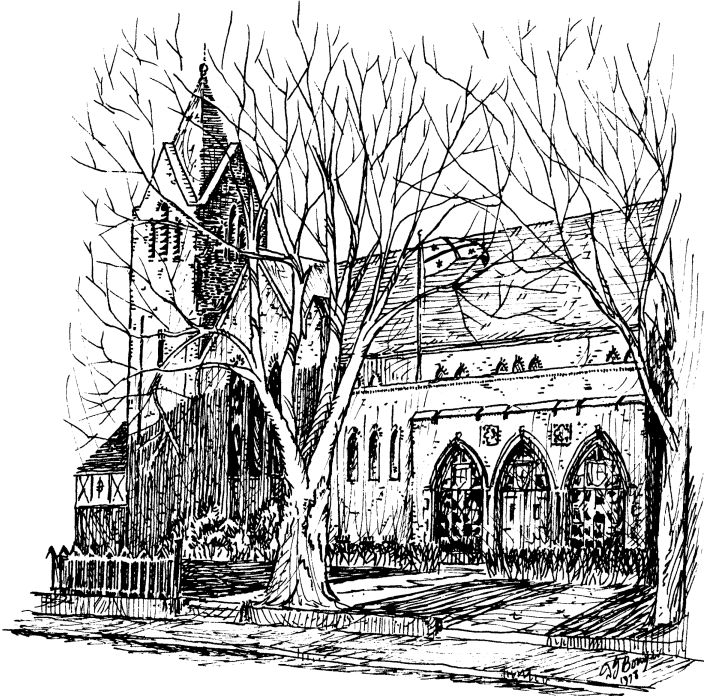


ORDER OF SERVICE
Second Sunday of Advent
December 05 2021



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

HOLY COMMUNION AT EIGHT O’CLOCK

Book of Common Praise, Page 67

Benedictus
Celebrant & Preacher

BCP page 9
The Rev’d Dr Preston Parsons

EUCCHARIST AT TEN O’CLOCK

Prelude Liturgical Improvisation on “Conditore alme
siderum” (Creator of the stars of night)
George Oldroyd

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Presider Blessed are you, sovereign Lord,
just and true:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets,
but in our days
you speak through your Son,
whom you have appointed
the heir of all things.
Grant us, your people,
to walk in his light,
that we may be found ready and watching
when he comes again in glory and judgement;
for you are our light
and our salvation.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Greeting

Presider 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.**

Presider
All

Almighty God,
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 Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn 106 There's a Voice In the Wilderness

There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where the Lord our God may go!

O Zion, give voice to good tidings,
ascend to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
the coming of their King.
The works of pride all perish,
like flowers they shall decay;
the power and pomp of nations
shall pass like a dream away.

But your word, O God, is faithful,
your arm, O Lord, is strong;
you stand in the midst of nations,
and you will right the wrong.
You will feed your flock like a shepherd,
and fold the lambs to your breast;
in pastures of peace you'll lead them,
and give to the weary rest.

There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
the valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where the Lord our God may go!

The Collect of the Day

Presider Let us pray.

The community prays silently. The presider then says the collect. The people respond,

People **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

Reader A reading from Malachi. (3:1-4)

The lesson is read.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle

The Song of Zechariah

Luke 1. 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow
of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The Gospel

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke. (3:1-6)

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Gospel is read.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon The Rev'd Dr Preston Parsons

A silence for reflection follows.

The Apostles' Creed

Presider 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

The Intercessor will bid the prayers. The congregation responds:

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

Confession and Absolution

The presider bids the confession.

Silence is kept.

Presider Most merciful God,
All **we confess that we have
sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you
with our whole heart;
we have not loved our
neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

The presider gives absolution.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Offertory

*Please use the plate near the entrance for your offering now,
or at the end of the service.*

Anthem/Motet:

A Tender Shoot
Otto Goldschmidt

A tender shoot has started up from a root of grace,
as ancient seers imparted from Jesse's holy race:
It blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter,
turning our darkness into light.

This shoot Isaiah taught us, from Jesse's root should spring;
The Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we sing;
Our God of endless might gave us this child to save us,
Thus turning darkness into light

Prayer over the Gifts

The presider says a prayer over the offerings.

Eucharistic Prayer

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,
through your beloved Son ...

... Now with all creation we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus and Benedictus

Hymn 694

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Presider Holy and gracious God, accept our praise...

...All glory and honour are yours,
Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit
in the holy Church, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

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 for ever. Amen.**

The Fraction

The Invitation

Presider The gifts of God, for the people of God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Lamb of God

Hymn 701

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

Communion

Please line up for communion, at a safe distance, in the centre aisle. After approaching the administrant, hold out your hands, being careful not to touch hands. The administrant will drop the bread in your hand. Once you've received the bread in your hand: step aside, remove your mask, eat the bread, replace your mask, and make your way back to your seat by the side aisle.

