.sjruc.ca](http://www.sjruc.ca) for upcoming events.*

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 free to find another spot. We also **strongly recommend** wearing a mask at this time.

## **IN OUR CHURCH**

**Looking for a great "Stocking Stuffer"?** Grace Alton has the perfect one. Handmade calendars that will appeal to everyone! \$5 each and the proceeds will go to the UCW Mission & Service Fund. She will be selling them before & after church in the Narthex. Be sure to have a look!

### **UCW Christmas Dinner and Candlelight Communion**

***Tuesday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>***. We hope that by now you've contacted Jan or Muriel to purchase your turkey dinner. Join us at 5:45 pm for dinner & conversation. Candlelight Communion Service will begin at 7:00 pm. All women are welcome! The catered dinner will be followed by a 60th Anniversary cake – (bring your own dishes & cutlery) - beverages provided. Gluten free available. For more info. please call the church office 519-742-1002



**Baked Goods Auction Update:** WOW! Thank you to all the volunteers who participated in our Christmas Treats Auction on December 4<sup>th</sup>. We deposited to our church account \$881.00. When IOU's are paid it will bring our total proceeds to \$1036.00. Congratulations to all who made this happen!

### **Sunday School - Coming up in our Advent Journey:**

***December 18:*** Children will go to gym prior to Church service for a Christmas Party: Movie, popcorn, & hot chocolate etc. There will be no Sunday School December 25 and January 1, 2023, however activities will be provided for the children during church service. ***On January 8, 2023***

Sunday School resumes as we continue our theme Bible Detectives: "Jesus tells Parables."

**Confirmation Classes** We are starting Confirmation classes for youth 12 years old and up. ***Our first meeting is December 16<sup>th</sup> at 5-6:30*** for a Pizza Dinner and a chance to get to know each other. Please speak to Rev. Chris or contact the office if you're interested in participating. We are pleased share in your journey of faith and hope you will make St. James'~Rosemount United Church your home.

**Sanctuary Christmas Flowers:** To remember a loved one by contributing to the Christmas Flower Fund, please add your name to the form in the Narthex and place your donation of \$10.00 in an envelope marked "Christmas Flowers on the collection plate by Sun. Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. A list of donors will be posted on the bulletin board in the office foyer, as well as printed in the Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> bulletin. A tax receipt will be issued. Questions? Contact the church office.



**Donations, Envelopes, and Tax Receipts:** New 2023 donation envelopes are ready to be picked up in the Narthex. If you would like envelopes, please let the office know [mail@sjruc.ca](mailto:mail@sjruc.ca) or 519-742-1002. Please remember that Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> is a Saturday this year, so donations need to be received by Dec 25<sup>th</sup> to be reflected in your 2022 tax receipt.



**Be a Stamp Saver** for the Leprosy Mission! Christmas is a great time to save 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 Jim O

**Annual Committee Reports** are due to be received at the SJR Office [mail@sjruc.ca](mailto:mail@sjruc.ca) no later than ***Dec.31, 2022.***



**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 (except for 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.



**Faith Study "How Happiness Happens"** is a six-week video study with Max Lucado that begins on **Wednesday, January 11th in the Parlour. Join us in the afternoon from 1 to 3pm OR in the evening from 7 to 9pm.** In this study Max Lucado shares the unexpected path to a lasting happiness, one that produces reliable joy amidst any life circumstance. Based on the teachings of Jesus and backed by modern research, this study presents a surprising but practical way of living that will change you from the inside out. If you are interested in joining us please contact the office at [mail@sjruc.ca](mailto:mail@sjruc.ca)

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

**Handel's Messiah Saturday, December 17 at 7:30 p.m.**  
River Run Centre, Guelph. Handel's monumental oratorio offers a message of hope & renewal - especially fitting for this season of rejuvenation. Soloists: Soprano: Sydney Baedke Alto: Marion Newman Tenor: Adam Luther Bass: Dion Mazerolle. Tickets through the River Run Centre: <https://riverrun.ca/>