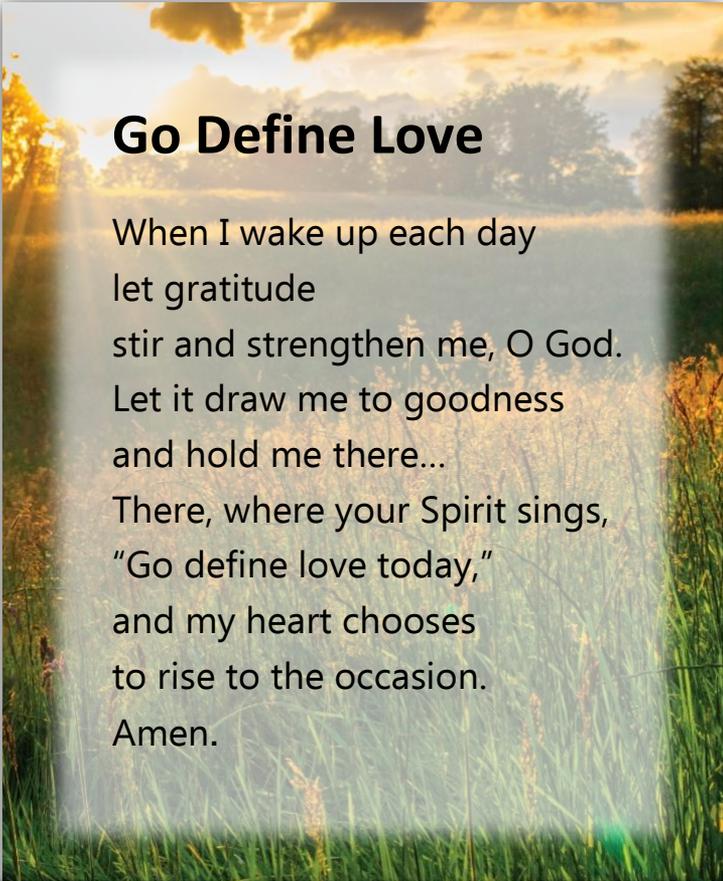

St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

519-742-1002 www.sjruc.ca

God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith



Go Define Love

When I wake up each day
let gratitude
stir and strengthen me, O God.
Let it draw me to goodness
and hold me there...
There, where your Spirit sings,
"Go define love today,"
and my heart chooses
to rise to the occasion.
Amen.

Mission & Service – *helping save and transform lives,
inspire meaning and purpose, and build a better world*

October 17, 2021 – World Food Day
Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling

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

WE GATHER IN GOD'S HOPE

Please remain seated for all of service, as you are able.

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

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Prelude

Call to Worship *from a service created by the United Church of Canada*

One: We gather on sacred ground

All: On the rich earth that nourishes us

One: Under the great awning of sky that replenishes us

All: To once again listen to the voice

One: That warms our hearts say,

All: "Come, follow me."

Opening Prayer

**All: God, the stories of our faith remind us that you are
manna from heaven and water from rock.**

You are the miracle of the loaves and fish.

You are our Bread of Life.

In this hour, fill us up with your Holy Word.

Energize us with your songs.

Make us thankful, aware, and inspired:

thankful for the universe that feeds us,

**aware that food is a sacred gift given to all and yet
still withheld from many,**

and inspired enough to make a difference. Amen.

Lord's Prayer (read/prayed slowly)

**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.

Hymn

Will You Come and Follow Me

VU 567

- 1 *Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?*
- 2 *Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?*
- 3 *Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?*
- 4 *Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?*

5 ***Christ, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.***

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Readings from the Scriptures (NRSV) **Matthew 13:1-9**

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Anthem **From All the Earth Send Up the Song!**

R.J. Weaver / W.A. Pasch

Reflection

Hymn **Praise with Joy the World's Creator** VU 312

1 ***Praise with joy the world's Creator,
God of justice, love, and peace,
source and end of human knowledge,
God whose grace shall never cease.
Celebrate the Maker's glory,
power to rescue and release.***

2 ***Praise to Christ who feeds the hungry,
frees the captive, finds the lost,***

*heals the sick, upsets religion,
fearless both of fate and cost.
Celebrate Christ's constant presence:
friend and stranger, guest and host.*

3 *Praise the Spirit sent among us,
liberating truth from pride,
forging bonds where race or gender,
age or nation dare divide.
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure:
foolishness none dare deride.*

4 *Praise the Maker, Christ, and Spirit,
one God in community,
calling Christians to embody
oneness and diversity.
This the world shall see reflected:
God is One and One in Three.*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

(Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Offering Response

*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.*

Words & music © A. Baer, 2013, arr. S. Porter

Dedication of the Offering

Prayers of the People

One: Creator God,

Bless farmers, fishers, gatherers, hunters, migrant
workers...all agricultural workers here in Canada
and around the world.

