

ORDER OF SERVICE
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 5 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	Dave Sapelak
Tech Support	Mohan Thomas
Organist	Corinne Dutton
Singers	Laura Doric, Deb Sheach, Dave Sapelak, Angus Sheach

Prelude	Sonata V: Andante religioso, Allegretto Felix Mendelssohn
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THE 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 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 291

O Christ, the Healer
tune: Angelus

1. O Christ, the healer, we have come
to pray for health, to plead for friends.
How can we fail to be restored,
when reached by love that never ends?

2. From every ailment flesh endures
our bodies clamour to be freed;
yet in our hearts we would confess
that wholeness is our deepest need.
3. How strong, O Lord, are our desires,
how weak our knowledge of ourselves!
Release in us those healing truths
unconscious pride resists or shelves.
4. In conflicts that destroy our health,
we diagnose the world's disease;
our common life declares our ills:
is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
5. Grant that we all, made one in faith,
in your community may find
the wholeness that, enriching us,
shall reach the whole of humankind.

Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people,
that richly bearing the fruit of good works,
we may by you be richly rewarded;
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 Proverbs.
(Proverbs 22:1-2,8-9,22-23)

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favour is better than silver or gold. The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all. Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail. Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor. Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate; for the Lord pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

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

Psalm

Psalm 125

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, *
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.

The hills stand about Jerusalem; *
so does the Lord stand round about his people,
from this time forth for evermore.

The sceptre of the wicked shall not hold sway over the
land allotted to the just, *
so that the just shall not put their hands to evil.

Show your goodness, O Lord, to those who are good *
and to those who are true of heart.

As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,
the Lord will lead them away with the evildoers; *
but peace be upon Israel.

Reader A reading from the Letter of James.
(James 2:1-10, 14-17)

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Reader A Reading from the Gospel According to Mark.
(Mark 7:24-37)

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the

woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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 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, "hear our prayer."

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence

Holy One, you bring your people together in worship. Enliven your church. Guide preachers and prophets who seek to share your love through word and deed. We pray for Todd, our Bishop, and for Preston, our Rector. Encourage us to look beyond the doors of our church to address the many needs of our community.

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **hear our prayer.**

You provide water for the thirsty ground and sunshine to feed hungry plants. Bless all who advocate for healthy forests, unpolluted air, and clean waterways. Inspire all people to show care for the world you have made.

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **hear our prayer.**

You show no partiality. Increase justice in all nations. Encourage leaders and governments to work with one another for the good of our common world. As we celebrate Labour Day, unite us in seeking the health, safety, and dignity of all. We pray for our country as we prepare for an election. Raise up candidates who will represent the needs of Canada and all of its citizens at this time.

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **hear our prayer.**

You accompany those who are most in need. Shelter all fleeing violence or persecution, especially citizens of Afghanistan; protect any who are in danger; and sustain them through uncertain and unstable times. You hear the prayers of those who suffer in any way, including those we now name aloud, or remember silently. (*A time for reflection and personal prayer*).

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **hear our prayer.**

You support the work of your disciples. Continue to nurture the leadership and ministries of this congregation. Be with students and teachers who return to classrooms in these next days for another school year.

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in our country and in our world who suffer from natural disasters, especially the people of Haiti who have lost family members and possessions due to earthquake; the people of New Orleans and other areas in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida; and the people who have lost homes through wildfires.

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **hear our prayer.**

You embrace all who have died in the faith and you bring them into your glorious presence. We thank you for their example and rejoice in their lives.

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts know only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

Anthem

Cantate Domino

Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni

Come ye with joyfulness,
Come sing ye a new song to your Maker.

O praise him with the saintly congregation.

Israel, be joyful and glad in him,

Be glad in him who made Israel,
And children of Sion, ye children of Sion be joyful.

Rejoice and be glad in your King.

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 306

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

tune: Richmond

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace.
2. Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.
3. He speaks, and, listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.
4. Hear him, ye deaf, ye voiceless ones,
your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Saviour come,
and leap, ye lame, for joy!
5. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of thy name.

