
St. James'-Rosemount United Church

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God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



May 10, 2020 – Fifth Sunday after Easter

Welcome!

Welcome to worship!

We hope it will be a quiet space for you as you prepare to spend time with God amid life's busyness and storms.

We honour each other's desire for peace as we gather.

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 would like to acknowledge that we are on the Haldimand Tract, traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples.

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Prelude

A Mother's Love

Opening Hymn O God of the Women (tune Be Thou My Vision)

***God of the women who answered your call,
Trusting your promises, giving their all,
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —
Give us their courage to live in your truth.***

***God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,
Giving their resources, learning to pray,
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —
May we give freely as they did before.***

***God of the women long put to the test,
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.***

***God of the women who ran from the tomb,
Prayed with the others in that upper room,
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day —
May we so gladly proclaim you today.***

***O God of Phoebe and ministers all,
May we be joyful in answering your call.
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near
That we may share in your ministry here.***

Call to Worship *adapted from a prayer by Christine Sine*

One: God who is One, you call us to be one,

All: May we be one with all who are made in your image.

One: God who is Three, you call us to be community,

All: May we find community, and new ways to be your people.

One: God who calls us all by your name,

All: May we find our place in creation.

Opening Prayer *adapted from a prayer by Rev. Paul Hayes*

One: We pray for those who we love and hold dear to our hearts—children, youth, young adults, and elders; as we celebrate the relationships that have made us into the people we are.

All: And we pray for those with unimaginable scars, history too painful to endure, story too full of suffering to share.

One: On this Mother's Day, we recognize that our family lives are filled with both joys and sorrows – and so as a part of this cosmic community, we commit ourselves to the healing of the earth, the loving of creation, with all our relations.

All: Acknowledging the struggles of life, may we seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with all put in our path, thankful for the ways our lives intersect. For through the diversity of relationships, we experience the unending creativity of God's love.

Silence

Lord's Prayer (sung)

VU 959

**All: *Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done***

*on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil
for the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.*

Hymn	Come In, Come In and Sit Down	VU 395
Refrain	<i>Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family. We are lost and we are found, and we are a part of the family.</i>	

1 *You know the reason why you came,
yet no reason can explain;
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,
for we are a part of the family.* Refrain

2 *God is with us in this place,
like a mother's warm embrace.
We're all forgiven by God's grace,
for we are a part of the family.* Refrain

3 *There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,
but we are a part of the family.* Refrain

4 *There's rest for the weary and health for us all;
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.
So come in and worship and answer the call,
for we are a part of the family.* Refrain

Story Time

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission – Monica Place

Readings from the Scriptures John 14:1-14 – The Inclusive Bible

Don't let your hearts be troubled.

You have faith in God; have faith in me as well.

In God's house there are many dwelling places;

otherwise, how could I have told you

that I was going to prepare a place for you?

I am indeed going to prepare a place for you,

and then I will come back to take you with me,

that where I am

there you may be as well.

You know the way that leads to where I am going."

Thomas replied, "But we don't know where you're going. How can we know the way?"

Jesus told him,

"I myself am the Way – I am the Truth, and I am the Life.

No one comes to God but through me.

If you really knew me, you would know God also.

From this point on, you know God and you have seen God."

"Rabbi," Philip said, "show us God, and that will be enough for us."

Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and still you don't know me?

Whoever has seen me has seen God.

How can you say, 'Show us your God'?

Don't you believe that I am in God and God is in me?

The words I speak are not spoken of myself;

it is God, living in me, who is accomplishing the works of God.

Believe me that I am in God and God is in me,

or else believe because of the works I do.

The truth of the matter is, anyone who has faith in me

will do the works I do – and greater works besides.

Why? Because I go to God, and whatever you ask in my name I will do,

so that God may be glorified in me.

Anything you ask in my name, I will do.

