
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 28, 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

Minuet in G Minor

(G.F. Handel)

*Hymn

Come and Find the Quiet Centre

VU 374

Opening Litany *adapted from a prayer by Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel*

One: Sisters and brothers in Christ,
what hopes do you bring to worship?

All: We bring hope for health and wholeness.

One: What afflictions do you bring to worship?
Physical pain?

All: From illness and injury.

One: Emotional pain?

All: From sad and scary life situations.

One: Mental pain?

All: From dis-ease of many kinds.

One: With all of these afflictions,
it's a miracle that any of us have made it to worship
this morning!

All: But where else would we be?

**We yearn to know God's powerful love
and to know that wholeness is possible.**

One: In today's gospel, a person with an "afflicting spirit"
interrupts Jesus

All: and Jesus frees him.

One: And where does the miracle of his story and our
stories begin?

**All: When we bring all of who we are
—hopeful, afflicted, bold—
into relationship with the Divine.**

One: So come, let us enter this sanctuary with our whole selves

**All: —hopeful, afflicted and bold—
into relationship with the Divine.**

One: Come and worship the one who created us, who sees us, and strengthens us amidst the worries of the world. Come, let us bring our whole selves into relationship with the one who took accepted all of our humanity, with 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 (MSG) **Mark 1:21-28**

²¹⁻²² Then they entered Capernaum. When the Sabbath arrived, Jesus lost no time in getting to the meeting place. He spent the day there teaching. They were surprised at his teaching—so forthright, so confident—not quibbling and quoting like the religion scholars. ²³⁻²⁴ Suddenly, while still in the meeting place, he was interrupted by a man who was deeply disturbed and yelling out, “What business do you have

here with us, Jesus? Nazarene! I know what you're up to! You're the Holy One of God, and you've come to destroy us!"
25-26 Jesus shut him up: "Quiet! Get out of him!" The afflicting spirit threw the man into spasms, protesting loudly—and got out. 27-28 Everyone there was spellbound, buzzing with curiosity. "What's going on here? A new teaching that does what it says? He shuts up defiling, demonic spirits and tells them to get lost!" News of this traveled fast and was soon all over Galilee.

Anthem **It Is Well with My Soul** (Tom Trenney)
Louise Pilatan, clarinet

*When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot Thou hast taught me to say,
Refrain "It is well, it is well with my soul!"
It is well with my soul!, It is well, it is well with my soul!*

*Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed his own blood for my soul. **Refrain***

*He lives: O the bliss of this glorious thought—
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! **Refrain***

*Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend
even so it is well with my soul. **Refrain***

Reflection *Afflicting Spirit*

Hymn **We Cannot Measure How You Heal** VU 613

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 **Adagio** (Antonio Vivaldi)

* 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 **Go Forth For God** VU 418

* 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 **Allegro** (Henry Purcell)

* * *

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

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- Jan. 29 **UCW Meeting** - Long Sunday School Room at 1:00 pm
- Jan. 30 **55+ Exercise Class** 9:30 a.m. SJR Gym
- Jan. 31 **Faith Study "Moses"** - Parlour 1 pm or 7 pm
- Feb. 1 **55+ Exercise Class** 9:30 a.m. SJR Gym
- Feb. 1 **Choir Rehearsal**– Rainbow Room 7:30 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

2023 Tax Receipts are now available in the Narthex. Please remember to pick yours up after the service today.

Printed Church Directories are available in the Narthex - one per family please. (Printed directories and PDF versions are always available throughout the year by request through the church office.)



Next UCW Meeting: TOMORROW *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 are welcome!

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

Annual Reports are available in the Narthex. One per household please, until everyone has one. Please bring them with you for our Annual General Meeting next week, Feb 4.

SJRUC Keys We are short of keys for the church building. If you have an SJR key which you don't use regularly, please return it to the church office.

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 SJR. 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 a particular ministry as we care for our building (Property), care for our people (Membership & Pastoral Care), or care for those beyond our walls (Mission & Outreach).

If you're interested in learning more about the work of our church beyond Sunday morning, 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 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 SJRUC Marjorie Tinklin would like to thank the SJRUC community for the many expressions of sympathy and love that were received when her husband Denis passed away. Marjorie is very grateful for all the hugs, cards, calls, and so many other kindnesses you expressed to her – they meant a great deal. Thank you!



Photo Directory needs photos: If you did not have your photo taken in one of the sessions, you have a last chance to submit your own photo by February 6th. Also – we are putting together a few pages of activity photos so if you have something that you like and would like to submit it, please do so to: photos@sjruc.ca

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 Carse no later than Monday, January 29.



TCOW Sleepover Youth Event: Two Countries One World (TCOW), a United Church service and learning initiative, is excited to host a sleepover event for youth and youth leaders in March 2024. The sleepover will include dinner on Friday, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Events during the sleepover will include youth group games, social time/movie, and on Saturday we'll explore what TCOW is all about through fun group activities before a closing reflection.

When: 6 PM, March 22 to 3 PM, March 23, 2024

Where: Parkminster United Church (275 Erb St E, Waterloo)

Who: Youth (grades 8-12+) and Youth Leaders

Cost: \$5/person to donate to the Foodbank of Waterloo Region

To find out more about TCOW, this event, and how to sign up, visit www.waterlootcow.ca or contact Colleen Usaty or Gord Spence at info@waterlootcow.ca

Rev. Chris Fickling, Minister of Worship

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