
St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

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God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



May 9th, 2021 – Easter 6
Mother's Day and Christian Family Sunday
Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling

Welcome!

Welcome to worship! We're glad you're here!

WE GATHER IN GOD'S HOPE

VU: Voices United

MV: More Voices

* Please remain seated for all of service.*

*We acknowledge that we are on the Haldimand Tract,
traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg, and
Haudenosaunee peoples.*

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: The Spirit is coming to bless us all with a new song:
Let our joy be complete!
Gifts for the good of all,
poured out on all to teach us a new song:
Love one another! Love is the way.
Strangers and neighbours, foreigners and family
will join in the new song:
No longer servants but friends!
Come, let our worship make a joyful noise,
Rejoicing in God's love!

Opening Prayer

One: Loving God, help us make Mother's Day more meaningful.

Help us make it a time of generosity through our Mission & Service that helps change the lives of families at home and around the world.

Help us make it even more of a celebration of those extraordinary people in our lives we call mom, who are like mothers to us, and to people of all genders, as well as trans and non-binary persons who offer mothering care.

Help us make it more supportive of mothers who have lost children, children who have lost mothers, women who long to be mothers, and those who choose not to be mothers.

Help us make it more open to those who don't fit the traditional model of family and feel left out during this holiday.

Help us make it more caring of single moms, new moms, and those looking after their moms during the pandemic without the social supports that are usually in place.

Help us make it more aware of those whose mothering responsibilities stretch across decades to span a lifetime.

Help us make it more loving for those who want to draw closer to their mother and more healing for those who need to keep a distance.

Help us make Mother's Day more, O God.
More generous...more open...more caring.
We pray this in your holy name. Amen.

Opening Hymn

Draw the Circle Wide

MV145

Refrain ***Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.***

Let this be our song: no one stands alone.

***Standing side by side,
draw the circle wide.***

- 1 ***God the still-point of the circle,
'round whom all creation turns;
nothing lost, but held forever,
in God's gracious arms.*** Refrain
- 2 ***Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call.*** Refrain
- 3 ***Let the dreams we dream be larger,
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door!*** Refrain

Story Time

**1 Come, children, join to sing: Hallelujah!
Praise to our Servant King: Hallelujah!
Let all with heart and voice,
saved by God's gracious choice,
now in this place rejoice: Hallelujah!**

**2 Come, lift your hearts on high: Hallelujah!
Let praises fill the sky: Hallelujah!
Christ calls his people friends,
the helpless he defends,
a love that never ends: Hallelujah!**

**3 Praise yet our Christ again: Hallelujah!
Raise high the joyous strain: Hallelujah!
The whole creation o'er
let all God's love adore,
singing for evermore: Hallelujah!**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Readings from Scripture (CEV adapted...) John 15:9-17

⁹ I have loved you, just as my God has loved me. So remain faithful to my love for you. ¹⁰ If you obey me, I will keep loving you, just as my God keeps loving me, because I have obeyed.

¹¹ I have told you this to make you as completely happy as I am. ¹² Now I tell you to love each other, as I have loved you. ¹³ The greatest way to show love for friends is to die for them. ¹⁴ And you are my friends, if you obey me. ¹⁵ Servants don't know what their master is doing, and so I don't speak to you as my servants. I speak to you as my friends, and I have told you everything that my God has told me.

¹⁶ You did not choose me. I chose you and sent you out to produce fruit, the kind of fruit that will last. Then my God will give you whatever you ask for in my name. ¹⁷ So I command you to love each other.

Anthem

Dear Mother God

Reflection

Song We Breathe the Same Air

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering (Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Offertory

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer from *Prayers and Meditations of St Anselm*, trans. Benedicta Ward (London, 1973), p152-6

One: O St Paul, where is he that was called
the nurse of the faithful, caressing his sons?
Who is that affectionate mother who declares
everywhere that she is in labour for her children?

And you, Jesus, are you not also a mother?
Are you not the mother who, like a hen,
gathers her chickens under her wings?
Truly, Lord, you are a mother; for both they who are in
labour and they who are brought forth are accepted
by you.

Then both of you are mothers.
Even if you are fathers, you are also mothers.
For you have brought it about that those born to death
should be reborn to life -
you by your own act, you by his power.
Therefore you are fathers by your effect
and mothers by your affection.
Fathers by your authority, mothers by your kindness.
Fathers by your teaching, mothers by your mercy.
Then you, Lord, are a mother
and you, Paul, are a mother too...

And you, my soul, dead in yourself,
run under the wings of Jesus your mother
and lament your griefs under his feathers.
Ask that your wounds may be healed
and that, comforted, you may live again.

Christ, my mother, you gather your chickens under
your wings; this dead chicken of yours puts himself
under those wings. For by your gentleness the badly
frightened are comforted, by your sweet smell the

despairing are revived, your warmth gives life to the dead, your touch justifies sinners. Mother, know again your dead son, both by the sign of your cross and the voice of his confession. Warm your chicken, give life to your dead, justify your sinner.

Let your terrified one be consoled by you; despairing of themselves, let them be comforted by you. And in your whole and unceasing grace let them be refashioned by you.

For from you flows consolation for sinners; to you the blessing for ages and ages.

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.**

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Hymn

In Loving Partnership

VU 603

Sung to tune 'Winchester New' from VU 100

**1 In loving partnership we come,
seeking, O God, your will to do.
Our prayers and actions now receive;
we freely offer them to you.**

**2 We are the hands and feet of Christ,
serving by grace each other's need.
We dare to risk and sacrifice
with truthful word and faithful deed.**

**3 Loving community we seek;
your hope and strength within us move.
The poor and rich, the strong and weak
are brought together in your love.**

**4 In loving partnership, O God,
help us your future to proclaim.
Justice and peace be our desire,
we humbly pray in Jesus' name.**

Commissioning *written by Neil McLaren*

One: May the peace of God be your peace.
May the love of God be the love you show.
May the joy of God be the joy you know,
and may the world that God would see be found in you.

* **Choral Benediction** (“Go Now in Peace” Written by 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.*

Postlude

Announcements

Upcoming Services

May 23rd – Pentecost

Monica Place – (Note the date change for collection) It is hoped congregational members, during this time span, will be able to purchase cherished items required to support the women and children under the care of this wonderful organization. As usual typical items for donation would be diapers (newborn to 6) diaper wipes, diaper rash cream, new clothing for babies and toddlers, gift cards. Cash donations are obviously greatly appreciated. If paying by cash make sure you identify yourself, and the purpose of the donation. If paying by cheque, once again clearly identify the purpose, but make the cheque out to SJRUC. All financial donations can be dropped into the church mail slot anytime during the time span of this fundraiser. On Thursday, May 27th, a pick-up truck will be parked at the church parking lot from 6:00PM to 7:30PM to collect items destined for Monica Place.

