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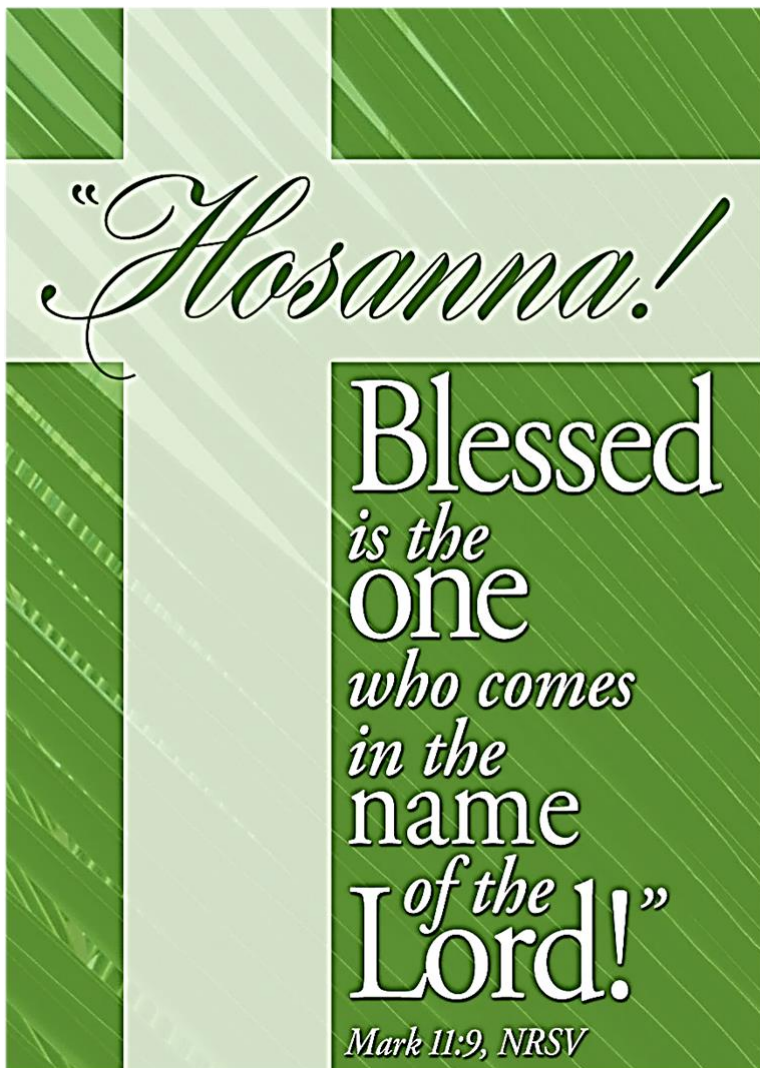
# St. James'-Rosemount United Church

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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April 2, 2023 – Palm Sunday  
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.

*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 **All Glory, Laud and Honour** (*Georg Friedrich Kaufman*)

\* Processional Hymn **All Glory, Laud and Honour** VU 122

Call to Worship *adapted from a prayer by Ann Siddall*

One: Though we have known hardship and pain,  
though life has not always turned out as we had  
hoped, we will stand here and say:

**All: God's steadfast love endures for ever!**

One: Though life becomes more complex,  
the deepest questions remain unanswered,  
and the mystery of faith deepens, we will say:

**All: God's steadfast love endures for ever!**

One: And though the pain of the world  
often seems more than we can bear or address,  
we will stand firm in our faith and say:

**All: God's steadfast love endures for ever!**

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 118 (One, All)

Congregational Refrain

Stay with Me

(*Taizé Community*)

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

Let Israel now say:

**"God's love endures for ever."**

Let the house of Aaron say:

**"God's love endures for ever."**

Let those who fear God say

**"God's love endures for ever."**

**Refrain**

Open to me the gates of the temple,  
that I may enter and give thanks to God.

**This is the gate of God;  
through it the righteous shall enter.**

I thank you for you have answered me;  
you have become my salvation.

**The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is God's doing, marvellous in our eyes.

**This is the day that God has made,  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**Refrain**

Save us, O God, we pray;  
**God, we pray, let us succeed.**  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.  
**We bless you from the house of God.**  
God, our God, has given us light;  
**with palm branches in hand let us march to the altar.**  
You are my God, and I will thank you;  
**you are my God, and I will extol you. Refrain**

Anthem **My Song is Love Unknown** (arr. Molly Ijames)

*My song is love unknown,  
my Saviour's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.  
O who am I, that for my sake  
my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?*

*Sometimes they strew his way,  
and his sweet praises sing,  
resounding all the day hosannas to their King.  
Then 'Crucify!' is all their breath,  
and for his death they thirst and cry.*

*Why, what hath my Lord done  
to cause this rage and spite,  
he gave the blind their sight,  
what injuries, yet these  
are why the Lord most high so cruelly die.*

*Here might I stay and sing,  
no story so divine;  
never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine!  
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise  
I all my days could gladly spend.  
My song is love unknown.*

Reflection *Taking our place at the Cross: Jesus*

Hymn **Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross** VU 142

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

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



Offertory     **Prelude on St. Agnes (Durham)**     (Neil Harmon)

\* 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

One: Keep walking, keep walking.

