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# St. James'–Rosemount United

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

519-742-1111 [www.sjruc.ca](http://www.sjruc.ca)

## Church

*God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith*



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**May 19, 2024 – Pentecost**  
**Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling**

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**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      **Andante Religioso**      (*Johann Friedrich Burgmuller*)

Opening Hymn      **Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness**      VU 375  
*sung refrain before verse 1 and after verse 4*

Call to Worship

One: The surprise of Pentecost  
is that the people thought the story was over.  
Jesus' resurrection restored their hopes,  
but no sooner was he back than he was gone again.  
And on the rush of the wind, the Holy Spirit took our  
breath away, great flames igniting hope once more...

**All: ...surprise us again, God of unpredictability.**

Opening Prayer

*I invite you to breathe in... but... instead of breathing out, if you're able, I want you to hold your breath...(x3)*

Let us pray...

One: There's a momentary discomfort when we hold our  
breath that compels us to breathe...  
God, in moments of discomfort, help us to recognize  
the number of times we hold our breath, bite our  
tongue, keep silent instead of speak, wished we would  
have offered a kind word in the face of hatred...

And so, just as our breathing is an autonomic  
response to needing air, as your spirit fills us with  
courage, may we our instinctive reaction to the world  
be that of 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.**

Sharing the Sacrament of Holy Communion

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

## **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

Scripture Reading (The Message) **Acts 2:1-21**

<sup>1-4</sup> When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building. Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them. <sup>5-11</sup> There were many Jews staying in Jerusalem just then, devout pilgrims from all over the world. When they heard the sound, they came on the run. Then when they heard, one after another, their own mother tongues being spoken, they were blown away. They couldn't for the life of them figure out what was going on, and kept saying, "Aren't these all Galileans? How come we're hearing them talk in our various mother tongues? Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; Visitors from Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene; Immigrants from Rome, both Jews and proselytes; Even Cretans and Arabs! "They're speaking our languages, describing God's mighty works!" <sup>12</sup> Their heads were spinning; they couldn't make head or tail of any of it. They talked back and forth, confused: "What's going on here?" <sup>13</sup> Others joked, "They're drunk on cheap wine." <sup>14-21</sup> That's when Peter stood up and, backed by the other eleven, spoke out with bold urgency: "Fellow Jews, all of you who are visiting Jerusalem, listen carefully and get this story straight. These people aren't drunk as some of you suspect. They haven't had time to get drunk—it's only nine o'clock in

the morning. This is what the prophet Joel announced would happen: "In the Last Days," God says, "I will pour out my Spirit on every kind of people: Your sons will prophesy, also your daughters; Your young men will see visions, your old men dream dreams. When the time comes, I'll pour out my Spirit on those who serve me, men and women both, and they'll prophesy. I'll set wonders in the sky above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billowing smoke, the sun turning black and the moon blood-red, before the Day of the Lord arrives, the Day tremendous and marvelous; and whoever calls out for help to me, God, will be saved."

Anthem **Spirit of God, Unseen as the Wind** *(Richard M.S. Irwin)*

*Spirit of God, unseen as the wind,  
Gentle as the dove;  
Touch us with love and teach us to sing  
Joy to you, Lord above.*

*Your voice the sound, heard in the wind,  
O'er field and hills you sing;  
Now I can hear, the joy, my Lord,  
the peace your song will bring.*

*Love in our hearts, praise in our prayers,  
We follow on your way;  
Lord of the sky, Lord of the earth,  
Answer us when we pray.*

Reflection *on every kind of people*

Hymn **God of Grace and God of Glory** VU 686  
*Sung to 651 – Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE**

Invitation to Offering (Donate online at [sjruc.ca](http://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](mailto:@sjruc.ca) 519-742-1002.*

*For those who wish to donate online through Canada Helps, please visit our website [sjruc.ca](http://sjruc.ca) or scan this QR code:*



Offertory **Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song** (arr. John Carter)

- \* 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 **Come, O Holy Spirit** MV 23

\* 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 **Every Time I Feel the Spirit** (arr. John Carter)

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

**FOR YOUR CALENDAR:**

- May 21 **55+ Exercise Class** 9:30 am- SJR Gym
- May 22 **Faith Study** 1pm – 3 pm **or** 7pm – 9 pm in the Parlour
- May 23 **55+ Exercise Class** 9:30 am- SJR Gym
- May 23 **Choir Rehearsal** 7:30 pm – Rainbow Room
- May 26 **Worship Service** 10:30 am

## IN OUR CHURCH

**Fundraiser for Monica Place:** The Mission & Outreach Committee of SJRUC is once again organizing our annual fundraiser for Monica Place - from now **until Thursday evening June 6<sup>th</sup>**. Monica Place is now part of a charitable organization called Camino Wellbeing & Mental Health. A table will be set up in the foyer with a wish list for donated items which includes diapers, diaper wipes, diaper rash creams, new baby and toddler clothing, new educational toys (books, dolls, play dough, trucks), gift cards, plus many other new items. Financial donations for Monica Place (cash or cheques made out to SJRUC) can be delivered to the church, making sure you indicate the purpose of your donation and your identity. A pickup truck will be in the church parking lot on June 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM to collect all donated items. Please check out the overall "wish list" so we can once again have a successful fundraiser for this very worthy local organization.