Anthem

Reflection

Greater works besides

Song Under Pressure

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

(Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Offertory Songs My Mother Taught Me

* Offering Response *

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow VU 541

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.*

*Dedication of the Offering

Communion Hymn One Bread, One Body VU 467

Refrain *One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless;
and we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.*

*1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. Refrain*

*2 Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. Refrain*

*3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one, for all. Refrain*

Sharing the Sacrament of Holy Communion *adapted from a service by Maren Tirabassi*

(If you have not already prepared elements – please pause the video to get something. Crackers/bread/an English muffin can become a sacrament, Juice/milk/even a cup of water or tea become a remembrance of God's redeeming love)

Invitation

One: For Holy Communion this morning, I invite you to lend Christ your table. Lend Christ your table, your bread, your cup and your heart, for your home, that it may become the place and presence of God.

Prayer of Consecration

One: We are one bread, one body, one cup of blessing. Though we are many throughout the earth and this church community is scattered, we are one in Christ. In your many kitchens, and living rooms, rest your hands lightly upon these elements which we set aside today to be a sacrament. Let us ask God's blessing upon them.

All: Gentle Redeemer, there is no lockdown on your blessing and no quarantine on grace. Send your Spirit of life and love, power and blessing upon every table where your child shelters in place, that this Bread may be broken and gathered in love and this Cup poured out to give hope to all. Risen Christ, live in us, that we may live in you. Breathe in us, that we may breathe in you.

Words of Remembering

One: We remember that Paul the apostle wrote letters to congregations throughout places we now call Greece, Turkey and Macedonia, and they were the first "remote" worship resources. Our online service has a long heritage. The Communion words sent to the church at Corinth were these:

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Sharing of the Elements

One: Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven.

All: We are one in Christ in the bread we share.

One: Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing.

All: We are one in Christ in the cup we share.

A New Creed

All: We are not alone, we live in God's world.

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in
Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice
and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**One: Let us pray in thanksgiving for this meal of grace,
rejoicing that, by the very method of our worship, we have
embodied the truth that Christ's love is not limited by
buildings made with human hands, nor contained in human
ceremonies, but blows as free as the Spirit in all places.**

**All: Spirit of Christ, you have blessed our tables and
our lives. May the eating of this Bread give us courage
to speak faith and act love, not only in church
sanctuaries, but in your precious world, and may the
drinking of this Cup renew our hope even in the midst of
pandemic. Wrap your hopeful presence around all
whose bodies, spirits and hearts need healing, and let
us become your compassion and safe refuge. Amen**

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

*** Closing Hymn Would You Bless Our Homes VU 556**

***Would you bless our homes and families,
Source of life who calls us here;
in our world of stress and tension
teach us love that conquers fear.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles,
love's expressed in many ways.***

***When our way is undemanding,
let us use the time that's ours
to delight in simple pleasures,
sharing joys in gentle hours.
When our way is anxious walking
and a heavy path we plod,
teach us trust in one another
and in you, our gracious God.***

***From the homes in which we're nurtured,
with the love that shapes us there,
teach us, God, to claim as family
every one whose life we share.
And through all that life may offer,
may we in your love remain;
may the love we share in families
be alive to praise your name.***

***Let us reach beyond the boundaries
of our daily thought and care
till the family you have chosen
spills its love out everywhere.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles
love's expressed in many ways.***

Commissioning *adapted from a prayer by Anna*

One: may the God who is community
be with us as we seek to be a community
may God bless our dreaming
and may God join us in bringing them to fruition
may God help us to be real
and to find depth in weakness and brokenness
may God help us to face and grow through conflict
rather than putting on a brave face
may we look at each other through soft eyes
and truly respect each other as human beings

may God help us let go of control
and the need to fix one another

may God help us discover our needs
and give attention to our own hearts

may God grant us the gift of an extraordinary love
that flows from the heart of the divine
and leads us forward in peace.

*** Choral Benediction Go Now in Peace**

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.

(“Go Now in Peace” Written by Besig & Price ©1988)

*Please remain seated in silence as we conclude
our service with the postlude.*

Postlude

God Gave Me You