
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



Believe!

April 7, 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

(Rheinhold Gliere)

Opening Hymn

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

VU 179

Opening Litany *adapted from a prayer by Rex Hunt*

One: Holy One, we celebrate that where people are gathered together in love:

**All: You are present
and good things happen and life is full.**

One: We celebrate that the blessing of Easter reminds us that we are immersed in your mystery; our lives are more than they seem.

**All: We belong to each other
and to a universe of great creative energies,
whose source and destiny is you, our God.**

One: We celebrate that your spirit beat in the heart of Jesus of Nazareth:

All: The good news of your healing, embracing and liberating love was heard by the broken, the lonely and all bound by life's sorrows and struggles.

One: We celebrate that the spirit of peace and hope is present with us and through us; even as doubt perplexes us:

All: In our struggle to love we bring resurrection to the earth, as we offer new life in your name to our world.

One: And so, aware of the hurts and longings all of us carry,

the awe and wonder that is around us,
and the gifts of faith and this community of faith:

**All: We pause and we become ever aware
of the sacredness of our lives.**

One: In that awareness may we act and speak and live.
May it be so...

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 (CEB) **John 20:24-31**

²⁴Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn't with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵The other disciples told him, "We've seen the Lord!" But he replied, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won't believe." ²⁶After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!" ²⁸Thomas responded to Jesus, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus replied, "Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don't see and yet believe." ³⁰Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples' presence, signs that aren't recorded in this scroll. ³¹But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God's Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

Anthem **Blest Are the Eyes That Have Not Seen You** (*Fred Gramann*)

Lucy Gill, solo

*Blest are the eyes that have not seen you,
blest are the hands that have not touched you,
blest are the ears that have not heard your voice,
yet still believe, yet still believe.*

*Blest are the feet that have not walked with you,
blest are the hearts that hold your teachings true,
blest are all those who simply trust in you,
and do believe, and do believe.*

*We long for faith, more precious than gold,
that we may one day your presence behold.*

*And when we doubt, as Thomas did,
may we remember what you have said:*

*On the last day our eyes will see you,
on the last day our hands will touch you,
on the last day our ears will hear your voice,
this we believe, this we believe.*

Reflection *No more disbelief. Believe!*

Hymn **Joyful, Joyful** VU 232

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 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 **Andante** (Joseph Rheinberger)

* 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 **We Shall Go Out with Hope** VU 586

* 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 **Grand Choeur alla Handel** (*Alexandre Guilmant*)

* * *

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



*The flowers in the Sanctuary today are
placed here by Suanne Crouse &
Scott Crouse in loving memory of Suanne’s
brother and Scott’s uncle, Paul Crouse who
passed away this week on April 2, 2024.*

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

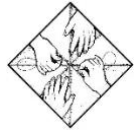
- April 7 **TODAY - Worship Committee Meeting** 11:30 am - Parlour
- April 9 **55+ Exercise Class** 9:30 am- SJR Gym
- April 9 **Executive Meeting** 7:00 pm – Rainbow Room
- April 10 **Faith Study** 1pm - 3pm OR 7pm - 9pm in the Parlour
- April 11 **55+ Exercise Class** 9:30 am- SJR Gym
- April 11 **Choir Rehearsal** 7:30 pm – Rainbow Room
- April 14 **Worship Service** 10:15 am – Come early for our Hymn Sing (or normal 10:30 am start)
- April 21 **SJR 70th Anniversary Service** 10:30 am – Stay for Lunch!

IN OUR CHURCH

SJR 70th Anniversary Service Join us in celebrating our rich history on SJR's 70th anniversary on April 21st. The Rt. Rev. Richard Bott, past moderator, has been invited to lead worship with us that day. Plan to stay for a special lunch after the service!