Bless those who transport, distribute,
and prepare our food.

Bless those pouring their heart and soul into fostering
and protecting clean water, healthy soil, and
biodiversity.

Bless those advocating for safe, healthy,
culturally appropriate food.

Bless those challenging systems that treat food as a commodity rather than a sacred right.

Bless those working hard to understand where their food comes from and to have a healthy relationship with it.

Bless those who share what they can so no one goes hungry.

Bless the breakfast programs, community kitchens, shared gardens, food banks, and agricultural training programs we support through Mission & Service.

Bless our Lunch Sundays, Turkey trots, Gather and Gab, and all those events that gather us around the table...we can't wait to meet like that again.

Bless our home kitchens, our tables, and all who gather around them.

Bless us as we bow our heads in thanksgiving for your abundant grace.

For we are fed by this world...so let us care for it, we pray. Amen

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Closing Hymn

Go Forth for God

VU 418

- 1 ***Go forth for God, go to the world in peace;
be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,
in God's good Spirit daily to increase,
till in the kingdom we see face to face.
Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.***

- 2 ***Go forth for God, go to the world in love;
strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak;
help the afflicted; richly from above
God's love supplies the grace and power we seek.
Go forth for God, go to the world in love.***

- 3 ***Go forth for God, go to the world in strength;
hold fast the good, be urgent for the right;
render to no one evil; Christ at length
shall overcome all darkness with his light.
Go forth for God, go to the world in strength.***

4 **Go forth for God, go to the world in joy,
to serve God's people every day and hour,
and serving Christ, our every gift employ,
rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power.
Go forth for God, go to the world in joy.**

Commissioning

* 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

Upcoming Worship

Indoor Worship: We have returned to indoor services! Registration, masks, & distancing are required. Capacity is limited with a waiting list for cancellations. Register online at <https://rsvp.church/r/C1yBpTR9> or on our website: sjruc.ca

- Sign up your “bubble” Do you drive to church together or socialize outside of church? Register as one group & sit together.
- Phone registrations is available through the office for any unable to access the internet. Leave a message with your phone number so we can confirm your registration with you.
- There is a separate registration in the link for Sunday School (children will be dropped off at the door near the fenced playground upon arrival). Do not include Sunday School children in the sign up for attending in the Sanctuary.
- If the sign-up list for the Worship Service is full, please sign up on the “Wait List” option. You will hear from the church office as spaces become available.

- In the church building please observe the distancing markers on the walls and floors and follow traffic flow indicators. Enter only the Sherwood Ave. doors.

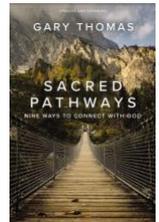
Announcements



Christian Education: Drop your children off at the door near the fenced playground at 10:20 a.m. on Sundays for children's story time, worship, crafts, and play (indoor & outdoor). We will be using the downstairs Sunday School Room (formerly the Preschool). Masks and distancing required. Please pre-register your children online at rsvp.church/r/C1yBpTR9 or on our website: sjruc.ca

We need volunteers to assist with the activity centers (no requirement to teach or know content). If you can help, please speak to Mearle M ce@sjruc.ca or Rev. Chris revchris@sjruc.ca.

Faith Study Sacred Pathways - by Gary Thomas. Many of us today think we must approach God in a certain way. But the truth is that not every person will engage with God in the same way. Gary Thomas uncovers nine of these spiritual "pathways" that people have used over the centuries to grow closer to God. Join us for this five-week study to discover the particular pathway that will best help you to experience God's presence. Contact Rev. Chris revchris@sjruc.ca to join us on Zoom.



Prayer Shawl Ministry: We give thanks for the Prayer Shawl ministry that continues to thrive here at SJR after more than 15 years, in spite of - or maybe, in part, because of - the pandemic. If you are interested in crocheting or knitting shawls, please contact Teresa. Yarn is available if you need it. If you know of anyone who would benefit from a shawl - a tangible hug from God, whether it be a hug of comfort or a hug of celebration, or just a hug (there is no wrong reason to give a shawl!) - please contact Teresa. prayershawls@sjruc.ca

OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS WEEK:

Dave D
Dorothy H
Merle M
Lynda P
Christine M

Margaret S
Doug R
Valerie H
Don and Anne W

