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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

What happens when you ask AI for a pic of "Jesus flipping over tables". 😂😂😂



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**September 24, 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 give our thanks for their conservancy.*

Welcome & Announcements  
Lighting the Christ Candle

Prelude

**Air**

(Samuel Wesley)

\*Opening Hymn

**Let Us Build a House**

MV 1

Opening Litany:

One: God, help us welcome those who have come to dwell among us. For all those who have come fleeing oppression and persecution – for those seeking wellbeing and life.

**All: God, help us welcome those who have come to dwell among us.**

One: For those who have come fleeing hardship and hunger:

**All: God, help us welcome those who have come to dwell among us.**

One: For those who have come to seek peace,

**All: God, help us welcome those who have come to dwell among us.**

One: For those who have come seeking freedom and opportunity:

**All: God, help us welcome those who have come to dwell among us.**

One: Let us remember the words of Christ, who said  
*"I was hungry and you gave me food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,  
I was a stranger and you welcomed me."*

**All: When, Lord, were you a stranger that we welcomed among us?**

One: *“Truly, as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me”*

**All: When we welcomed the stranger, we welcomed you, Christ Jesus, in our midst!**

One: Loving God, you call us to create hospitable communities. Help us to overcome the fears and worries we may in opening our lives to those you place in our midst. Give us the courage and wisdom to create compassionate and just immigration policies. Grant that we may all live together in peace and love...

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 (NRSV) **Leviticus 19:33-34**

<sup>33</sup>When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. <sup>34</sup>The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

Anthem

**Still I Sing Alleluia**

(Samuel Wesley)

*With Spirit before me, with Spirit behind,  
with Spirit below and beside me;  
with Spirit all around, even where affliction's found,  
I will sing, I will sound, "Alleluia."*

*When darkness descends and the night never ends,  
when my shadows and demons surround me,  
when questions I spin echo answerless within,  
even then, even then, "Alleluia."*

*Alleluia, still I sing Alleluia,  
Open us to You 'til we sing Alleluia.*

*Weave joy in our gain, bring us hope in our pain,  
hear all prayers that we offer to you, Lord;  
breathe life into death, draw us closer with each breath,  
that our lips may confess, "Alleluia"*

*So praise, praise the Father, and praise, praise the Son,  
praise the Spirit who moves in and through all.  
All creation sound the word so profound;  
let us sing, let us live, Alleluia.*

Reflection – *It's the end of the world as we know it, and I feel fine:* A.I. and Aliens

Hymn

**Though I May Speak**

VU 372

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

Invitation to Offering

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

*Thank you to all those who support the ministry of SJR through time, talents and treasures. As the ushers pass along the offering plates we invite those who give through PAR or Pre-Authorized Remittance and those who give a monthly gift, to please put a card into the plate so we can celebrate your generosity. Information on how to sign up to PAR can be obtained through the office. For those who want to contribute online, please check out our website or the QR code above.*



Offertory

**Chorale Prelude on Bemerton**

(Peter Hurford)

\* 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 **Great is thy Faithfulness** VU 288

\* Commissioning

\* Choral Benediction **Go Now in Peace** *(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 **Gavotte** *(Samuel Wesley)*

\* \* \*

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

### **FOR YOUR CALENDAR:**

- Sept. 25 **UCW Meeting** – Parlour 1 pm
- Sept. 27 **Faith Study** “Mark” – Parlour 1 pm or 7 pm
- Sept. 28 **Choir Rehearsal** – Rainbow Room 7:30 pm
- Oct. 1 **Worship Service** – Worldwide Communion Sanc. 10:30 am

Check the bulletin board and the website sjruc.ca  
for more information and upcoming events

## IN OUR CHURCH

**Access to SJR Parking Lot** For the next few months, the driveway to access the church parking lot has been relocated to Kensington Ave. Please look for the signs, as the intersection at Krug and Sherwood will be closed. Thanks for your patience as this road work progresses!

