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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



*"The Laughing Jesus" - Willis Wheatley*

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**April 30, 2023**

**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 gives our thanks for their conservancy.*

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Prelude

**Humoresque**

*(Antonin Dvorak)*

\* Opening Hymn

**Sing a Happy Hallelujah**

VU224

Call to Worship

One: On Easter morning, joy was set loose into our world,  
showing up

**All: in the wiggles of children,**

One: The whispers of youth,

**All: The laughter of adults.**

One: The smiles of seniors. We praise God  
for joy that finds us on this glorious day,

**All: Let the praise break forth  
in the most unlikely places and in silly ways.**

One: Joy and praise fills our hearts and in our songs

**All: Let the laughter be deep, for our reasons  
for joy are many, we are God's people.**

Opening Prayer

One: Forgive us, Lord, when we take ourselves too  
seriously, when we let the worries of this moment  
overshadow the shining joy of your presence.  
Forgive us when we don't claim the happiness that is  
as holy a response to our faith, as is the mourning of  
Holy Week, when we forget that you will have the last  
laugh in this world. Lift our hearts, and restore us that  
we may once again rejoice in your life with us. For

Jesus enjoyed his friendships, laughed and loved, even as he unlocked the mystery of life...

**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 (CEB) Luke 24:13-35**

<sup>13</sup> On that same day, two disciples were traveling to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> They were talking to each other about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were discussing these things, Jesus himself arrived and joined them on their journey. <sup>16</sup> They were prevented from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> He said to them, "What are you talking about as you walk along?" They stopped, their faces downcast. <sup>18</sup> The one named Cleopas replied, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who is unaware of the things that have taken place there over the last few days?" <sup>19</sup> He said to them, "What things?" They said to him, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth. Because of his powerful deeds and words, he was recognized by God and all the people as a prophet. <sup>20</sup> But our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him. <sup>21</sup> We had hoped he was the one who would redeem Israel. All these things happened three days ago. <sup>22</sup> But there's more: Some women from our group have left us stunned. They went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup> and didn't find his body. They came to us saying that they had even seen a vision of angels who told them he is alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us

went to the tomb and found things just as the women said. They didn't see him." <sup>25</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! Your dull minds keep you from believing all that the prophets talked about. <sup>26</sup> Wasn't it necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then he interpreted for them the things written about himself in all the scriptures, starting with Moses and going through all the Prophets. <sup>28</sup> When they came to Emmaus, he acted as if he was going on ahead. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him, saying, "Stay with us. It's nearly evening, and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> After he took his seat at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Weren't our hearts on fire when he spoke to us along the road and when he explained the scriptures for us?" <sup>33</sup> They got up right then and returned to Jerusalem. They found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying to each other, "The Lord really has risen! He appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup> Then the two disciples described what had happened along the road and how Jesus was made known to them as he broke the bread.

**Anthem    Leaning on the Everlasting Arms** (arr. Geordie Roberts)

*What a fellowship.*

*What a joy Divine.*

*Leaning on the everlasting Arms.*

*What a blessedness,*

*What a peace is mine.*

*Leaning, leaning on the everlasting Arms.*

*I'm leaning, Oh I'm leaning.*

*Safe, safe, safe and secure from all alarms.*

*Leaning, Whoa I'm leaning, leaning, leaning on the  
everlasting arms.*

*What have I to dread?*

*What have I to fear?*

*Leaning on the everlasting Arms.*

*I have peace complete with my Lord so near.*

*Leaning, leaning on the everlasting Arms.*

**Reflection**

**Hearts on Fire**

**Hymn**

**Joyful, Joyful**

**VU232**

# WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE



Invitation to Offering

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

Offertory

**Happy Farmer  
Tambourin**

(Robert Schumann)

(Francois Joseph Gossec)

\* 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

**You Shall Go Out With Joy**

VU884

(sung at least twice)

\* 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 **Cantad al Senor (Sing Praise to the Lord)** (arr. K. Langlois)

\* \* \*

**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.*

### FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- ☐ May 3 **Faith Study** "Esther" 1pm or 7pm, Parlour
- ☐ May 4 **Choir**– Rainbow Room 7:30 pm
- ☐ May 6 **SJR Garage Sale & Scouting Pancake Breakfast** see details in announcement.

