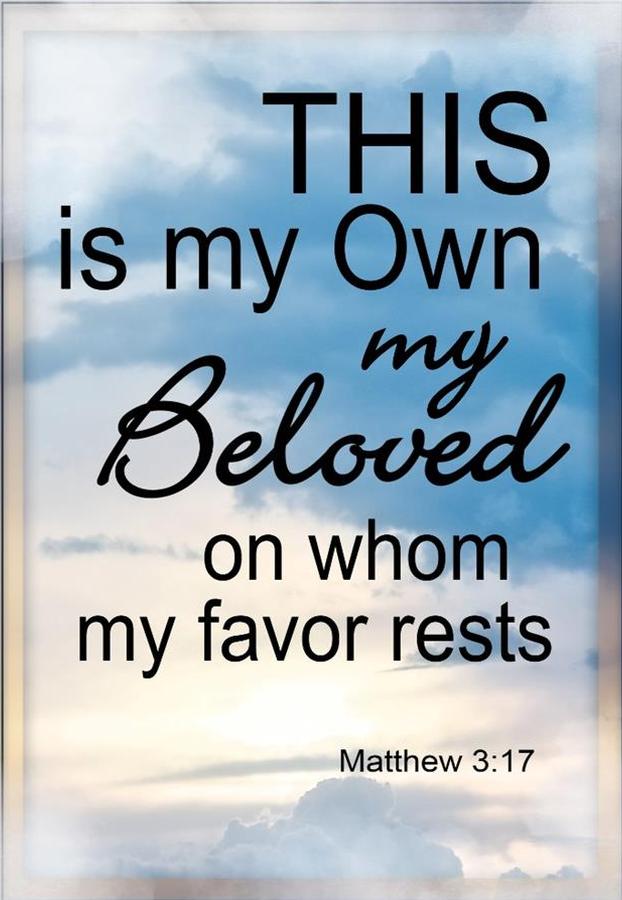

St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

519-742-1002 www.sjruc.ca

God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



THIS
is my Own
my
Beloved
on whom
my favor rests

Matthew 3:17

January 8, 2023 – Baptism of Jesus
Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling

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.

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

Lighting the Christ Candle

Prelude **Air from 'The Water Music'** (G. F. Handel)

* Opening Hymn **I Am the Light of the World** VU 87

Call to Worship

One: In the waters,

All: we experience new life.

One: In the light,

All: we see clearer the shadows.

One: In this moment,

All: we worship the God who claims us.

Opening Prayer

One: We are incredibly stubborn, O Lord.

Even though we have entered the season
in which your light has been given to the world,
and your blessings have been poured out on the world,
our problems take centre focus.

These concerns convincing us
that they are larger than they are, our own needs,
our own desires are like an incessant alarm.

Help us to desire you, Lord.

Help us to yearn for your presence. Help us to hear
your voice amidst our own voice of worry.

Pour your baptismal waters over us again,
cleansing us from our self-doubt or arrogance.

Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve you.

Wash away any jealousy or greed, or all that stands in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be. For we are beloved.

And so too are those who fill our lives.

And so too are all who fill this earth. For this is the wisdom of Jesus, the Christ, whom we follow together, as we pray...

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.**

Story Time

Hymn **Jesus, Teacher, Brave and Bold** VU 605

Youth and Children are invited to head back to their seats!

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Readings from the Scriptures (Inclusive Bible) Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. ¹⁴ John tried to dissuade Jesus, saying, "I should be baptized by you, and yet you come to me!" ¹⁵ But Jesus replied, "Leave it this way for now. We must do this to completely fulfill God's justice." So John reluctantly agreed.

¹⁶ Immediately after Jesus had been baptized and was coming up out of the water, the sky suddenly opened up and Jesus saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and hovering over him. ¹⁷ With that, a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Own, my Beloved, on whom my favor rests."

Anthem **Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day** (arr. R. Shepherd)

*Tomorrow shall be my dancing day,
I would my true love did so chance,
To see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance. Refrain*

Refrain *Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.*

*Then was I born of a virgin pure,
Of her I took fleshly substance,
Thus was I knit to man's nature,
To call my true love to my dance. Refrain*

*In a manger laid, and wrapped I was,
So very poor, this was my chance,
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass
To call my true love to my dance. Refrain*

*Then afterwards baptized I was,
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard I from above,
To call my true love to my dance. Refrain*

*Tomorrow shall be my dancing day,
I would my true love did so chance,
To see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance. Refrain*

Reflection The Sky Suddenly Opened Up

Hymn **Sing Praises to God** VU 228

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

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

* Closing Hymn **I, the Lord of Sea and Sky** VU 509

* Commissioning *adapted from a blessing by Jan L. Richardson*

One: May the path that Christ walks
to bring justice upon the earth,
to bring light to those who sit in shadows,
to bring out those who live in bondage,
to bring new things to all creation:

may this path run through our life.

May we be the road Christ takes.

* Choral Benediction **Go Now in Peace** *(Written by Besig & Price 1988)*

***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.***

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

Postlude The Rejoicing from ‘Music for Royal Fireworks’
(G. F. Handel)

* * *

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

* * *



***We extend a heartfelt welcome
to our visitors and to members of
Christ the King United Church
as you gather with us today to worship!***

For Your Calendar:

- Jan. 10 Unified Board Meeting 7:00pm Committees, 8:00pm Board
- Jan. 11 Faith Study – How Happiness Happens – 1pm or 7pm, Parlour
- Jan. 12 Choir 7:30pm – Rainbow Room
- Jan. 22 Concert with Simone Lemieux and Roland Kessler 1pm
- Jan. 22 Decommissioning Service of Christ the King, 2pm
167 Thaler Ave, Kitchener
- Feb 5 Gather Gab & Mingle after the service!

