
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

Anniversary Sunday



April 23, 2023 – 69th Anniversary Sunday
Worship Leader: Rev. Dr. Orville James

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 gives our thanks for their conservancy.

10:15 Hymn Sing: **Blessed Assurance** v1 and 3 VU 337
Make Me a Channel of Your Peace VU684
Come, O Fount of Every Blessing VU 559

Because He Lives

*God sent his son, they called him Jesus;
he came to love, heal, and forgive;
he lived and died to buy my pardon,
an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.*

*Because he lives I can face tomorrow;
because he lives all fear is gone;
because I know, he holds the future,
and life is worth the living just because he lives.*

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

* Opening Hymn **The Church's One Foundation** VU 331

Call to Worship *adapted from a prayer by John Leach*

One: We are God's church:

All: We come together to worship.

One: God has given us the Word:

All: We come together to learn.

One: God has filled us with power:

All: We are called to invite others to the journey.

One: God has called us family:

All: We come together to share our lives.

One: God has put words on our lips, hope in our hearts.

All: That we may share why we're here.

One: God has given us the Spirit:

All: We come together to celebrate.

One: Even in scarcity, God blesses in abundance.

All: May we share God's goodness with others.

One: God has freed us from our past:

All: We come together to move forward.

One: God has imagined a glorious future for us:

All: Filled with gratitude, grace, and love.

One: We are God's church:

All: We come together to worship.

Scripture Reading: Acts 2: 42-47 (CEB)

⁴² The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. ⁴³ A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles.

⁴⁴ All the believers were united and shared everything.

⁴⁵ They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them.

⁴⁶ Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity.

⁴⁷ They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved.

Opening Prayer *adapted from a prayer by Christine Jerrett*

One: You are our God and we are your people, and we are grateful that you have claimed us as your own, given us purpose and history, grateful for those who have made bold witness

to your goodness and Your truth.

You have given us church, people to which we belong, that together you inspire new futures, where we see no way forward.

You know the places in our hearts where we are afraid, and so we offer them to you.

Write the stories of your people deep into our hearts so that we may learn to trust you beyond our fears.

Give us hearts and minds and spirits ready to trust and follow wherever your Spirit leads, confident that you will not lead us

beyond your loving embrace. We ask in Jesus' name whose outstretched arms welcome us and hold us securely in your grace.

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 **Jeremiah 32:1-2,6-7,10-17,24-27**(CEB)

¹ Jeremiah received the Lord's word in the tenth year of Judah's King Zedekiah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar's rule. ²At that time, the army of the Babylonian king had surrounded Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined to the prison quarters in the palace of Judah's king. ⁶Jeremiah said, The Lord's word came to me: ⁷Your cousin Hanamel, Shallum's son, is on his way to see you; and when he arrives, he will tell you: "Buy my field in Anathoth, for by law you are next in line to purchase it." ¹⁰I signed the deed, sealed it, had it witnessed, and weighed out the silver on the scales. ¹¹Then I took the deed of purchase—the sealed copy, with its terms and conditions, and the unsealed copy—¹²and gave it to Baruch, Neriah's son and Mahseiah's grandson, before my cousin Hanamel and the witnesses named in the deed, as well as before all the Judeans who were present in the prison quarters. ¹³I charged Baruch before all of them: ¹⁴"The Lord of heavenly forces, the God of Israel, proclaims: Take these documents—this sealed

deed of purchase along with the unsealed one—and put them into a clay container so they will last a long time. ¹⁵ The Lord of heavenly forces, the God of Israel, proclaims: Houses, fields, and vineyards will again be bought in this land.” ¹⁶ After I had given the documents to Baruch, Neriah’s son, I prayed to the Lord: ¹⁷ Lord God, you created heaven and earth by your great power and outstretched arm; nothing is too hard for you! ²⁴ Now the siege ramps are in place to take the city. And the Babylonians are about to capture it by war, famine, and disease. What you have pronounced is now happening, as you can see. ²⁵ So why tell me, Lord God, Buy the field for money and make sure there are witnesses, when the city is under Babylonian control? ²⁶ Then the Lord’s word came to Jeremiah: ²⁷ I am the Lord, the God of all living things! Is anything too hard for me?

Anthem **O How Amiable** (Ralph Vaughan Williams)

*O How amiable are thy dwellings; thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing
to enter into the courts of the Lord.*

My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

*Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.*

*Blessed are they that dwell in thy house:
They will be always praising thee.*

*The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us:
prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.*

O prosper thou our handiwork.