**Faith Study:** "The Chosen" – follow the story of Jesus and his disciples as the picture of 1<sup>st</sup> Century Palestine is brought to life. While it follows the Biblical stories we know, this version fleshes out the two-dimensional depiction of the disciples into a reflection of ourselves. Join us on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1pm and 7pm we will watch and discuss the first episode "*I Have Called You By Name*" and on May 29<sup>th</sup> at 1pm and 7pm, "*Shabbat*." If we find there's interest, we'll continue watching in the fall!

**Ladies' Special Event:** We're having a "**Royal Garden Party**" on Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>! All women of SJR are invited to the "The Steeb's Garden" at 159 Riverbank Drive, Cambridge at 12 noon. Lunch will be served outside at 12:30. Bring your own lawn chair and a sun hat. Please consider carpooling as there is limited space for parking. RSVP to Muriel **before Monday, June 3rd.**

**Kenya Flooding Aid:** We recently received a note from Plous Aggrey Omondi, St. Paul's Methodist Church in Ugunja, Kenya with whom we currently partner to provide funding to support impoverished students to get an education. Aggrey described the dire situation in Kenya due to the unprecedented rainfall and resultant flooding that has devastated much of the country. We would encourage you to consider donating to the Kenya Red Cross Flood Response which is one of the few efforts focused directly on the situation in Kenya. For more information, please go to: <https://www.redcross.or.ke>.

**Bridge Club from Ellen Edwards** Good morning, friends of the SJR Bridge Club. It has been brought to my attention that there are several members of our church that are unaware of our existence. We play monthly and while we are small, we are mighty! Our next gathering will be held on **June 14<sup>th</sup> at noon** in the Rainbow Room with a potluck lunch followed by playing by 1pm. We avoid conventions so as to not leave another out. If you're interested in joining us, please contact the church office: mail@sjruc.ca

**The UCC is turning 100** On June 9<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm we begin a year of celebrations for our beloved United Church of Canada with a service at Metropolitan United in Toronto. We at Trinity & Forest Hill United Churches want to challenge you to attend. Trinity has rented a bus to take us to Toronto, leaving our parking lot (121 Westmount Rd E) at 2 pm. First come first serve for a seat on the bus (we'll keep a list of all who call to see if we need more buses or a carpool.) Register at the Forest Hill & Trinity office:

office@foresthillunited.org or call 519-744-3481. The folks in this picture are now part of our history. We invite you to be part of our continuing history which begins June 9<sup>th</sup>. See you on the bus.



## IN OUR COMMUNITY

**Plant Swap Saturday, May 25 at 10 a.m.** Bring your plants to any Kitchener Public Library location and swap them out for something new. Drop off your plants on May 23, May 24, or the morning of May 25, before the swap begins. Come back to pick up your new plant! First come, first served. No registration required.

**Prayer in the Park: Sunday, June 2, 2-4 pm at Victoria Park** in Kitchener. This is an opportunity for all Christians in Waterloo Region to gather in one place and pray. We wonder, what if we do what 2 Chronicles 7:14 says and humble ourselves to pray? How might God bring about change, transformation, and salvation in our Region? God values unity and gathering as one across denominational lines is a great way to build that unity. Please come and pray with us on-0984June 2nd.

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

**Rev. Chris Fickling, Minister of Worship**  
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# BIRDS IN THE WORD

The Bible mentions many kinds of birds. How many have you seen?

*Directions: Unscramble the bird names, using the Bible references and pictures as clues. Then insert the final unscrambled bird name to complete the passage below.*



VDEO

\_\_\_ \_ \_ \_ (Genesis 8:8)



LWO

\_\_\_ \_ \_ (Psalm 102:6)



GEELA

\_\_\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (Isaiah 40:31)



TOKRS

\_\_\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (Jeremiah 8:7)



APROSWRS

\_\_\_ \_ \_ \_ \_

“Are not five \_\_\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. ... Don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many \_\_\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .”

LUKE 12:6-7, NIV