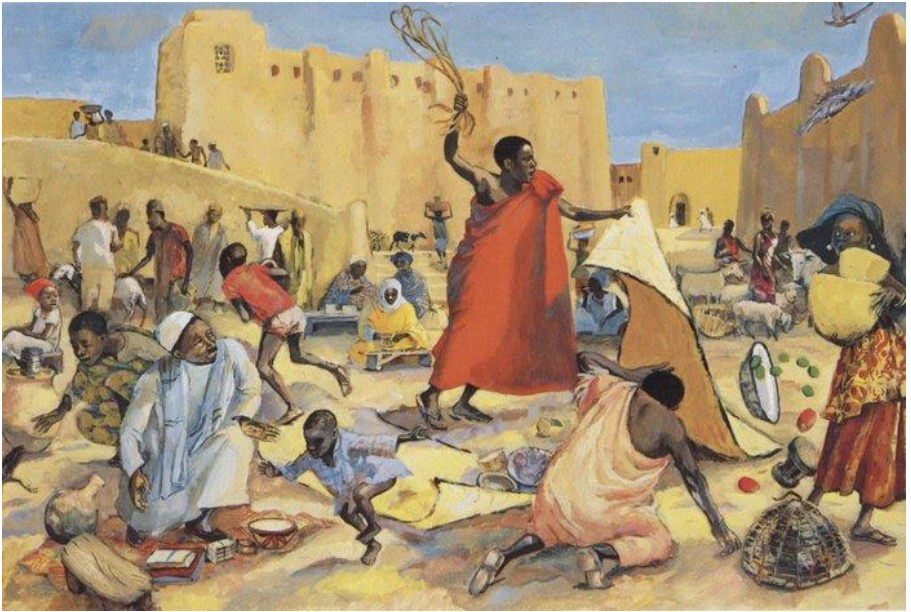


ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 7th, 2021

Third Sunday of Lent



Welcome to the Church of St. John the Evangelist. Thank you for worshipping with us. Whether you are a first-time visitor, a faithful parishioner or a returning friend, please know that you always have a place at God's table. As you enter today, may the gathering of this community strengthen you to take God's compassion and peace to a world in need of both.

The Church of St. John the Evangelist

23 Water Street North, Kitchener, Ontario N2H 5A4

www.stjohn316.com 519-743-0228

MORNING PRAYER AT TEN O'CLOCK

Officiant & Preacher	The Rev'd Paul Kett
Reader	Kathleen Kett
Singers	Rebecca McKay, Deb Sheach, Angus Sheach
Tech Support	Mohan Thomas
Organist	Sarah Cardwell

Prelude Improvisation #1 - G. Oldroyd
*"My soul hath a desire and longing
to enter the courts of the Lord"*

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Officiant Almighty God,

All **to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

LENTEN PENITENTIAL ORDER

Presider Dear Friends in Christ,
as we prepare for the Paschal Feast,
continuing in the apostles' teaching
and fellowship, in the breaking of bread,

and in the prayers,
let us make ready our hearts
to renew the covenant of our baptism.
Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

All kneel.

Let us ask God to bring to light
the things now hidden in darkness,
and to disclose to us
the secret purposes of our hearts.
And most especially,
let us remember the covenant of our baptism
and test our hearts and conscience
to know how faithfully
we have sought and served Christ in all persons,
loving our neighbours as ourselves.

Silence is kept.

Officiant Holy and immortal God,

All **you formed us from the dust in your image,
and redeemed us from sin and death
by the cross of our Saviour.
Through the washing of baptism
you raised us up with him
to share in the new covenant
with all your holy people.
But we have squandered the inheritance
of your saints,
and have wandered far in a land that is waste.
Therefore we turn to you
in penitence and humility.
In your great mercy, forgive us and restore us,
that we may rejoice in your presence,
and walk in your ways
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Officiant Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,

and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Trisagion

To be sung three times.

Ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y,

ho - ly im - mor - tal one have mer - cy on us,

Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

Father of mercy,
alone we have no power in ourselves
to help ourselves.
When we are discouraged by our weakness,
strengthen us to follow Christ,
our pattern and our hope;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Readings

Reader A Reading from the Book of Exodus.
(Exodus 20:1-17)

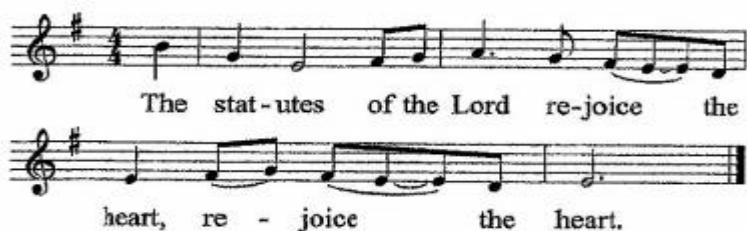
God spoke all these words: *I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work - you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.*

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 19:7-14



The law of the Lord is perfect
and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.

The statutes of the Lord are just
and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives light to the eyes. *Refrain*

The fear of the Lord is clean
and endures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether

More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb. *Refrain*

By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them, there is great reward,

Who can tell how often he offends?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.

Let the words of my mouth and the mediation of my heart
by acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. *Refrain*

Reader A reading from the First Letter of Paul
to the church in Corinth. (1 Corinthians 1:18-25)

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this

age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 389

O God of Font and Altar

1. O God of font and altar,
of music, grandeur, light;
toward whom the soaring arches
aspire beyond their height:
as beauty draws us to you
within this house of prayer,
let worship form and feed us
to help us show your care.
2. O life-bestowing Spirit,
inspire this hallowed space;
breathe through us with new fervour
and fill us with your grace.
Arouse our lagging spirits,
enflame our hearts with joy;
here let a love be kindled
that death cannot destroy.
3. O Christ, who cleansed the temple,
baptize us with your zeal,
and teach us your compassion
to love, forgive, and heal.
Be in our midst to claim us
and mark us as your own;
then send us forth in witness
to make your mercy known.

Reader A Reading from the Gospel According to John.
(John 2:13-22)

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Rev'd Paul Kett

Silent Reflection

Affirmation of Faith

Officiant Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord.**

He was conceived

**by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again
to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church,
the world, and all in need.

A brief silence

There is no God before you, O God. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honour your name. We give thanks for the ministry of Todd, our Bishop; Preston, our Rector; and all who lead congregations of faith in our community.

<i>Reader</i>	Hear us, O God.
<i>People</i>	Your mercy is great.

The heavens declare your glory, O God. Renew your creation; provide faithful leaders and advocates in the struggle for clean air and water, especially in our First Nations' communities; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies.

<i>Reader</i>	Hear us, O God.
<i>People</i>	Your mercy is great.

Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, O God. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial

systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all.

Reader Hear us, O God.
People **Your mercy is great.**

Your weakness is stronger than human strength, O God. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering, including those we now name aloud, or remember silently (a space for reflection). Defend victims of crime and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labour.

Reader Hear us, O God.
People **Your mercy is great.**

You call us to proclaim Christ crucified, O God. Give clarity to our parish and its leaders, so that we might follow the Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear away anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel, or that serves our own interests and furtherment.

Reader Hear us, O God.
People **Your mercy is great.**

The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved, O God. Thank you for all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Give us the same trust in life and in death.

Reader Hear us, O God.
People **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

Anthem

Incline Thine Ear Friedrich Heinrich Himmel

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant Gathering our prayers and praises into one
let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

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 521

Dear Shepherd of Your People, Hear

1. Dear Shepherd of your people, hear;
your presence now display;
as you have given a place for prayer,
so give us hearts to pray.
2. Within these walls let holy peace
and love and concord dwell;
here give the troubled conscience ease,
the wounded spirit heal.
3. May we in faith receive your word,
in faith present our prayers,
and in the presence of our Lord
disburden all our cares.
4. The hearing ear, the seeing eye,
the humbled mind bestow;
and shine upon us from on high
to make our graces grow.

Announcements

Dismissal

Officiant Glory to God,

All **whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.**

**Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Officiant May the God of hope
fill us with all joy and peace in believing
through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Allein zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ - J. Pachelbel

Prayer Intentions for the Week of March 7 2021

IN THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for Le Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo (the Anglican Church of the Congo, its people and clergy).