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

SJROC 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 are also strongly recommend wearing a mask at this time.

In Our Church

'Stars to See': A Voice & Piano Concert: January 22nd, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. in the SJR Sanctuary. Our choral scholars Simone and Roland are excited to share an afternoon musical offering of song and piano, featuring works by Lapierre (premiere), Rodgers and Beethoven. They will be joined by pianist and friend Henry Kelsey. Free-will offering, with a portion of proceeds donated to the Mission & Service Fund.



Donation Envelopes: If you would like donation envelopes, please let the office know mail@sjruc.ca or 519-742-1002.

Directory Updates - please check the large print directories placed in the narthex and indicate any necessary changes or notify the office: mail@sjruc.ca (Please leave these directories on the table.)



Gather, Gab & Mingle is looking for new volunteers! If you're interested in helping, please contact the church office.

Unified Board Search: The Board is searching for new members and several committee chairs to begin on the Board effective at our Feb. annual meeting. Please prayerfully consider how you can serve!

Annual General Meeting: February 5th. Annual Reports will be available January 22nd. Thank you to all who submitted reports. Some reports are still outstanding and need to be submitted ASAP to be included in the Annual Report: mail@sjruc.ca

Faith Study "How Happiness Happens" is a six-week video study with Max Lucado that begins on **Wed., January 11th in the Parlour. Join us in the afternoon from 1 to 3 pm OR in the evening from 7 to 9 pm.** In this study Max 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



Olivet United Church Memory Book If anyone is interested in obtaining a copy of the Olivet United Church Memory Book contact the church office.

OneRoof Update: Our fundraiser officially ended Thursday, Dec. 8th. Thanks to additional items collected on White Gift Sunday, Dec. 4th we delivered a pickup truck overflowing with clothing & hygiene items. SJR will also be made a financial donation of \$1375 to OneRoof. The people working at OneRoof were overjoyed by the amount and quality of our donations. The generosity exhibited by our SJRUC congregation in supporting this latest fundraiser was beyond expectations. **Thank you!**

SJRUC Church Staff:

Rev. Chris Fickling, Minister of Worship
revchris@sjruc.ca Office: 519-742-1002 Cell: 226-989-6400

Alison Vicary, B. Mus., B.Ed., Organist & Choir
Director music@sjruc.ca

Monica Mahn, Office Administrator mail@sjruc.ca

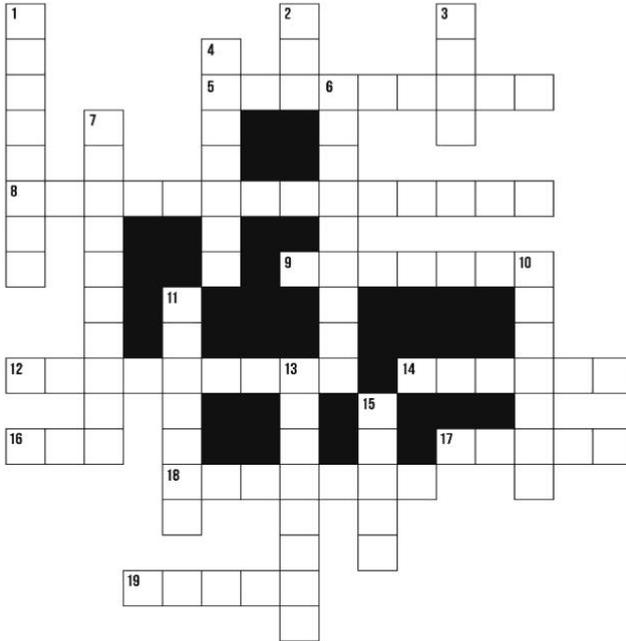
An email will be sent out to notify the congregation of any cancellations of SJRUC Services & Events due to weather conditions. You can also find out about by checking:

- Church Website: sjruc.ca (under Announcements)
- Church LED Sign
- CHYM FM 96.7
- 570 AM News



Puzzle!

Psalm 19:1 says, "The heavens declare the glory of God." Complete this crossword that emphasizes the natural phenomena of God's created world.



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. windy snowstorm | 12. mass of snow, earth or rocks sliding down a mountain |
| 2. thick, obscuring mist | 13. the degree of moisture in the air |
| 3. frozen rain pellets | 14. a spring that spews boiling water and steam |
| 4. an area's normal weather conditions | 15. condensed water vapor in the atmosphere |
| 5. sudden electrostatic discharge in the sky | 16. frozen water |
| 6. violent tropical storm | 17. deluge |
| 7. shaking of the earth's crust | 18. when day and night are of equal length |
| 8. northern lights | 19. frozen dew or vapor |
| 9. partial or full blockage of the sun or moon | |
| 10. wearing away of the soil | |
| 11. large mass of snow and ice | |

Answers: 1. blizzard, 2. fog, 3. hail, 4. climate, 5. lightning, 6. hurricane, 7. earthquake, 8. Aurora Borealis, 9. eclipse, 10. erosion, 11. glacier, 12. avalanche, 13. humidity, 14. geyser, 15. cloud, 16. ice, 17. flood, 18. equinox, 19. frost