
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



November 26, 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

Chant de Matin

(Leon Boellmann)

*Opening Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story

VU 343

Opening Litany *adapted from a prayer by Lt. Leticia Rouser*

One: In the lives of neighbors who struggle to survive,
who experience unrelenting brokenness and pain,

All: God of life, you are still speaking!

One: In the struggle of the poor whose rights are not
honoured, in the underhoused, overlooked and ignored

All: God of life, you are still speaking!

One: In a world crying out for wisdom, love and mercy:

All: God of life, you are still speaking!

One: In a world calling for peace:

All: God of life, you are still speaking!

Enable us to hear.

Let us unite our hearts:

All: We confess that in our lives we often hide behind our work and play, schools and jobs, fun and family. We let ourselves get so busy that we cannot find time to be present to those who have no one. We confess we allow the world to seduce us into selfishness and silence our witness. Teach us to champion the cause for justice for all, strengthen us to love our neighbour and speak truth no matter the penalty.

One: Grace and peace and love are ours to share,
always have been, always will be, thanks be to God,

source of these gifts, who blesses us...

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 (MSG) **Matthew 25:31-46**

³¹⁻³³ "When he finally arrives, blazing in beauty and all his angels with him, the Son of Man will take his place on his glorious throne. Then all the nations will be arranged before him and he will sort the people out, much as a shepherd sorts out sheep and goats, putting sheep to his right and goats to his left. ³⁴⁻³⁶ "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Enter, you who are blessed by God! Take what's coming to you in this kingdom. It's been ready for you since the world's foundation. And here's why:

I was hungry and you fed me,
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,
I was homeless and you gave me a room,
I was shivering and you gave me clothes,
I was sick and you stopped to visit,
I was in prison and you came to me.'

³⁷⁻⁴⁰ "Then those 'sheep' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?' Then the King will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these

things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.’ ⁴¹⁻⁴³ “Then he will turn to the ‘goats,’ the ones on his left, and say, ‘Get out, worthless goats! You’re good for nothing but the fires of hell. And why?

Because - I was hungry and you gave me no meal,
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,
I was homeless and you gave me no bed,
I was shivering and you gave me no clothes,
Sick and in prison, and you never visited.’

⁴⁴ “Then those ‘goats’ are going to say, ‘Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or homeless or shivering or sick or in prison and didn’t help?’

⁴⁵ “He will answer them, ‘I’m telling the solemn truth: Whenever you failed to do one of these things to someone who was being overlooked or ignored, that was me—you failed to do it to me.’

⁴⁶ “Then those ‘goats’ will be herded to their eternal doom, but the ‘sheep’ to their eternal reward.”

Anthem **The King Shall Come** (Thomas Keesecker)

*The King shall come when morning dawns
and light triumphant breaks,
when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.*

*Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die,
but crowned with glory like the sun
that lights the morning sky.*

*Oh, brighter than the rising morn when Christ,
victorious, rose and left the lonesome place of death,
despite the rage of foes.*

*Oh, brighter than that glorious morn shall dawn upon our race
the day when Christ in splendour comes,
and we shall see his face.*

*The King shall come when morning dawns
and light and beauty brings.*

*Hail Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
come quickly, King of kings.*

Reflection *Overlooked or ignored*

Hymn **When Pain of the World** VU 598
Verse 1 – Solo, Verse 2 – Choir, Verse 3&4 - All

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 donate by PAR can be obtained through the office mail @sjruc.ca 519-742-1002.



For those who wish to donate online through Canada Helps, please visit our website sjruc.ca or scan this QR code:

Offertory **Prelude in E Minor** (Frederic Chopin)

* 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

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

* Closing Hymn **I Danced in the Morning** VU 352

* 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 **Come, Thou Almighty King** (Don Hustad)

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

In Loving Memory



Flowers have been placed in the sanctuary by Evelyn Shantz
in memory of her brother Roy Elliott,
who passed away November 19, 2023

* * *

Flowers have also been placed in the sanctuary by
Pat Cornwell in memory of her mother Velma Cornwell on the
first anniversary of her passing.

Gather, Gab & Mingle after the service today!

Come and enjoy some refreshments together
in the Rainbow Room after the service!



Stay for the special concert in the Sanctuary afterwards!

**SJR Directory update – new phone number:
ATCHESON, Brenda* Home Phone:548-288-0733**

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- Nov. 28 **55+ Exercise Class** 9:30 a.m. SJR Gym
- Nov. 29 **Faith Study** "Advent Conspiracy" – Parlour 1 pm or 7 pm
- Nov. 30 **55+ Exercise Class** 9:30 a.m. SJR Gym
- Nov. 30 **Choir Rehearsal** – Rainbow Room 7:30 pm
- Dec. 2 **Cookie Walk and Ticket Draw** – 9:30 am (volunteers needed!)
- Dec. 2 **Tree and Garland Setup** – Noon Sanctuary
- Dec. 3 **Worship Service: 1st Advent** Hanging of the Greens– 10:30 a.m.
- Dec. 10 **Worship Service: 2nd Advent** White Gift Sunday - 10:30 a.m.
in support of oneRoof Youth Services
- Dec. 10 **Outdoor Memory Tree & Caroling** at 7 pm
- Dec. 12 **UCW Christmas Dinner:** 5:45 pm
- Dec. 12 **UCW Candlelight Communion Service** - 7 pm
- Dec. 14 **Final Pickup for oneRoof** 6 - 7 pm
- Dec. 17 **Worship Service: 3rd Advent** Lessons & Carols – 10:30 am
- Dec. 24 **Worship Service: 4th Advent** Love & Memory Service – 10:30 am
Christmas Eve Family Christmas Service - 6 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service – 8 pm