SJR Garage Sale Saturday, May 4th. Start gathering your items and be prepared to bring your "treasurers" to the church from 9am to 11am beginning Saturday, April 27th through to Wednesday, May 1st. All proceeds go to the M&S Fund of the UCC. For more information, please call Cec (Please no large furniture)

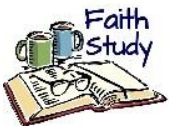
SJR Quilt: We're going to make a Signature Quilt Wall Hanging for St. James'-Rosemount's 70 Anniversary! And we need YOUR signature! We want everyone in the Congregation - from little ones to older ones, families, and couples, and individuals - to sign a square to be included in this patchwork of memories. Squares will be available after church in the Long Sunday School Room to sign and we'll deliver to those who can't make it out each week. Watch the bulletin for extra times during the week. Be a part of this great project! We'll be glad you did!



Food Drive: The Mission and Outreach committee of SJRUC is pleased to inform everyone that 308 lb of food items were delivered to the the Waterloo Regional Food Bank as a result of our recent fundraiser. Certainly a good start for 2024.

Cash donations to support the Food Bank will soon be tallied and mailed as a cheque from SJRUC in the near future. Thank you to all members of our congregation who were able to contribute.

Photo Directory We are in the final stages of pulling together final pieces for our photo directory and we welcome your quotes about SJR to add to the directory. Please use the separate sheet provided in the narthex and foyer to contribute.



Our next Bible Study: “Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi” by Amy-Jill Levine, will take us back in time and explain how original audiences understood Jesus’ parables. We’ll begin this six-week study on **Wednesday, April 10th from 1pm to 3pm OR 7pm to 9pm** in the Parlour. Please contact Jan at mail@sjruc.ca for more information.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

“Singing Liberation” with Inshallah Sunday, April 7, 3:00 - 4:00 pm Knox Presbyterian 50 Erb St. W Waterloo. Songs and stories from around the world. Free-will donation supports The Water Project (Six Nations of the Grand River)

Fundraising Concert at Westminster United, 543 Beechwood Dr, Waterloo - Join us on Saturday, April 27 beginning at 7:00 pm for our fundraising concert with Rescue Junction. Free will offering to attend the concert. There will be a social reception after the concert, and a raffle for some excellent prizes! A little bit about Rescue Junction: Rescue Junction is an award-winning Canadian bluegrass band based in Ontario that has been travelling and singing together since 2009. Originally comprised of brother and sister, Kyle & Kaitlyn Gerber on mandolin and guitar respectively, the band has grown to include Roger Martin on banjo, Dallas Roth on upright bass and Nick Huber on dobro. Rescue Junction combines a plethora of musical tastes with their passion for bluegrass resulting in a unique, refreshing style. From gospel quartet numbers to traditional and contemporary bluegrass to original songs, audiences can expect an exhilarating time with the band. <https://rescuejunctionband.com/home>

The deadline for bulletin announcements is Wednesday 12:00 noon.

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, please let Rev. Chris know.

Puzzle!

After solving the equations, write the words on the correct numbered lines below. Complete Ephesians 1:3 (NIV) to discover how God shows his great love for us.

- 14 - 7 = ___ Father
- 10 + 9 = ___ heavenly
- 9 + 9 = ___ the
- 12 + 12 = ___ blessing
- 2 - 1 = ___ Praise
- 7 + 7 = ___ has
- 11 + 11 = ___ every
- 13 + 13 = ___ Christ
- 8 + 8 = ___ us
- 10 + 10 = ___ realms
- 8 + 9 = ___ in
- 5 + 5 = ___ Lord
- 10 + 11 = ___ with

- 10 + 15 = ___ in
- 10 - 5 = ___ God
- 6 - 3 = ___ to
- 12 - 6 = ___ and
- 6 + 6 = ___ Christ
- 18 - 9 = ___ our
- 22 - 11 = ___ Jesus
- 1 + 1 = ___ be
- 7 + 6 = ___ who
- 2 + 2 = ___ the
- 10 + 5 = ___ blessed
- 4 + 4 = ___ of
- 10 + 13 = ___ spiritual



1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26		

Ephesians 1:3, NIV

Answer: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Ephesians 1:3, NIV