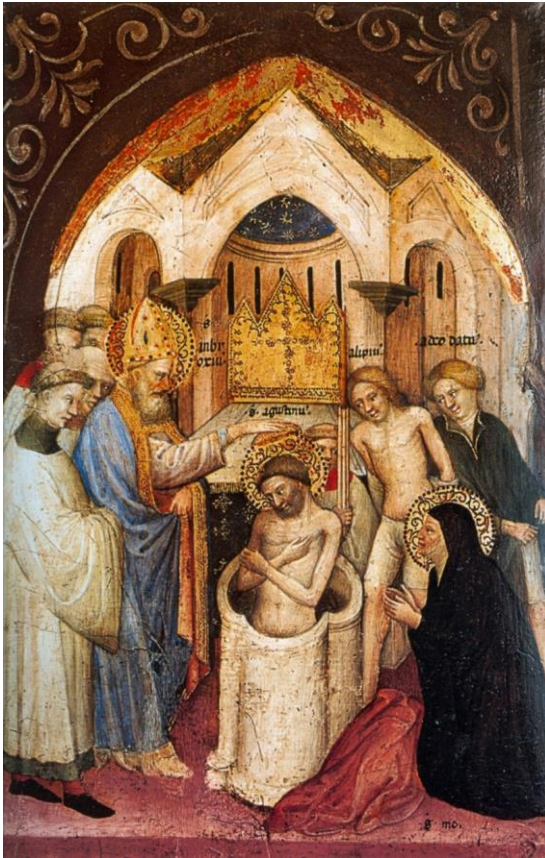


ORDER OF SERVICE
Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 9th 2021 10am



**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 Dr Preston Parsons
Reader	Ven. Ken Cardwell
Singer	Bill Hutton, Bruce Wheatcroft, Mohan Thomas, Jonathan Malton
Tech Support & Recording	Mohan Thomas, Jonathan Malton
Organist	Corinne Dutton

Prelude Partita on 'Hyfrydol' (Love Divine) - David Lasky

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Celebrant May his grace and peace be with you.

People **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Officiant Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

We thank you, O God, that you have again
brought us together on the Lord's Day
to praise you for your goodness
and to ask your blessing.

Give us grace to see your hand
in the week that is past,
and your purpose in the week to come;
through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Hymn 486

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
tune: Hyfrydol

1. Love Divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling:
all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, thou art all compassion:
pure, unbounded love thou art:
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

2. Come, almighty to deliver;
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
3. Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
riches beyond imagination.
Pour into our hearts such love toward you,
that we, loving you above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive 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 Acts.
(Acts 10:44-48)

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 98:1-10

Sing to God a new song,
who has done marvelous things.

With your right hand O God, and your holy arm
you have won for yourself the victory.

You have made known his victory;
your righteousness have you open shown
in the sight of the nations.

You remember your mercy and faithfulness
to the house of Israel
and all the ends of the earth have seen the
victory of our God.

Shout with joy to God, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to God with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before God who reigns in majesty.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before God,
who will come to judge the earth.

God shall judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Reader A reading from the First Letter of John.
(1 John 5:1-6)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Reader A Reading from the Gospel According to John.
(John 15:9-17)

Jesus said, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my

friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon The Rev'd Dr Preston Parsons

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

Intercessor: The response to each of the petitions is, "Your mercy is great."

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence

Loving God, you call us to be your fruit-bearing church. Strengthen the bonds among all Christian churches, and remind us to be faithful in our relationships with those of other faiths. We give thanks for the leadership of Todd, our Bishop, and for the ministry of Preston, our Rector. Give us a common vision for mission and ministry in our neighbourhood, and the commitment to work in cooperation with others.

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

Creating God, the earth praises you. The seas roar and the hills sing for joy. Fill the earth with your love so that, by their song, all creatures of land, sea, and sky, burrowing and soaring, may call us to join with them in praise.

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

Faithful Saviour, you conquer the world, not with weapons, but with undying love. Plant your word in the hearts of the nations' leaders and give them your Spirit, so that the peoples of the world may live in peace.

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

Caring Healer, you forget no one and accompany the lonely. Be present with those who are sick or suffering, including those we now name aloud, or remember in silence. (A space

for reflection and personal prayer). Provide for those needing homes or medical care, and point us toward life-changing responses to those needs in our own community. Be with the dying.

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

Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Bless mothers and mothering people in our lives. Comfort those who miss their mothers, mothers who grieve, those who sorrow because they cannot be mothers, and those who have never known a loving mother.

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

Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives. Keep us united with them in your lasting love.

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

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **AMEN.**

Anthem

Risen Lord

B. Rose

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 412

O God, Beyond All Face and Form tune: Melita

1. O God, beyond all face and form,
you willed it that creation's night
should blaze, and chaos still its storm,
and birth a universe of light.
All things below, all things above,
are formed of your eternal love.
2. The glory of the galaxies,
the beauty of a baby's hand,
the thundering of the restless seas,
the glory of the forest's stand--
all things below, all things above
are formed of your eternal love.
3. You gave our race both form and name,
and love for us was your intent;
then to a woman's womb love came,
and on a cross was wholly spent.
All things below, all thing above
are formed of this incarnate love.
4. Of this great love all loves are born,
of self, of neighbour, and of earth.
By love shall night be turned to morn,
and death shall never conquer birth.
All things below, all things above
are formed of God's eternal love.

