
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



October 1, 2023 – World Communion 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.

Liturgy provided by Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council for Churches in the Region.

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Prelude

Andante Religioso

(Felix Mendelssohn)

*Opening Hymn

God is Here

VU 389

Call to Worship

One: In a world where wildfires and hurricanes are a part of daily newscasts, we ask:

All: Where is God?

One: In our busy lives with the stress of daily living, the rising cost of food and shelter, we ask:

All: Where is God?

One: In a world of conflict, and refugees, of displaced persons and homelessness, we ask:

All: Where is God?

One: God is here, in creation, in homes and workplaces, in schools and playgrounds

All: God is here,

One: calling us to bring about a world of peace and of love

All: God is here,

One: Inviting us to be renewed through God's Word, to be renewed in the sharing of the bread and the cup

All: God is here,

One: Welcoming us into God's presence.

All: Let us worship God.

Opening Prayer

All: We come before you, Creator God, unable to fully understand the suffering of the people closest to us, let alone all around the world. Yet, on this World Communion Sunday, we stand side by side, heart to heart, with our siblings near and far, in this place and around the world. We are in awe of you and the healing work you call us to do. Yet we know how easily we give up or become discouraged, or just plain forget. Forgive us, God, and light a fire so deep within us that we burn with the same love and passion shown by Jesus...

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.**

Sharing the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Hymn **As We Gather at Your Table**

VU 457

Words of Faith – A New Creed

**All: We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judgment and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

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

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading (NRSV) **Exodus 17: 1-7**

¹The whole Israelite community broke camp and set out from the Sin desert to continue their journey, as the Lord commanded. They set up their camp at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people argued with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why are you arguing with me? Why are you testing the Lord?" ³But the people were very thirsty for water there, and they complained to Moses, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt to kill us, our children, and our livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What should I do with this people? They are getting ready to stone me." ⁵The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of Israel's elders with you. Take in your hand the shepherd's rod that you used to strike the Nile River, and go. ⁶I'll be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Hit the rock. Water will come out of it, and the people will be able to drink." Moses did so while Israel's elders watched. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites argued with and tested the Lord, asking, "Is the Lord really with us or not?"

Anthem

Psalm 23

(Bob Chilcott)

*The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me, the quiet waters by.*

*My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
For thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.*

*My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.*

*Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me,
And in God's house forevermore my dwelling-place shall be.*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering (Donate online at 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 **'Largo' from Voluntary II** (George Frideric Handel)

* 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 **Let us Talents and Tongues Employ** VU468

* 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.*

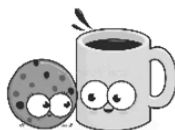
Postlude ‘Andante’ from Voluntary II (George Frideric Handel)

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

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**After the service today please
join us in the Rainbow Room for
some refreshments at
“Gather, Gab & Mingle!”**



FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- Oct. 4 **Faith Study** “Mark” – Parlour 1 pm or 7 pm
- Oct. 5 **Choir Rehearsal** – Rainbow Room 7:30 pm
- Oct. 8 **Worship Service** – Thanksgiving Sunday-Sanctuary 10:30 am
 Hymn Sing 15 minutes before Service Start Bring your Requests!
- Oct. 10 **Executive Meeting** – Parlour 7pm

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

IN OUR CHURCH

Thanksgiving Hymn Sing – Plan on arriving 15 minutes before service next week as we lift our voices in grateful singing, taking requests from the congregation.

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!

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 28th – update your contact info.

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 and will receive a free directory. We are now looking to fill our waiting list.



Additional booking dates – NOW AVAILABLE!

Please mark your calendars for these dates:

Mon Oct 30 1:30-8:30pm, **Tues Oct 31** 10:00-4:00pm
Thurs Nov 23 1:30-8:30pm **Fri Nov 24** 1:30-8:30pm
Sat Nov 25 9:30am- 4:30pm

Please add your name to the waiting list and someone will contact you asap.

Book online (waitlist) on our Church Website: 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

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.***

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. We began our journey last week, but there's always room for more! 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**, contact Jan cso@golden.net or the office and a book will be delivered to you. The cost of the book is \$14.



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. 17th until Thursday evening Oct. 19th 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!**

Rev. Chris Fickling, Minister of Worship revchris@sjruc.ca

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