
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

**THERE THEY
CRUCIFIED HIM,
AND WITH HIM
TWO OTHERS,
ONE ON
EITHER SIDE,
AND JESUS
BETWEEN
THEM.**

A photograph of three crosses on a hill. The central cross is the largest and most prominent, flanked by two smaller crosses. The scene is set against a bright, cloudy sky. The crosses are silhouetted against the light, creating a dramatic effect.

JOHN 19:18, ESV

March 12, 2023 - Lent III
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 **I Call to Thee Lord Jesus Christ** (J.S. Bach)

* Opening Hymn **We Meet You, O Christ** VU 183
sung to 228 – Sing Praises to God

Call to Worship *adapted from a prayer by Kate Bowler*

One: Hear this blessing for the lives we didn't choose:

Blessed are we in the tender place between
curiosity and dread,

We who wonder how to be whole,
when dreams have disappeared
and part of us with them,

where mastery, control, determination, bootstrapping,
and grit, are consigned to the realm of before
(where most of the world lives),

in the fever dream that promises infinite choices,
unlimited progress, best life now.

Blessed are we in the after,
forced into stories we never would have written.

Far outside of answers to questions
we even know to ask.

God, show us a glimmer of possibility in this
new constraint,
that small truths will be given back to us.

We are held.
We are safe.
We are loved.
We are loved.

All: We are loved.

Looking for the Light – Call to Prayer

Solo, Choir Response **Stay with Me** (Taizé Community)

Silence – The Christ candle is lit.

Congregational Response **Stay with Me** (Taizé Community)

*Stay with me, remain here with me,
watch and pray, watch and 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

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

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Psalm 95

VU 814

Anthem

Father, Forgive Us

(Craig Courtney)

*Father, forgive us, each time we close our eyes
to a bruised and wounded world, the shattered, broken lives,
empty ones who die alone forsaken in their shame.
Every time we turn away we crucify again.*

*Father, forgive us, each time we disown
mothers who have lost their sons, the children with no home,
Thousands crying out in thirst, the prisoners in pain.
Every time we turn away we crucify again.*

*Father, forgive us, our hearts remain unmoved
by suffering and poverty, we know not what we do.
When we fail to hear the voice of Christ in every cry,
When we do not recognize the Savior in their eyes,
we crucify again.
Father, forgive us.*

Reflection *Taking our place at the Cross: The Crucified*

Hymn Precious Lord, Take My Hand VU 670

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE



Invitation to Offering (Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Offertory **Prelude in C Minor** (*Frederic Chopin*)

* 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 **Jesus Christ is Waiting** VU 117

* Commissioning

* 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

Allegro

(Domenico Scarlatti)

* * *

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



*The flowers today are placed in memory of
Mabel Elsley, mother of Judy Wiens.
We keep Judy and family in prayer
as they remember her.*

* * *

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 are also strongly recommend wearing a mask at this time.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- Mar. 14 Unified Board Meeting 8 p.m. (some committees at 7 p.m.)
- Mar. 15 Faith Study on Simon Peter: 1pm or 7pm, Parlour
- Mar. 16 Choir 7:30pm – Rainbow Room
- Mar. 19 Worship Service - Lent III - 10:30 a.m.
- Mar. 20 Wiggle & Wash – 9:30–11 a.m.
- Mar. 23 Last day for SJR Food Drive
- Mar. 27 UCW Meeting – Long Sunday School Room at 7 p.m.
- Apr. 2 Palm Sunday – Stay for Gather, Gab 7 Mingle after service

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

Winter Conditions Reminder: Please use caution on the ramps and sidewalks at SJR as these might be ice covered and slippery.

IN OUR CHURCH

Church Mouse Newsletter: The latest edition has been published! If you have requested a paper copy, it can be found in the box in the Narthex with your name on it. Spare copies are available for visitors as well in a separate stand in the Narthex. If you would like to be added to the list of people who receive a link to the digital version, please contact the office: mail@sjruc.ca



Unified Board Meeting: *Tuesday, March 14th* at 7pm for some committees (at the discretion of the committee chairs) and **8 pm for the full Unified Board.**

“Wiggle and Wash” *Monday, March 20th, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.!*

Show up, sign in, and join us as we make the windows shine at SJR! Come and dance and “wiggle” and sing your way around the church together. If we have time, we’ll wash those pews too. Please bring your own pail and cleaning supplies. Dancing music provided by Carrie! Requests happily received.



Call for Spare Mobility Aids: Do you have a cane or walker that’s not being used? Consider donating it to SJR to share with others who might need one. Bring them to the office or leave them in the coat room. Thank you!