PRAY for Todd, our Bishop; Anne, our Archbishop and Metropolitan; Linda, our Primate; Mark, National Indigenous Archbishop; Marinez, Bishop of Amazonia, our companion Diocese; Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Susan, National Bishop, and Michael, Bishop of the Eastern Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

In the Anglican Church of Canada this week we pray for Bishop Sandra Fyfe, and the people and clergy of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada we pray this week for the dean, council, and congregations of the Northern Area of the Eastern Synod.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for parishes, people, and clergy in our own Deanery of Waterloo, and especially this week for Christ Church, Ayr; St James, Cambridge; St. John's, Cambridge; and St. Luke's, Cambridge.

PRAY for the Diocese of Amazonia, for Bishop Marinez Rosa dos Santos Bassoto, Bishop, and for our common mission and ministry.

FOR MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

WE PRAY this week for Bob Humphreys, Mindy Hurley, Bill Hutton and Bruce Wheatcroft, Pam Hwee and their families.

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHO ARE ILL

Tracy, Marlin, Ron and Anne, Wayne, Ida, Vivian, Margaux, Sylvia, Alexander, Percival and Janet, Jeannie, Valerie, Cedric,

Hazel, Al and Ann, St. John's, Margaret and George Strack, Pat, Franco

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

We remember Pamela Fisher, who died this week.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

PRAY for Preston, our Rector, the clergy of our Deanery, church leaders everywhere, and members of other faith groups. May we continue to be mindful of each other, and quick to practice love and compassion in all our words and actions. Help us continue to find ways to work with others, that we may fulfill our calling to care for all people.

PRAY for students who are learning at home; for those attending schools, colleges, and universities; for teachers who continue to teach in creative and engaging ways; and for parents who must find ways of working at home as well as supporting children in their studies.

PRAY for the health of people in our community, and throughout the world, as we continue to face challenges in our lives. Be with those who care for the sick and those who serve the public while facing personal health risks. In this winter season pray especially for all who are disadvantaged by hunger, homelessness, mental illness, and unemployment. Give thanks for those in our community who are working to provide food, clothing, medical care and temporary shelter for those who have nowhere to call home, and all who are partnering to provide affordable housing.

Parish Announcements and Events

Lenten Bible Study One of the many ways you may choose to observe Lent is by joining a study programme. I intend to offer time and space to reflect on the Gospel of Mark, and particularly the Gospel readings for each Sunday in Lent, all in the comfort of your own home. We will use the Zoom format for our meetings, beginning Thursday February 18, and concluding Thursday March 25

7 to 8 pm. Please email Paul Kett paulkett45@gmail.com if you are interested in joining us.

New Weekly Bible Study St John's is starting a weekly online Bible study on Tuesday mornings from 11:00am-noon. If you are interested in participating, please contact Ken Hull at krhull@uwaterloo.ca or 519-579-8335.

Vaccine Registration for 80 and Up You or someone you know over the age of 80 is now eligible to register for your COVID-19 vaccine! You can find the link below.

<https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/health-and-wellness/covid-19-vaccination-pre-registration.aspx#>

ITEMS FOR MONICA PLACE



Donation Options There are many ways you can continue your contributions to St. John's

1. Send weekly envelopes in the mail. You can send post-dated cheques to the office at 23 Water St. North Kitchener ON N2H 5A4

2. Drop off cash donations to the office through the mail slot in the office door. Write your name on the envelope!
3. Have an Errand Buddy pick up your donation.
4. Sign up for, or make changes to your DEFT by contacting the office (519-743-0228 or church@stjohn316.com).
5. Donate Online through Canada Helps by credit card. You can set up recurring, or one time donations. Canada Helps takes 3.75% but also provides the tax receipt directly to you and provides a donation report to us! [Here's the link](#)

If you know of someone who is ill or in hospital, please contact The Rector, Reverend Dr. Preston Parsons rector@stjohn316.com or leave a message with the office at 519-743-0228. In case of emergencies you can contact him at 519-573-7797

Rector

The Reverend Dr Preston Parsons

Assistant Clergy

The Venerable Ken Cardwell

The Reverend Paul Kett

Rector's Warden Marianne Mellinger

People's Warden Debbie Sheach

Deputy Warden Dave Sapelak, Eleanor Brown

Interim Music Director Sarah Cardwell

Parish Administrator Rebecca McKay

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