**Food Bank Collection** The need is great, and as a result the M & O Committee of SJRUC will be organizing its 2nd fundraiser in 2023 for the Waterloo Regional Food Bank which will take place from Sunday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> until Thursday evening Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> when a pickup truck will be in the church parking lot from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm to collect donated food items for delivery the next day. Our goal for this fundraiser is to collect at least 400lb of food items plus cash donations of at least \$1,200. A table will be set up in the usual location within the church to collect donated food items. **GO TEAM GO!**



**Photo Directory** Thank you for all those who had their photos taken already in helping to create our 2023 SJR Family Photo Album! Everyone who has a photo done will have an opportunity to purchase photos. A free directory will be given to everyone who has booked. We are now looking to fill our waiting list.



**Additional booking dates - TBA:** We are working with the photography company to secure additional dates - more information will follow once we have made these arrangements. Those already on the waiting list will be booked before we make more appointments available.

**Please add your name to the waiting list to make sure we have enough spots.** We need to demonstrate to the company that there is enough interest. Information is on the website for waitlist sign-up.

***Book online (waitlist) on our Church Website: [SJRUC.ca](http://SJRUC.ca) please fill out a quick form on our website (scroll down to the bottom of the page) OR call Teresa at 519-781-2671***

**UCW:** We've made a change! The UCW is meeting this Monday, **September 25<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 3pm in the Parlour.** Join us for some 'catch up conversation' and learn more about the National UCW Special Project, beginning 2023 through to UCW's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2027. All women of SJR welcome.

**Scott Willcox, Treasurer of SJR** new email address: use scott.sjruc@gmail.com (or treasurer@sjruc.ca). Note that the old email address (scott.willcox@ca.ey.com) will no longer be in service after September 28<sup>th</sup> – update your contact info.

**Sunday School** update for parents and youth: We are trying something new as we re-divide age groups. There will be Nursery for ages newborn to 4, Primary for ages 5 to 10, and Jr. Youth for 11+. With these changes, we are looking to hire a teacher for the Jr. Youth so if you know of anyone interested, please contact the office.

**Bible Study: 40 Days Through the Book: Mark- A Bible study.** Join us as we look at Mark's biography of Jesus and what his words mean to us today. In this six-session study, we are invited to understand more about who Jesus is and how to know Him better. The study guide includes access to six streaming video sessions to watch on any device, video notes, discussion questions, and a 40 Day reading plan between sessions. If you are interested in joining us on **Wednesdays from 1 pm to 3 pm OR 7 pm to 9 pm beginning Wed. September 27<sup>th</sup>,** contact the office and a book will be delivered to you. The cost of the book is \$14.

**Seniors' Exercise Classes at SJR "SMART"** (Seniors Maintaining Active Roles Together) ® program is for anyone 55+ years or any adult living with a disability who wants to improve their strength, balance, & mobility through low-impact exercise. Work at your own pace, wear comfortable clothing & supportive shoes. Exercises can be completed seated or standing. **Classes in the SJR Gym Tuesday & Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. No pre-registration required.**

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

Search for and circle all the bold words from Psalm 18:2, which reminds us where we find our strength.

The **LORD** is **MY ROCK**, my **FORTRESS** and my **DELIVERER**; my **GOD** is my rock, in whom I **TAKE REFUGE**. **HE** is my **SHIELD** and the **HORN** of my **SALVATION**, my **STRONGHOLD**.

S T R O N G H O L D T S  
O L O B K I E Y E J S A  
R E F U G E I Y N T V L  
R O G H A R L Q R A Y V  
S X C T T I M T K K M A  
H O R N C E Y R A E D T  
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E N F O R T R E S S G O  
L T U R G Q A C K J Q N  
D C D E L I V E R E R E  
K Y U X O C N O O Y Q S  
X H X A R K L R C N H Y  
G O D T D K A D K U D X

**GOD ROCKS!**