Volunteer Hours: Know a student who needs to complete their volunteer hours or who just enjoys helping? We are looking for someone to compile an inventory list of our library books, enter it into a computer program, and create labels (using the Dewey Decimal System). Please contact Brenda M if interested in helping with this project: library@sjruc.ca

Sanctuary Easter Flowers To remember a loved one by contributing to the Easter Flower Fund, put your donation of \$10.00 in an envelope marked “Easter Flowers” and place it on the collection plate **by April 10**. A tax receipt will be issued. Questions? Contact the church office at mail@sjruc.ca



UCW Meeting March 27 Arrrrr ladies! Have you heard of the 5 Rrrrr's? Have you ever had to throw away a makeup container or toothpaste tube and thought "Arrrrr, I wish this could be recycled"! Join the UCW on **Monday, March 27 at 7pm** to learn all about the 5 Rrrrr's! Please bring your own reusable mug for coffee/tea and a reusable napkin for cookies! All ladies welcome!

Faith Study An ordinary fisherman who heard an extraordinary call, He was not rich or educated but was familiar with hard work. He was quick tempered & impetuous but possessed a passion that would change the world. He left everything to follow his teacher yet struggled with doubt & fear. Join this six-week journey for an in-depth dive into the life, faith, & character of **Simon Peter**. Meet in the Parlour Wednesdays **1pm to 3pm OR 7pm to 9pm**. Interested in joining us? Contact the office at mail@sjruc.ca

Forty Days - Forty Items Challenge – ONGOING: Each day of Lent, remove one item from your closet or drawers that you no longer wear or need and put it into a bag. At the end of the 40 days, on Palm Sunday, bring your bag to the church. We will deliver these items to Canadian Food for Children to help people in Canada and around the world. For more information contact the church office at mail@sjruc.ca



FOOD DRIVE

Food Bank Fundraiser and Food Drive: Many families in our community struggle financially to provide the basic needs of their families, including providing daily nutritious meals. In response, we are having our first fundraiser of 2023 for the Waterloo Region Food Bank, **Sunday, February 26 until**

Thursday March 23. Food can be dropped off at the church or during Thursday, March 23rd pick up 6-7:30 PM. Financial donations can be made by cash or cheque made out to SJRUC in an appropriate envelope labeled for the Food Bank along with your name or SJRUC envelope # to be collected during Sunday service, mailed to the church, or placed into the church mail slot.

Broadview Subscriptions: It is time to renew your subscription for 2023. This magazine is a window on our faith community across Canada. The cost remains \$25.00 per year through SJRUC (group rate). We welcome new subscribers! For more information contact the church office at mail@sjruc.ca

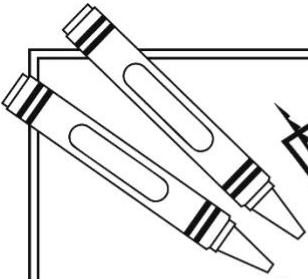
Next Gather, Gab & Mingle: Palm Sunday, April 2nd join us after the service for refreshments and an opportunity to “Gather, Gab, and Mingle”! Looking forward to getting to know each other better over a cup of coffee, tea, or juice!



Rev. Chris Fickling, Minister of Worship revchris@sjruc.ca

Office: 519-742-1002 Cell: 226-989-6400

If you are know of anyone needing a visit, let Rev. Chris know.



PUZZLE

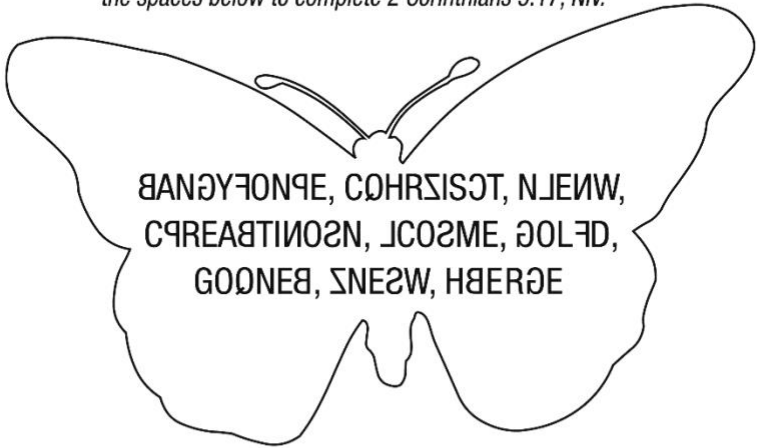
Transformation **POWER**



Just as the caterpillar becomes a butterfly,
God transforms us from old to new.



Directions: Cross out the backward letters. Write the remaining letters in order in the spaces below to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.



Therefore, if _____ is in _____ ,

the _____ has _____ :

The _____ has _____ ,

the _____ is _____ !

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

Answer: anyone, Christ, new, creation, come, old, gone, new, here