All: **In the Spirit of Christ keep walking.**

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

\* Closing Hymn                    **Go to Dark Gethsemane**                    VU 133

\* 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                            **Solemn Melody**                            (Henry Walford Davies)

\* \* \*

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

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**Gather, Gab & Mingle after the service today!**  
Come and enjoy some refreshments together  
in the Rainbow Room after the service!



## 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, please feel free to find another spot. We recommend wearing a mask at this time.*

## FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- Apr. 6 **Maundy Thursday** Potluck 6:30, Communion Service 7 pm
- Apr. 6 **Choir** 7:30pm – Rainbow Room
- Apr. 7 **Good Friday** Gather, Gab & Mingle in Rainbow Rm: 9:30 am
- Shared service with Forest Hill & Calvary Memorial: 10:30 a.m.
- Apr. 9 **Easter** Sunrise Service on the Labyrinth: 9:30 a.m.
- Breakfast in the Rainbow Room: 8:15 a.m.
- Easter Communion Service in the Sanctuary: 10:30 a.m.

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



**Sanctuary Easter Flowers:** To remember a loved one by contributing to the Easter Flower Fund, place your donation of \$10.00 in an envelope marked “Easter Flowers” and place it on the collection plate by **TODAY**. A tax receipt will be issued.

**Maundy Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>** – On the night before Jesus died, he gathered his friends for a meal, and gave his most important commandment: *to love and serve one another*. And so, we’ll gather for a **Potluck meal starting at 6pm in the Rainbow Room**, followed by a **Communion Service in the Sanctuary at 7pm** with hand or foot washing. You’re invited to join in either experience or both!



**Good Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>** – We start our gathering with Gather, Gab, & Mingle **before** service in the ***Rainbow Room at 9:30 am*** followed by a Shared Service with Forest Hill & Calvary Memorial at 10:30 am.

**Easter Morning, April 9<sup>th</sup>**: We welcome the new light of Easter morning with a **Sunrise Service at 7:30 a.m.** on the Labyrinth, followed by **Breakfast in the Rainbow Room at 8:15 a.m.** Signup for the Breakfast is in the Narthex. Following that, our **Easter Communion Service will take place in the Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m.**



**Food Drive Thanks!** The Mission and Outreach Committee of SJRUC is pleased to announce, thanks to the generosity of our church congregation, we were able to deliver **225 lbs** of food items to the Waterloo Regional Food Bank, on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. We expect there will also be financial donations for the food bank for us to deliver in the near future.

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



**SJR Garage Sale:** We're having a Church Garage Sale on ***Saturday, May 6th.*** Start gathering items now and bring your treasures to the church from 9 am to 11 am Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup>, Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup>, Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, and Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. We start sorting on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>! Watch for the sign-up sheets to help on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> - and on Garage Sale Day - the 6<sup>th</sup>! For more information, please contact the church office: [mail@sjruc.ca](mailto:mail@sjruc.ca) (*Please, no large furniture*)

**Call for Spare Canes & Walkers:** 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 it to the office or leave them in the coat room. Thank you!

**Layreading:** Are you interested in helping with layreading?  
Contact the church office: mail@sjruc.ca 519-742-1002

**SJRUC Building Use:** Activities are returning to pre-pandemic levels. In addition to the Scouting and Guiding groups, we also have TOPS, Al Anon, Music Together, Healing Little Hearts, along with an increase in rehearsals and recitals. ***If you are in the building during any of these events, please be respectful and be aware that groups may be closely monitoring visitors for the safety of their program participants.*** A monthly calendar of room bookings is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. As always, if you require a room for a meeting or activity, please contact the church office.

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

**Grand Philharmonic:** As part of their 100th anniversary celebrations the Grand Philharmonic Choir is performing Bach's magnificent Mass in B Minor on ***Good Friday, April 7 at 7:30 pm*** at Center in the Square. Tickets are available through the box office.

**Giant Used Book Sale:** First United Church at King & William in Waterloo. 9 am - 9 pm Friday, April 21, 9 am - 1 pm Saturday, April 22. Drop off your used books, Audio books, CDs and DVDs at the Church on Wednesday, April 19 from 9 am to 9 pm and Thursday, April 20 from 9 am to 6 pm.

**STEAM Camp** (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics) will be running at SJRUC this summer. If you know of any children who would enjoy participating in this camp program see the poster on the Community Bulletin Board in the foyer or visit campsteam.ca.

**Rev. Chris Fickling**, Minister of Worship [revchris@sjruc.ca](mailto:revchris@sjruc.ca)

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

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