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

IN OUR CHURCH

SJR Concert TODAY! 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Our choral scholars Simone, Lucy, and Roland, along with guest accompanist Sean Nicholson, are excited to share an afternoon musical offering of song and piano. Free-will offering.

UCW of SJR invites all women of our church to come sailing on the "Seabiscuit" - no seasick pills needed! **Monday, November 27th at 1:00 pm**, please join us for our UCW meeting and experience a wonderful presentation about the sailing adventures of the Brauns over the last couple of years around Newfoundland and Labrador. Refreshments to follow!



Cookie Walk & Ticket Draw Saturday, Dec. 2nd at 9:30 a.m.

***** COOKIE BAKERS NEEDED! ***** Sign-up sheets in the Narthex. We also need items for the ticket draw. Bring your cookies and donations of Ticket Draw items to the church on Dec. 1st, 3-4 p.m., 6:30 p.m. If it is more convenient to bring your auction donation earlier, it may be left on the stage. Be sure to mark it "Ticket Draw". Thank you! Proceeds support SJRUC.



Sanctuary Christmas Flowers: To remember a loved one by contributing to the Christmas Flower Fund, please add your name to the form in the Narthex and place your donation of \$10 in an envelope marked "Christmas Flowers" on the collection plate **by Sun. Dec. 17th**. A list of donors will be posted on the bulletin board in the office foyer and printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. A tax receipt will be issued. Questions? Contact Anne Willcox or the church office.

UCW Christmas Dinner and Candlelight Communion on **Tuesday, December 12th**. We have ordered in a delicious turkey dinner from DeliWorks. **Join us at 5:45pm for dinner & conversation. The Candlelight Communion Service will begin at 7:00pm.** All women are welcome! The catered dinner and desserts "Potluck Style" (bring your own dishes and cutlery - beverages provided) will be \$25 per person. Gluten-free options are available. Call Muriel or Jan to book your dinner **by December 4th**. Put your payment in an envelope marked "UCW CHRISTMAS DINNER" and drop it off at the church or pay by e-transfer pay-UCW@sjruc.ca. All dinners **must be pre-paid**.

2024 Donation Envelopes are ready to be picked up in the Narthex. Need envelopes? Contact the office mail@sjruc.ca or 519-742-1002.

SJRUC's Annual Fundraiser for OneRoof Youth Services is running now until **Thursday evening December 14th**. A table is set up in the foyer to collect donated items. Please check the list provided of the items most appreciated by oneRoof. Financial donations are also greatly appreciated. If donating by cheque make it payable to SJRUC, and if donating cash make sure to indicate the purpose of the donation and your identity (for tax return if required) on the accompanying envelope. Final pickup of donated items will take place in the church parking lot on Thursday evening, December 14th, 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Currency for Kids Over \$2 Billion in global currency is likely to be found in homes & businesses across Canada. These are coins or bills left in the bottom of your suitcase from a trip abroad, or the junk drawer, or a jar or in your desk. The UCW invites you to find those forgotten coins and bring them to SJR to support Family & Children's Services of the Waterloo Region! On Sundays look for the green collection bin in the foyer on the table.

Annual Committee Reports It's that time of year again! Committee reports are due at the SJR Office no later than **Dec. 31, 2023**. (Email mail@sjruc.ca - either in a Word document or email.)



Be a Stamp Saver for the Leprosy Mission! Christmas is a great time to save stamps from parcels & cards. A half inch cut around used stamps is ideal. Post cards, especially old (1920 & prior) are also useful. Place them in the Caring Bin in the cabinet in the cloak room behind the narthex. Your stamps make a difference! Questions? Contact Jim Oliver, 519-893-4092.

Seniors' Exercise Classes at SJR 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 run in the SJR Gym on Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30 a.m. No pre-registration required.***

Send a Christmas Greeting to a member of the Canadian Armed Forces this Christmas season: Any Canadian Forces Member, P.O. Box 5140. Stn Forces, Belleville ON K8N 5W6

Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" Enjoy the Grand Philharmonic Choir and musicians of the KW Symphony on **Saturday, Dec. 9/23 at 7:30 pm** as they present J. S. Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" at the Center in the Square. Details on the bulletin board outside the Rainbow Rm.

Rev. Chris Fickling, Minister of Worship revchris@sjruc.ca Office: 519-742-1002
Cell: 226-989-6400 ***If you know of anyone needing a visit, let Rev. Chris know.***