
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 22, 2023

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 the Christ Candle

Prelude **Nearer, My God, to Thee** (arr. Mark Hayes)

*Opening Hymn **Nearer, My God, to Thee** VU 497

Call to Worship *adapted from a prayer by John van de Laar*

One: It may seem naïve in a world of grief,
to choose to live in joy;

It may seem foolish,
in a world where solemnity is power,
to sing and dance to a different tune;
It may seem cruel, in a world of suffering and injustice,
to speak of light and celebration;

But you have come, Jesus, to bring joy into our grief,
light into our darkness,
singing into our mourning;
and it is an act of healing and proclamation
to believe and embrace the joy you offer.

May joy, light, singing, healing and proclamation
fill our worship we pray.

Opening Prayer

All: God of justice and peace, so often our words of faith talk of a world different than our own. We are called to love without expectation of reward, forgive when we have been hurt, and seek the wellbeing of all people whether they deserve it

or not. Your upside-down worldview, the way of the kin-dom, seeks to unite one life with another, family and kin with one another, until all shall be one. May it be so – as we love, forgive, and offer wellbeing in the name of 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.**

Story Time

Response **Lord, Listen to your Children Praying** (VU 400)

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

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading (CEB) **John 16:20-24**

[And Jesus said] ²⁰ I assure you that you will cry and lament, and the world will be happy. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹ When a woman gives birth, she has pain because her time has come. But when the child is born, she no longer remembers her distress because of her joy that a child has been born into the world. ²² In the same way, you have sorrow now; but I will see you again, and you will be overjoyed. No one takes away your joy. ²³ In that day, you won't ask me anything. I assure you that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ²⁴ Up to now, you have asked nothing in my name. Ask and you will receive so that your joy will be complete.

Anthem

10,000 Reasons

(arr. Heather Sorenson)

*The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. Refrain*

Refrain *Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy Name.*

*You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your name is great and Your heart is kind;
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. Refrain*

*And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come;
Still my soul sings Your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore. Refrain*

Reflection – *Enough*, Adam Hamilton - "Cultivating Contentment"

Hymn

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

(VU 684)

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

Andantino

(Gabriel Fauré)

* Offering Response *Words & music © A. Baer, 2013, arr. S. Porter*

***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.***

*Dedication of the Offering

Prayers of the People

Response **Lord, Listen to your Children Praying** (VU 400)

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

* Closing Hymn **Joyful, Joyful We Adore You** VU 232

* 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 **Voluntary in D Major** *(Marc Antoine Charpentier)*

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

* * *

***Our heartfelt & best wishes go out to Marilyn Gibney
who celebrates her 84th birthday October 23rd,
and to Art Gibney who is turning 88 on October 31st.***



***Best wishes for a very happy birthday also go out to
Ron Raddatz who is turning 91 on October 24th.***

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- Oct. 25 **Faith Study** "Mark" – Parlour 1 pm or 7 pm
- Oct. 26 **Choir Rehearsal** – Rainbow Room 7:30 pm
- Oct. 29 **Worship Service** —Membership Sunday - Sanctuary 10:30 am
- Nov 5 **Remembrance Day Service** - Sanctuary 10:30 am
– stay after the service for **Gather, Gab & Mingle**

Check the bulletin board & the website sjruc.ca for upcoming events

IN OUR CHURCH

Membership at SJR We are hoping to have a Membership ***Sunday on October 29th***. If you are interested in transferring your membership or joining by profession of faith, please speak to Rev. Chris. We are grateful to share this journey with you!

UCW: We're having a Hallowe'en Party for the women of SJR on Monday, ***October 30th from 1pm to 3pm.*** Find your costume, bring a friend, and come join the fun! We'll meet in the Parlour for a brief "get to know you business meeting" and then head to the long Sunday School Room for some fun and games. Hallowe'en 'scary nibbles' to follow.

Currency for Kids Over \$2 Billion in global currency can likely be found in homes & businesses across Canada. These are the coins (or bills) left in the bottom of your suitcase from a trip abroad. Maybe they are in the junk drawer, a jar or in your desk. The UCW is inviting you to find those forgotten coins and bring them to church in support of Family & Children's Services of the Waterloo Region! Look for the green collection bin in the foyer on the table under the bulletin board on Sunday.

Nov 5 - Remembrance Sunday - We would like as a part of our Remembrance Sunday, to fill the Communion table with pictures of family members that served over the years. If you have a picture of a loved one that you wouldn't mind sharing with us, we would be honoured to include it, and would ask you to bring it either on October 29 or November 5. If you could ensure your name is on your photo (masking tape on the back is perfect) that would ensure we get back your photo after service.