Check the bulletin boards and visit [www.sjruc.ca](http://www.sjruc.ca) for upcoming events.

### IN OUR CHURCH

**SJR Garage Sale NEXT SATURDAY:** We're having a Church Garage Sale on **Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**. Bring your "treasures" to the church from 9 am to 11 am today through to Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. **We start sorting on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>!** The sign-up sheets to help on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and on Garage Sale Day, the 6<sup>th</sup> - 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 another successful project! All proceeds go to the M&S Fund of the UCC. For more information, please call the church office 519-742-1002 (*Please, no large furniture*).



**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](mailto:mail@sjruc.ca) or 519-742-1002. **Ladies of all ages** welcome. We will do our best to arrange childcare if needed.

**Fundraiser for Monica Place:** Our annual fundraiser for Monica Place starts today until Thursday evening, June 1<sup>st</sup>. 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.

**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](mailto:library@sjruc.ca)

**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 - 3 pm OR from 7 pm - 9 pm in the Parlour as we journey through the Book of Esther. For more information, please contact the office @ [mail@sjruc.ca](mailto:mail@sjruc.ca)

**Layreading:** Are you interested in helping with layreading? Contact the church office: [mail@sjruc.ca](mailto: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!** Information session *on May 1st in Guelph at 7 pm.* See [www.waterlootcow.ca/tcow-2024/info-nights/](http://www.waterlootcow.ca/tcow-2024/info-nights/) for info. 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+ in the 2023/24 school year. See: [waterlootcow.ca](http://waterlootcow.ca)

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

**Hosting Ukrainians Fleeing the War:** We are looking for people willing to open their homes to Ukrainian families fleeing the war. Some hosts offer a sofa bed & emergency hosting only, others have a spare room or two and host for longer periods. Some hosts cook meals & help with paperwork. All we expect is a bed, access to the kitchen & bathroom, and a welcoming smile. Do you have a business willing to hire a Ukrainian? The government does not provide housing or money for these people because they are not refugees. They need to get jobs quickly so they can sustain themselves. For more info [www.wrgrassrootsresponse.ca](http://www.wrgrassrootsresponse.ca).

**Building Bridges through Music: Inshallah Monday, May 8, 7:30 pm** at Knox Presbyterian Church, 50 Erb St W, Waterloo. Engage in an arts-based workshop about conflict resolution through music.

**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.***

***There is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humor. - Charles Dickens***

My dream job is to clean mirrors because I can really see myself doing that.

Moses had the first tablet that could connect to the cloud.

My first job was in an orange juice factory. I got canned because I couldn't concentrate.

At what time of day was Adam created?  
A little before Eve.

What did the baseball glove say to the ball?  
"Catch ya later!"

Did you hear about the two spiders who got engaged? They met on the web.

Two cell phones got married. The reception was terrific!

*(Puns inserted with sincere-ish apologies from the church office.)*

## **Conundrums of creation**

God's creation is filled with amazing and sometimes puzzling works.

*Directions: Use the bank of picture clues to answer the riddles.*



You can hold but not touch this. \_\_\_\_\_

Before using this, you must break it. \_\_\_\_

This falls without getting hurt. \_\_\_\_\_

This gets bigger the more you take away. \_\_\_\_

This has an eye but cannot see. \_\_\_\_\_

"In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the \_\_\_\_.

It is like ... a champion rejoicing to run his course.

It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit  
to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth."

P S A L M 1 9 : 4 - 6 , N I V

Answer: breath, egg, rain, hole, hurricane, sun