
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



January 21, 2024

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

Prelude No. 19

(Samuel Maykapar)

*Hymn **God Make Us Servants Of Your Peace** VU 676

Call to Worship *adapted from a prayer by Joanne Harader*

One: Jesus comes along side us and calls us by name, inviting us to follow him...a simple call. A hard call.

All: Because following requires leaving.

One: And we look around to see who else Jesus could be talking to.

All: And we look around to see all that is difficult to leave.

One: It's hard to leave what we know, the safety and comfort of familiarity.

All: But we have come this far, to this place, where we can listen and be transformed.

Opening Prayer *adapted from a prayer by Suzanne Fageol*

One: O Christ of the North:

You, who bore the pain of Calvary,

You, who blessed the ones who cursed you,

You, who lay in the tomb, who in your rising,

fulfilled the expectations and prophecies of the

ancestors, You, who in your ascending,

gave the promise of a new covenant for us all,

In the dark cold of winter, begin the quiet cycle of birth again in our hearts as we tell your story.

As we journey through our own winters
O Christ of the North:

Keep vigil with us as we bear the harsh,
cold times of our lives.

Wrap us in cloaks of clarity and strength
when the strong,

north winds of challenge blow around us.

Help us to remember to call upon your many
blessings for our endurance and creativity.

Keep us in honesty and truth

with the remembrance of your faithfulness even unto
crucifixion. O Christ of the North, guardian of us all,
we call upon you...

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

Hymn **Praise God from Whom All Blizzards Flow** *(words L. Olin)*
Sung to VU217 – All Creatures of our God and King

*Praise God from whom all blizzards flow,
when snow comes down and cold winds blow!*

Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Praise God for shovels, gloves, and plows
when four foot drifts surround your house!*

If more snow falls, praise for snow balls.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading (CEB) **Mark 1:12-20**

¹² At once the Spirit forced Jesus out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among the wild animals, and the angels took care of him. ¹⁴ After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee announcing God's good news, ¹⁵ saying, "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!" ¹⁶ As Jesus passed alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ "Come, follow me," he said, "and I'll show you how to fish for people." ¹⁸ Right away, they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ After going a little farther, he saw James and John, Zebedee's sons, in their boat repairing the fishing nets. ²⁰ At that very moment he called them. They followed him, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired workers.

Anthem **I Have Decided to Follow Jesus** (arr. R. Kevin Boesiger)

*I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.*

*The world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me;
No turning back, no turning back.*

*Though none go with me, still I will follow;
Though none go with me, still I will follow;
Though none go with me, still I will follow;
No turning back, no turning back.*

Reflection *Right away?*

Hymn **Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore** VU 563

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 **Etude in C Major** (Stephen Heller)

* 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 **O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee** VU 560

* 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** (John Stanley)

* * *

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

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- Jan. 23 **55+ Exercise Class** 9:30 a.m. SJR Gym
- Jan. 24 **Faith Study "Moses"** - Parlour 1 pm or 7 pm
- Jan. 25 **55+ Exercise Class** 9:30 a.m. SJR Gym
- Jan. 25 **Choir Rehearsal**– Rainbow Room 7:30 pm
- Jan. 28 **Worship Service** 10:30 am
- Jan. 29 **UCW Meeting** - Long Sunday School Room at 1:00 pm
- Feb. 4 **Worship Service / Annual General Meeting** 10:30 am
Stay for Gather, Gab & Mingle after the service.

Upcoming dates for Gather, Gab & Mingle: February 4 & 18, 2024

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

IN OUR CHURCH

Next UCW Meeting: January 29, 1:00 pm, in the Parlour. How much do you know about Rev. Chris? At our first meeting of 2024 we will find out how long he has been preaching, where his last charge was, and other interesting tidbits of information. All women ladies are welcome!



Upcoming Annual Congregational Meeting

February 4th at 10:30 am. We will again be combining the AGM with our regular worship service on February 4th at 10:30 a.m. Please plan to join us for our meeting in the Sanctuary as we honour the work of 2023 and make plans for 2024. During the meeting, the children will be gathering as usual for Sunday School. While we will be live-streaming the meeting, participation is limited to those attending in-person.

Annual Reports are available in the back of the Sanctuary in the Narthex. We ask that you only take one per household for the time being, until we're sure everyone has one. Please remember to bring them back with you for our Annual General Meeting on February 4th.

Gather, Gab & Mingle Needs Volunteers!

Join a great team in making this regular event possible! If interested, please contact the church office: mail@sjruc.ca or mnp@sjruc.ca



New Year, New Commitment?

As we prepare for our annual meeting on February 4th, this is a time to consider getting involved in the "behind the scenes" work of St. James'~Rosemount. We have several committees that need help (Worship, Christian Education, Community Garden Coordinator) and several more that you're welcome to sit in on if you want to learn more about that particular ministry as we care for our building (Property), care for our people (Membership and Pastoral Care), or care for those beyond our walls (Mission and Outreach).



If you're interested in learning more about the work of our church beyond Sunday morning, please speak to Steve Wardell, Chair of the Unified Board, or Rev. Chris.

Remit #1: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization

It has been mentioned a few times from the pulpit about the proposed change to the United Church of Canada, to great fulfill steps toward reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, particularly through Remit #1. At our Unified Board Meeting held on January 9, after discussion, we voted unanimously to support this remit, and discussed some steps SJR might take as we live out our call to right relationship with all God's people.

Special Gifts Fund Allocations: The Special Gifts Fund Committee invites applications for a share of the interest earned from the Special Gifts Fund. The deadline for applying is March 31, 2024. Please ensure that your application is in writing, is supported by the appropriate church committee, and that you indicate that you will spend any allocation by the end of 2024. Please send your application to Valerie Hoag at mail@sjruc.ca or mail it to her at the church, by the deadline.

Thank you for the generous response to the ***Currency for Kids***. It is greatly appreciated! The green donation can, will remain on the table near the office. Thank you from the Waterloo Regional Children & Family Services.



Donations of Yarn: The Pastoral Care & Membership Committee is looking for donations of yarn for our Easter project this year. Each item in the project requires Worsted Weight (#4) yarn; bright yellow (approx. 50g per item), white, black, and orange (small amounts). If you know how to crochet and would be interested in helping with the Easter project, and/or you have yarn to donate, please contact Teresa at mnp@sjruc.ca no later than Monday, January 22.



Faith Study: MOSES: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet. Join us **Wednesdays, from 1pm to 3pm OR 7pm to 9pm** as we retrace the life of Moses from his modest birth and rescue as a baby to the courts of Pharaoh, from herding flocks in Midian to leading his people out of Egypt. Adam Hamilton will take us from Egypt to Mt. Sinai, the Nile, the Red Sea and the wilderness exploring the sites of Moses' life. Using historical information archaeological data and biblical text, Hamilton guides us in the footsteps of this reluctant prophet who grew in his relationship with God and by the end of life had successfully fulfilled the role he was given. If you have any questions please contact the Office at mail@sjruc.ca

Rev. Chris Fickling, Minister of Worship

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



"He's today's greeter."