Photo Directory Additional booking dates available.

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. Complete a form on our website sjruc.ca (scroll down to the bottom of the page) OR call Teresa at 519-781-2671. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your booking time at the Sherwood doors.

Advent Faith Study: Following our journey through Mark, in anticipation of Advent, starting in November we will learn more about the Advent Conspiracy, which seeks to bring us back to the true meaning of the season as we seek to worship fully, spend less, give more, and love all. There is room for all - both at the manger, and in this study, so please watch the upcoming bulletins for more information.

Donation Envelopes If you would like donation envelopes please contact the church office: mail@sjruc.ca or call 519-742-1002

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Ukrainian Benefit Concert **TODAY** Waterloo Region Grassroots Response to the Ukrainian Crisis and St. Matthew's Church together host a unique benefits concert. **TODAY October 22. Doors Open: 2:15 pm. Concert Start: 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm** followed by Ukrainian Theme Vendor Fair: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Children 16 and under are free. *Free parking available at the multi-level parking garage at Charles & Benton Parking.* Dariia Lytvishko has been selflessly giving charity organ recitals throughout Europe to raise funds for humanitarian support. In addition to Dariia Lytvishko, two other Ukrainians who have fled the war on Ukraine will be performing on piano and guitar once the doors open. A guest speaker will provide an update on the war. Purchase tickets at the door.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER & BAKE SALE Mark your calendar! Westminster's **Spaghetti Supper & Bake Sale** fundraiser is back and will take place on **Tuesday, October 24, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** Dinner includes spaghetti with choice of sauce (meat or vegetarian), salad, rolls and beverages! Free-will offering. Yummy home-baked goods will be available for sale as well. All are welcome - spread the word to friends, family and co-workers, and invite them to attend! We look forward to seeing you there.

LGBTQ+ and Allies Potluck *Parkminster United Church, 275 Erb. St. E., Waterloo* Finding a Safe Space for your Health Care Future: Is Hospice Right For You? For the LGBTQIA+ community, assisted health care can be a terrifying prospect! What has hospice done to make a safe space for you? Learn about Hospice Waterloo Region Programs **Saturday November 4th** Bring your own meal, or food to share for the LGBTQ+ and Allies Potluck **Meet at 6 pm, Eat at 6:30.** A free-will offering is accepted.. *RSVP to Liz at eforde@sentex.ca*

The Peace Candle Story – from Stirling Methodist Church

Years ago, a couple from America visited a Cathedral in Moscow. They noticed people coming into the church, dropping a coin into a box, taking a candle, lighting it, putting it on a stand, and praying. Some prayed for a short time, others longer. It seemed to these visitors that this cathedral was never without someone praying. One woman, having finished praying started to leave, then suddenly turned back, dropped a coin in the box and took a candle. Instead of lighting it she turned to the two visitors and gave them the candle and said to them. 'When you go back to your own country and go to your church take this candle, light it and pray for peace'. With that she turned and left.

The American visitors were Baptists, and didn't burn candles in their church, so they met with their minister to share the story. He responded: 'Bring the candle to church on Sunday and at the beginning of the service I will invite you to come forward. You will tell the story of the candle, put it on the communion table, light it and lead us in a prayer for peace'.

Near the end of the service, when the candle was in danger of burning out, the minister produced another larger candle, lit it from the first and placed it on the communion table. At the next service he lit the candle again and again prayed for peace.

After a few weeks the congregation was buzzing with conversation about this candle. If an unknown Russian woman could give their church a simple candle and challenge them to pray for peace why shouldn't they give candles to their friends in other churches and challenge them to pray for peace. So they did, and in giving away the candles they told the story of the Russian woman. They also challenged churches to give a candle to another church or churches and ask them to do the same.

So the Candle of Peace, as it became known, was passed from church to church, it came to Scotland, to Leith Methodist Church, and then to Stirling Methodist church who received the candle on the last Sunday in August 1989. In every act of worship since then they have lit a candle and prayed for peace.

Stirling Methodist Church has in turn sent candles to other churches asking them to place them in their churches and pray for peace. These churches have been in the USA, Tent of Nations in Palestine, India, South Africa, Fiji, Australia, and Germany as well as in the U.K. The UK churches include Manchester after the bombing and Nottinghill after the Grenfell Tower Fire disaster. More recently members took a candle to the JAZZ church in Birmingham, and they gave one to Padre Stuart Young of the 3 Rifles based in Edinburgh.

Now thanks to Doug and Alison Riddell, the Peace Candle has also been received at St. James' ~Rosemount United Church from Stirling Methodist Church, Scotland.

We pray for peace, not just between people but also for peace between people and the rest of the planet.