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 Mass for the Parishes: Allegro - Francois Couperin

Parish Announcements and Events

Birthdays and Anniversaries September 5th is the FIRST Sunday in September, and we want to celebrate the birthdays and anniversaries of the people of St. John's! We will sing the Blessing song during the announcements of the Sunday service and during the zoom coffee hour. If you want to be named during the church service & live broadcast please send Karen an email BEFORE 9am on Sunday morning: ksunabacka@gmail.com. Please state whether it is a birthday or anniversary and any other details of the celebration you wish Karen to share.

COVID re-opening update Dear friends, I'm glad to announce that we have a reopening plan in place. It is, however, a flexible plan. If there's one thing we've learned, it's that COVID has a habit of changing our plans. But it is a plan.

The Plan The first thing we will do is open for in-person worship, which began August 29. This will be what you might call a 'soft open.' It will be Morning Prayer without live music.

In early September, we will add live music to in-person worship. Around the same time we will begin to celebrate the Eucharist. In September we will also add the 8am Sunday morning service, as well as the 7:30am Wednesday services sometime after that.

Services will continue to be streamed on YouTube.

Come to the Table We will be resuming our in-person family focused service Saturday, September 18 at 4:00pm in the sanctuary! For more information you can contact Preston at rector@stjohn316.com

Youngish Adults Meeting with The Bishop: Residential Schools and Reconciliation If you're a Young(ish) Adult and you've missed our mailings, we wanted you to know that we are having a special event. We are meeting with Bishop Todd and Archdeacon Rosalyn Elm on Tuesday, September 7th at 7pm. We've requested this meeting with the Bishop and with the Archdeacon for Reconciliation and Indigenous Ministry to further understand the role that the Anglican Church of Canada and, more specifically, the Diocese of Huron has had in the Residential School system. We, as young adults, want to enter into the already existing dialogue, and also ask them how we can contribute to the church's reconciliation efforts. We will be meeting virtually through Google Meet. If you identify as a Young-ish adult, and want to be added to the mailing list for this event, please send the office an email at church@stjohn316.com.

This is meant to be a space where voices that aren't often heard are, and we ask for your prayers and blessings as we enter into this dialogue.

Climate Crisis—"What can I do?"

Soon you will be able to see a banner for Faith Climate Justice placed on the Duke Street Side of the Church of St. John the Evangelist. This summer it doesn't take much to see the results of the climate crisis that is in our midst. Many of us want to know what WE can do to address this critical issue.

Kathleen Kett invites you to consider being a part of 2 information events.

1. ZOOM webinar with renowned climate scientist Dr Katherine Hayhoe on September 10, 3PM (Pacific), All faith and environmental organizations are invited to a frank discussion about what we can do about climate change on a

local and global level.

<https://www.ecosacramento.net/2021/08/stewards-of-the-planet/>

2. An online course presented by Montreal Diocesan College: Reading the Bible in the Season of Creation: Christian Discipleship in a time of Climate Crisis. This course is 4 x 1 1/2 hr segments presented live Tuesday evenings Sept 21- Oct 21 starting at 7PM and is being sponsored so that anyone can join the group and become informed. If the live webcasts are not at a convenient time for you, they will be available to watch at your convenience for a limited time. Information about to register and view this series will follow shortly.

Office Hours Starting August 30, office hours will return to Monday-Friday, 9am to noon.

Baptisms and Baptismal Preparation If you are interested in baptism for yourself or for a child, contact the rector. We are tentatively planning for baptisms on All Saints Sunday, November 7th, 2021, with baptismal preparation for parents and candidates beginning in the fall.

Confirmation Classes and Dates We have another confirmation date in the calendar. Cross your fingers, this one should work! It will take place September 26th at 4pm at the parking lot at St. George's Forest Hill.

We are also providing preparation classes, here are the dates:

Saturday September 11th, 10-11:30am

Saturday September 18th, 10-11:30am

Saturday September 25th, 10-11:30am (with a special visit from the Primate)

If you are interested in participating in the confirmation classes, please contact Preston (rector@stjohn316.com)

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

The Reverend James Brown

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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