Gluten free wafers are available. If you need one, please let the administrant know when you come up for communion.

Hymn 113

Come, O Lord, and Set Us Free

Come, O Lord, and set us free.
Maranatha

Desert and dry land will grow green in praise;
clay will rejoice with full bloom:
showers of flowers given birth in dead earth;
in colours they echo Love's song.

Strengthen the hearts of the fearful and weak;
be strong; fear not, God is near,
coming in power and loosing our bonds,
setting the captives free.

We have been waiting and longing for light,
watching for signs of the Lord.
"Promised of ages," "Messiah to come,"
hear us, we beg you: "Come, save!"

Give us a star in the sky day and night,
sign of your promise to save.
Over the mountains we follow its light,
hoping for sign of your life.

*Tim Schoenbachler (Text and Music)
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Music Notes

During Advent the organ preludes are different meditations on the Advent melody Conditor alme siderum (Creator of the stars of night). The tune of our opening hymn is Canadian, composed by Hugh Bancroft (1905-1988) who was the organist of no fewer than four cathedrals during his lifetime: Vancouver, Sydney (Australia), Nassau (Bahamas), and Edmonton.

The canticle this morning (in place of the psalm) is the Benedictus, or the Song of Zechariah, the song sung by John the Baptist's father. During Advent we are combining the ancient sound of plainsong with the sound of St John's set of handbells.

*While normally the organ postlude on Sundays tends to be more "rousing" in tone, this morning's postlude is intentionally reflective. It is the Benedictus taken from Welsh composer Karl Jenkin's *The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace*. This composition was first performed in 2000 and, like Benjamin Britten's *War Requiem*, is a call for peace. I hope this reflective composition will help us be aware of the peace of the Christ Child for whom we wait this Advent.*

David Harrison

Parish Announcements and Events

Birthdays & Anniversaries Today is the first Sunday in December, and we want to celebrate the birthdays and anniversaries of the people of St. John's! We will sing the blessing song during Coffee Hour after the Sunday service.

The Flowers on the Altar are in loving memory of Jim and Gladys Guthrie , Dorothy and Charlie Emery and Katherine, a gift of Enid and David Emery and family.

Deanery of Waterloo's Refugee Committee There is an urgent need for gift cards and all sizes of coats, hats, mitts and boots for our recently-arrived Afghan Refugees at Reception House. As you are able, please bring gift cards and gently used or new items to Coffee Hour at St. John's any Sunday. See Ann Coughlin, Dave Whitfield, or Syd Reginato, or call one of us and we'll pick your items up. Many thanks!

Advent Worship Services Please plan to join us at any, or all, of our Worship services throughout the coming weeks. Services marked with an asterisk (*) will not be livestreamed.

- December 19 Lessons & Carols at 4pm and 7pm
- December 24 Christmas Eve Services
 - Family Christmas Celebration at 4pm *
 - Christmas Eve at 7pm and 10pm
- December 25 Christmas Service at 10am *

On Eagles' Wings The current issue of On Eagles' Wings is available as you leave.

Weekly Bible Study The Tuesday morning Bible study group meets via Zoom every Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. to 12 noon. On November 23 we begin reading the gospel according to Luke, focussing each week on the portion of Luke that will be read during the coming Sunday's Eucharist. We try to consider both how Luke was understood by the

readers of his own time as well as what the gospel may be saying to us today. You are welcome to join at any time. To join us or for more information, contact our facilitator, Ken Hull at krhull@uwaterloo.ca or after the service on Sundays.

Jean's Baking Short Bread Again Jean will be baking right up until the week of Christmas. They are offering delivery. The price is \$5 a dozen. Orders can be placed with Jean at 519-390-0213

Office Hours Office hours are by appointment, with staff working remotely at times. Please leave a voicemail with the office ahead of time if you need to visit, and we will arrange a time to visit.

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 at giving@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! <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/48510>

Celebrant	The Rev Dr Preston Parsons
Reader	André Lavergne
Tech Support	Mohan Thomas

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 Rev Dr Preston Parsons <i>rector@stjohn316.com</i>
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Director of Music	David Harrison <i>music@stjohn316.com</i>
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Parish Administrator	Simon Guthrie (temporary) <i>church@stjohn316.com</i>
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Giving Coordinator	Judy Shantz <i>giving@stjohn316.com</i>
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Assistant Clergy	The Venerable Ken Cardwell The Reverend Paul Kett The Reverend James Brown
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Rector's Warden	Marianne Mellinger
People's Warden	Debbie Sheach
Deputy Wardens	Dave Sapelak, Eleanor Brown