*O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.*

Reflection **(Jeremiah's) Field of Dreams**
Rev. Dr. Orville James

Hymn **Great is Thy Faithfulness** VU288

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE



Invitation to Offering (Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Offertory **Chorale Prelude on 'St. Peter'** (C. Hilton Stewart)

* 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.***

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*Dedication of the Offering

Prayers of the People

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

* Closing Hymn **I See a New Heaven** VU 713

* 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 **Jubilation** (Georg Friedrich Handel)

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

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Harriet Archer, a charter member, always had yellow roses placed in the sanctuary for Anniversary Sunday to remember and honour charter members of SJRUC. Today we continue this tradition and are thankful for their foresight and devotion.

Special Thanks to Rev. Dr. Orville James for leading us in worship this morning and for celebrating this anniversary service together with us!



Rev. Dr. Orville James: Born in Ottawa, Orville grew up in a family steeped in ministry. His father was a United Church minister, and 2 brothers along with his daughter Heather are ministers. Orville was educated at Queen’s and Princeton, and ordained in 1978. He has served United Churches in New Brunswick and S. Ontario, and a Methodist Church in Maine. He has also done 2 ‘exchanges’ with the British

Methodist Church, serving congregations in Wales and England. He now considers himself a ‘free-agent for Jesus’ and is enjoying supporting the next generation of ministers, and playing with six grandchildren spread from Vancouver to London, U.K. He is hopefully eager that the church will continue to find ways to reach spiritually hungry Canadians; And... he remains hopeful that a Canadian team will win the Stanley Cup once more in his lifetime!

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- Apr. 24 **UCW Meeting:** Long Sunday School Room at 7 pm
- Apr. 26 **Faith Study** “Esther” 1pm or 7pm, Parlour
- Apr. 27 **Choir**– Rainbow Room 7:30 pm
- May 6 **SJR Garage Sale** – see details in announcement

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

IN OUR CHURCH

UCW Meeting: UCW Meeting **April 24, 2023, at 7 pm** in church parlor. Linda Dawson has been waiting for 3 years to share her Mission to Nicaragua with you. **Everyone is welcome.** Presentation at 7:30 in long Sunday School Room.

Attention All Ladies! Would you like to have a Faith Study in the Fall just for women? If interested, please contact the church office: mail@sjruc.ca or call 519-742-1002 **Ladies of all ages** welcome. We will do our best to arrange for childcare if needed.

Volunteer Hours: 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 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, please contact the church office: mail@sjruc.ca or call 519-742-1002 (Please, no large furniture).

Fundraiser for Monica Place: Our annual fundraiser for Monica Place starts today until Thursday evening, June 1st. A table is set up in the usual place with a wish list for donations items which includes diapers, diaper wipes, diaper rash creams, new baby and toddler clothing, new educational toys (books, dolls, play dough, trucks), gift cards, plus many other new items. Financial donations for Monica Place (cash or cheques made out to SJRUC) can be delivered to the church, making sure you indicate "Monica Place" and your name. Please check the "wish list" so we can have a very successful fundraiser for this worthy local organization.

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 or call 519-742-1002

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

Directory Photos will be taken at SJR Sept 13-16. More information will be available closer to the dates. If you will be away that week, arrangements can be made to attend another location when you are available. See members of the Pastoral Care & Membership Committee if you have questions. Groups & committees will submit their pictures prior to that day.

TCOW is Back! Two Countries One World is hosting information sessions: at local churches **April 24 in Waterloo & on May 1st in Guelph at 7 pm**. See www.waterlootcow.ca/tcow-2024/info-nights/ for info on locations. This is a chance to hear what TCOW is about and ask questions about the plans for 2023/2024. TCOW's mission is to change lives and produce globally aware students to help shape a more just and sustainable future. They are planning a trip to Columbia for March Break of 2024. The youth need to be in grade 10 & up during the 2023/2024 school year. See: waterlootcow.ca

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Parkminster United Church LGBTQ2S+ Friends and Allies Potluck: Everyone is invited! Saturday, April 29th in the Gym at Parkminster United Church, 275 Erb St E, Waterloo. Mingling starts at 6:00 pm, dinner starts at 6:30 pm. Please bring your own food. We will provide coffee and tea. Guest Speaker, Cait Glasson will talk about ways of confronting transphobia and hate in the Waterloo Region. For more information, please e-mail Liz Forde: eforde@sentex.ca

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.