
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



January 16, 2022 – Exile
Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Fickling

Welcome!

Welcome to worship!

WE GATHER IN GOD'S HOPE

VU: Voices United

MV: More Voices

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

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: From the moment we awake
to face the day ahead,

All: you are with us,

One: through good times and bad,
your presence enough for our needs.
Every day we will praise you

All: And bless your name for ever

One: Through the hours of the day,
in our travels and work,

All: you are with us;

One: in decisions we must make,
your wisdom enough for our needs.
Every day we will praise you

All: And bless your name for ever

One: As we lay down to rest
at the end of the day,

All: you are with us,

One: as we lay our fears at your feet,
your peace enough for our needs.
Every day we will praise you

And: And bless your name for ever

Opening Prayer

One: God, thank you that you have not forgotten us
and never will. Though difficulties surround us,
we struggle to trust, and we doubt your goodness.

Renew our hearts and minds in your truth.
Continue your healing work in our hearts.
Mend the brokenness.
Give me the courage to face this day and all the
challenges, knowing that you will not abandon us.
In Jesus' name, 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

Be Still My Soul

VU 652

***1 Be still, my soul, for God is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Trust in your God, your saviour and your guide,
who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul, your best, your heavenly friend
through stormy ways leads to a peaceful end.***

***2 Be still, my soul, your God will undertake
to guide the future surely as the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul, life's tempests still obey
the voice that once the waves' wild fury stayed.***

***3 Be still, my soul, the hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever in God's peace;
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
love's joys restored, our strivings all shall cease.
Be still, my soul, when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.***

Story Time

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Readings from the Scriptures (CEB) **2 Kings 24:8-17, 25:8-11**

⁸ Jehoiachin was 18 years old when he became king, and he ruled for three months in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Nehushta; she was Elnathan's daughter and was from Jerusalem. ⁹ He did what was evil in the Lord's eyes, just as all his ancestors had done. ¹⁰ At that time, the officers of Babylon's King Nebuchadnezzar attacked Jerusalem and laid siege to the city. ¹¹ Babylon's King Nebuchadnezzar himself arrived at the city while his officers were blockading it. ¹² Judah's King Jehoiachin, along with his mother, his servants, his officers, and his officials, came out to surrender to the Babylonian king. The Babylonian king took Jehoiachin prisoner in the eighth year of Jehoiachin's rule. ¹³ Nebuchadnezzar also took away all the treasures of the Lord's temple and of the royal palace. He cut into pieces all the gold objects that Israel's King Solomon had made for the Lord's temple, which is exactly what the Lord said would happen. ¹⁴ Then Nebuchadnezzar exiled all of Jerusalem: all the officials, all the military leaders—ten thousand exiles—as well as all the skilled workers and metalworkers. No one was left behind except the poorest of the land's people. ¹⁵ Nebuchadnezzar exiled Jehoiachin to Babylon; he also exiled the queen mother, the king's wives, the officials, and the land's elite leaders from Jerusalem to Babylon. ¹⁶ The Babylonian king also exiled seven thousand warriors—each one a hero trained for battle—as well as a thousand skilled workers and metalworkers to Babylon. ¹⁷ Then the Babylonian king made Mattaniah, Jehoiachin's uncle, succeed Jehoiachin as king. Nebuchadnezzar changed Mattaniah's name to Zedekiah... ^{25:8} On the seventh day of the fifth month in the nineteenth year of Babylon's King Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuzaradan arrived at Jerusalem. He was the commander of the guard and an official of the Babylonian king. ⁹ He burned down the Lord's temple, the royal palace, and all of Jerusalem's houses. He burned down every important building. ¹⁰ The whole Chaldean army under the commander of the guard tore down the walls surrounding Jerusalem. ¹¹ Then Nebuzaradan the commander of the guard exiled the people who were left in the city, those who had already surrendered to Babylon's king, and the rest of the population.

Anthem **How Can I Keep From Singing?** (arr. Mark Schweizer)

*My life flows on in endless song
above earth's lamentation.
I hear the real, though far off hymn*

*that hails a new creation.
No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that rock I'm clinging.
It sounds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing?*

*When tyrants tremble, sick with fear
and hear their death knells ringing;
When friends rejoice both far and near,
How can I keep from singing?
In prison cell and dungeon vile
our thoughts to them are winging.
When friends by shame are undefiled,
How can I keep from singing?*

*What though the tempest 'round me roars,
I know the truth, it liveth.
What though the darkness 'round me close,
Songs in the night it giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is lord of heav'n and earth,
How can I keep from singing?*

Reflection

Hymn

Seek Ye First the Kingdom

VU 356

**1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and God's righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.**

**2 Ask and it shall be given unto you;
seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.**

**3 We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Hallelu, hallelujah.**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD AND LOVE

Invitation to Offering

(Donate online at sjruc.ca)

Offering Response **We Bring our Gifts to Share**

***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

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS

Closing Hymn

How Firm a Foundation

VU 660

- 1 How firm a foundation, you servants of God,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!
What more can be said than to you has been said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?***
- 2 'Fear not, I am with you; O be not dismayed!
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen and help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand.***
- 3 'When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.***
- 4 'When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply:
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.***
- 5 'The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not - I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake,
I'll never - no, never - no, never forsake!'***

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

Announcements

Annual Committee Reports: Please submit your reports ASAP as they were due into the Church Office by **December 31, 2021.** Word (.docx) format preferred.

Church Office The Church office is currently closed, though we are checking mail, phone messages and email. Please bear with us if it takes a little longer to get back to you!

Gifts and Memorials book previously located in the Narthex has gone missing. Do you know where it is? Contact the office 519 742-1002

Chasing Vines Join us on Wednesday, January 19th as we continue our six-session journey through Scripture to discover the true meaning of a fruitful, God-pleasing, meaning-filled life. Just how do those vineyards hold the secret of how we can have a more abundant life? Please contact Rev. Chris or sign up on the website to be included on the zoom meetings on Wednesday nights from 7pm - 9pm.

Keep Saving Those Stamps for the Leprosy Mission! Place them in the caring bin in the brown wooden cabinet in the cloak room.



Letter from Chairperson of the Unified Board

Greetings all, while we may wish everyone a Happy New Year - we have some hard news to share.

The Executive of the Unified Board met last evening and, after much discussion, made the difficult decision to suspend in-person worship for the next four weeks. We will re-evaluate our status at our next Executive meeting on Feb. 1/22 and hopefully will be able to reverse our decision depending on the pandemic conditions at that time. We are grateful for the care and concern that all of you have shown this fall enabling us to worship together safely. Unfortunately the active cases currently are far more troubling than ever. If the COVID landscape appears to be improving substantially within that time frame we will meet sooner to discuss potential changes. In the meantime services will continue to be posted online and mailed out as previously. If you know of someone that would like to receive sermons by mail, please speak to the office. Closing to in-person is the last thing any of us want to do, however we believe it to be the right decision knowing how lucky we were to be able to celebrate Christmas together.

In addition, all groups using our building will be notified that, pursuant to the Provincial order to close meeting and event spaces, our church building will be closed to those groups until the Provincial guidelines change. Again, we hope this to be once again, a temporary measure to allow our health system to cope with the increased demand, without adding anymore cases as a result of our activities.

Thank you for your patience, understanding and support as we navigate through these challenging times.

SJRUC CHURCH STAFF:

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If you know of anyone needing a visit, please let Rev. Chris know.

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