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 Fugue in G minor. J.S. Bach

Prayer Intentions for the Week of May 9th 2021

IN THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for the Anglican Church of Kenya, for its clergy and people, and our common ministry and mission.

PRAY for Todd, our Bishop; Anne, our Archbishop and Metropolitan; Linda, our Primate; Mark, National Indigenous Archbishop; Martinez, 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 we pray this week for Bishop Susan Bell, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Niagara.

In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, we pray this week for the dean, council, and congregations of the Winnipeg Central and North Areas of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for parishes, people, and clergy in Delaware Deanery, and especially this week for St. Jude's Church, Mount Brydges; St. Andrew's Church, Muncey; and Zion Church, Oneida.

PRAY also for our companion Diocese of Amazonia, for Bishop Martinez Rosa dos Santos Bassoto, Bishop, and for our common mission and ministry.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND FOR WHOM FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TODAY

The flowers on the Altar are given in memory of our Loved Ones and to commemorate All Mothers. A gift of Mindy Hurley and Marie Peacock.

FOR MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

WE PRAY this week for Bryn Peaple. Pat Perrin, Vera Peterson, Patricia Reeve, 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, Hazel, Margaret and George Strack, Pat, Franco, Grace.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

PRAY for Preston, our Rector, the clergy of our Deanery, church leaders everywhere, and members of other faith groups. In this season of Easter, may we continue to be mindful of each other's need for support and encouragement, 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 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. Give thanks for all who are volunteering and working in vaccination clinics in our region and beyond. 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

From the Wardens:2021 First Quarter Financial Report

Those of you who attended our virtual Vestry Meeting will recall our discussion regarding the substantial increase to our insurance premium. The **good news** is that the 100% increase which we were told to expect did not materialize—

our insurance premium did increase but by about 10%. This means that rather than end the year with a deficit, we would hope and expect to end the year with at least a balanced budget if not a small surplus.

However, our budget was based on monthly offerings of \$20,920. This amount was based on our 2020 ACTUAL offerings received. Our first quarter (January-March 2021) offerings have averaged \$17,085/month. **At the end of the first quarter we have a shortfall in offerings of \$10,000.** Our expenses for the first quarter were slightly over budget. At the end of the first quarter our total shortfall was \$13,150.

2021 Jan.-March

Total Offerings

\$52,749

2021 Jan.-March

Budgeted Offerings

\$62,760.

We are concerned about this shortfall and encourage members to please give your offerings regularly.

Following are various ways that you can contribute your offerings to the Church.

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 would like someone to pick up your offering envelope please call the church office, 519-743-0228. An errand buddy would be happy to do that.

Director of Music Position Update: As of Monday, May 3 our Director of Music job posting has been sent to various organizations, universities, and individuals throughout Canada and the United States. You can view it and the Music Director Position Description on the St John's website. Applications will be received until June 15. With gratitude to those of you who participated in our Director of Music round table conversations early this spring, and especially to the Music Director Administrative Team of James Brown, Corinne Dutton and Ken Hull who guided the process up to this point. A Search Committee will be named shortly.

Services May 16 - Synod For Sunday May 16th, we will be joining together with the Cathedral for Synod's Sunday worship service. Links and additional content will be provided closer to the service day. Coffee hour will be at the usual Zoom coordinates, and will begin 15 minutes after the Cathedral service has ended.

ENCOUNTERING THE PSALMS: A six-week program on understanding and singing the Psalms will be offered on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning April 13. Our Rector, Preston Parsons, Alicia Batten, Bruce Wheatcroft and Ken Hull will each explore different aspects of the psalms, and a concluding presentation on the Psalms in Anglican Worship will be given by Prof. Lizette Larson-Miller of Huron College. Each week we'll conclude our session by singing a psalm in a different way. To attend please register [here](#). More details about the course can be found [here](#).

Medical Assessments A note from St. John's parishioner, and Benton Medical Clinic Manager, Melanie Horst:

The Ministry of Health has recently approved telephone assessments to minimize that traffic in a

medical facility and reducing exposure. Effective today, my office is now able to offer that. I have spoken with my physicians and they have approved for me to offer this to our church members and community. Many family practice offices are beginning to do this but not all at this time.

If any member of our church or community requires to speak with a physician but would rather not go into a medical facility or leave their home, they may contact me directly and I can register them for a telephone consultation with one of our physicians. Obviously there will be limits to their ability with no physical examinations but will be attempting to cover all care as best as possible in this current climate. They will be able to prescribe medication for acute issues, order lab work or imaging if needed. If this is something that would help anyone please have them contact me by email (melanieh@bentonmedicalclinic.com) or my cell (519-841-8921).

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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