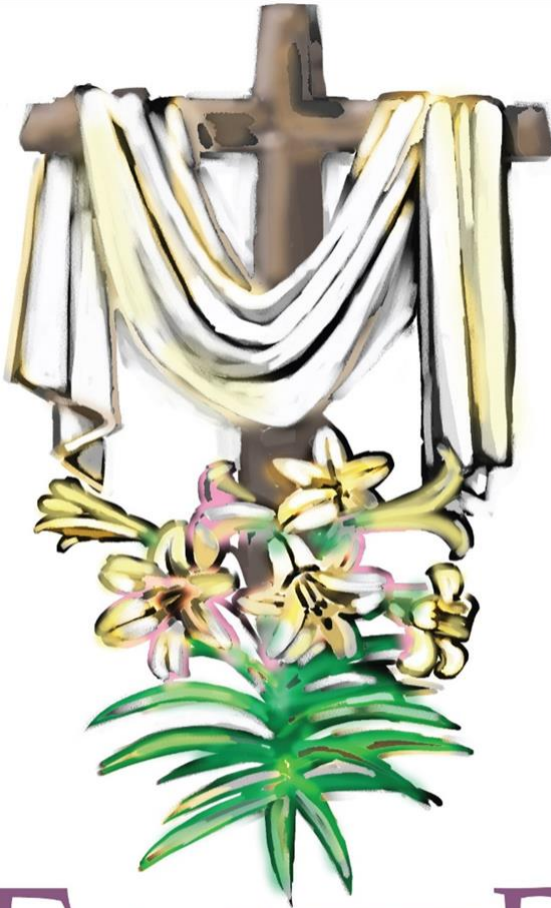

St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2
519-742-1002 www.sjruc.ca

God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



EASTER

April 9, 2023 – Easter Sunday
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 of the Christ Candle

Prelude **This Joyful Eastertide**

(John Leavitt)

* Opening Hymn **Jesus Christ is Risen Today** VU 155

Call to Worship *adapted from The Easter Challenge by Joyce Rupp*

One: Every year it happens:
earth shakes her sleepy head
still a bit wintered and dull,
and feels new life stirring.

**All: Every year cocoons give up their treasures,
fresh shoots push through brown leaves,
seemingly dead branches shine with green,
and singing birds find their way home.**

One: Every year we hear the stories

**All: empty tomb, surprised grievers,
runners with news and revelation,
unexpected encounters,
conversations on the road,
tales of nets filling with fish,
and breakfast on a seashore.**

One: And every year
the dull and dead in us
meets our Easter challenge:

**All: to be open to the unexpected,
to believe beyond our security,
to welcome God in every form,
and trust in our own greening.**

Opening Prayer

One: Let us pray...for you have made this day,
life-giving God... for us to see the goodness of this
life come back to us.

We rejoice your great love for us,
and open our hearts and lives again, trusting you,
in spite of all the difficulties we have known.

You take our endings
and you make your new beginnings.
Your surprise and astound us in places where we
expected that you were absent.

You challenge us to reconsider what is possible.
Life and love abound! Jesus Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

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 and Flowering the Cross

During the Flowering

In the Bulb

VU 713

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

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

(CEB) **John 20:1-18**

¹ Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴ The two were running

together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes. ¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Anthem **With a Voice of Singing** *(Martin Shaw)*

*With a voice of singing declare ye this,
and let it be heard, Alleluia.*

Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.

The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.

The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.

*O be joyful in God, all ye lands,
O sing praises to the honour of his name,
make his praise to be glorious.*

*With a voice of singing declare ye this,
and let it be heard, Alleluia. Alleluia.*

Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

Reflection **Easter People in a Good Friday World**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE



Invitation to Offering (Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Offertory **'Alleluia' from Exultate, Jubilate** (W.A. Mozart)

* Offering Response **Now to Your Table Spread** VU 456

Sharing the Sacrament of Holy Communion

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

* Closing Hymn **O God Beyond All Praising** VU 256

* 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 **Carillon** (Louis Vierne)

* * *

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

* * *

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.

***In memory of Family and Friends,
flowers have been placed in the sanctuary by:***

Barb Adams
Ena Arnot
Jim & Teresa Carse
Linda Dawson
Bill & Dianne Dyck
Nancy Ebel & Family
Maize Evers
Dorothy Hibbard
Terry & Sandra Jardine
Beverly Houston
Joan Kaehler
Joan McNeil
Norma Mosgrove

Cindy Mounteer
Cecil & Jan Omand
Lynda Perkes
Des & Debbie Rice
Doug & Alison Riddell
Evelyn Shantz
Donna & Ralph Szilock
Maria Taylor
Neil Taylor
Bernice Uebele
Don & Anne Willcox
Carol Wilson
Ted Youngs & Family



FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- Apr. 11 **Exec. Board Meeting** Rainbow Room 7 pm
- Apr. 13 **Choir**– Rainbow Room 7:30 pm
- Apr. 16 **Earth Day Service** 10:30 am
- Apr. 21 **Confirmation** 5-6:30 pm Rainbow Room
- Apr. 23 **69th Anniversary Service**
Stay for **Gather, Gab & Mingle** after the Service
- Apr. 24 **UCW Meeting:** Long Sunday School Room at 7 pm
- Apr. 26 **Faith Study** “Esther” 1pm or 7pm, Parlour
- May 6 **SJR Garage Sale** – see details in announcement

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

IN OUR CHURCH

40 Items in 40 Days – UPDATE: Thank you!! to everyone who filled a bag with their 40 items in 40 days. The pile was huge - as big as your hearts. Thank you for caring about others and helping CFFC in a very big way. Muriel delivered **75 bags!**

Food Drive Thanks! The Mission & Outreach Committee 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, Friday, March 24th. There will also soon financial donations for us to deliver soon.

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

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



SJR Garage Sale: We're having a Church Garage Sale on **Saturday, May 6th**. Start gathering your items and bring your "treasures" to the church from 9 am to 11 am beginning Saturday, April 29th through to Tuesday, May 2nd. We start sorting on Wednesday, May 3rd! The sign-up sheets to help on May 3rd, 4th, 5th, and on Garage Sale Day - the 6th - are outside the kitchen door at the Parking Lot entrance. Please sign up to let us know when you can help. Let's make this a success! All proceeds go to the M&S Fund of the UCC. For more information, contact the church office: mail@sjruc.ca 519-742-1002 (*Please, no large furniture*).

Faith Study: ***'You Were Made for This Moment'*** by Max Lucado. When life seems off the rails, remember this truth: the minute you bow your head to pray is the moment God lifts his hand to help. Queen Esther learned this truth firsthand, and God used her to save a nation. God never promised us a life without trials, but he does promise to be with us as we walk through them. Join us on Wednesdays, from 1 pm to 3 pm OR from 7 pm to 9 pm in the Parlour beginning Wednesday, April 26th as we journey through the Book of Esther. For more information please contact the church office: mail@sjruc.ca 519-742-1002

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!

Directory pictures will be taken here at SJR Sept 13-16. More information and sign-up procedure will be available closer to the dates. If you will be away that week, alternate arrangements can be made to attend another location when you are available. See any member of the Pastoral Care and Membership Committee if you have questions. Groups and committees will be asked to submit their pictures prior to that day as these will not be taken that week.

SJRUC Building Use: Activities are returning to pre-pandemic levels. In addition to the Scouting and Guiding groups, we also have TOPS, AI 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

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

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

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