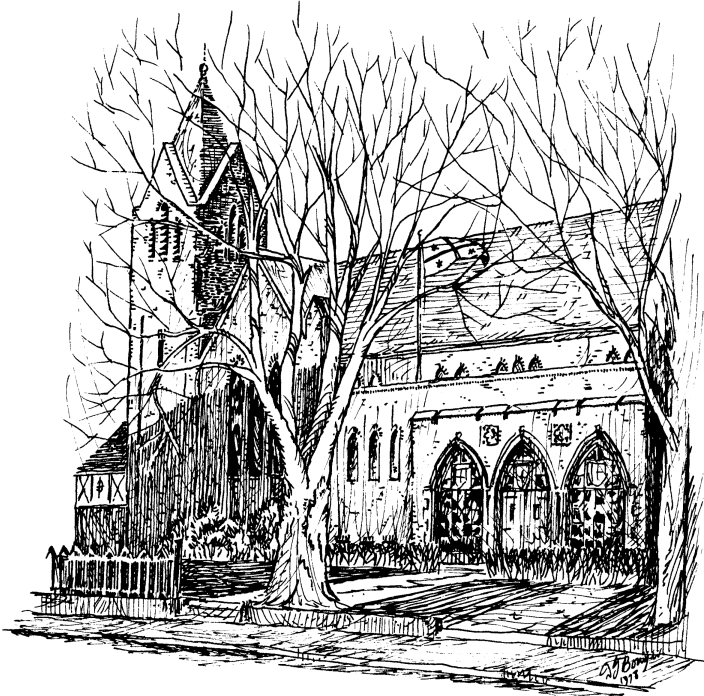


**ORDER OF SERVICE**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 12 2021**



**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](http://www.stjohn316.com)  
519-743-0228

## EUCHARIST AT TEN O'CLOCK

Prelude      Chorale Prelude on "Conditore alme siderum"  
(Creator of the Stars of Night)      *Flor Peeters*

### The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*Presider*      Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
Your prophet John the Baptist  
was witness to the truth  
as a burning and shining light.  
May we your servants rejoice in his light,  
and so be led to witness to him  
who is the Lord of our coming kingdom,  
Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.

*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*      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 Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Hymn 103

## On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;  
make straight the way for God within.  
Prepare we in our hearts a home,  
where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge, and our great reward;  
without thy grace we waste away,  
like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,  
and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
shine forth, and let thy light restore  
earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
whose advent doth thy people free,  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

## 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

*Read by Ann Coughlin.*

*Reader*        A reading from the Book of Zephaniah.  
                      (3:14-20)

*The lesson is read.*

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

## Canticle

## Song of Thanksgiving

*Isaiah 12. 2-6*

Surely, it is God who saves me;

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence,  
and he will be my Saviour.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing  
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;

make his deeds known among the peoples;

see that they remember that his name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,  
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of  
Israel.

## 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. (3:7-18)

*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, Ann Coughlin, 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

Zion, At Thy Shining Gates  
*Bohemian Melody arr George Guest*  
*text B.H. Kennedy*

Zion, at thy shining gates  
Lo, the King of Glory waits,  
Haste thy monarch's pomp to greet.  
Strew thy palms before his feet.

Christ, for thee their triple light,  
Faith and hope and love unite;  
This the beacon we display  
To proclaim thine Advent day.

Come and give us peace within,  
Loose us from the bands of sin,  
Take away the galling weight  
Laid on us by Satan's weight,

Give us grace thy yoke to wear,  
Give us strength thy cross to bear.  
Make us thine in deed and word,  
Thine in heart and life, O Lord.

So, when thou shalt come again,  
Judge of angels and of men.  
We with all thy saints shall sing  
Alleluia to our King.

## 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.*

## Communion Hymn

**Advent Prose**  
*arr David Harrison*



Show - er O hea - vens from a - bove, and  
let the skies — pour down right - eous love.

## Prayer After Communion

*Presider* Let us pray.

*The community prays silently. The presider then says the prayer after communion. The people respond,*

*People* **Amen.**

*Presider*      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.**

## **Parish Notices**

### **The Blessing**

*The presider blesses the people.*

### **Dismissal**

*The presider dismisses the people. The people respond, saying,*

*All*              **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude      Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland (Come,  
                    Saviour of the Nations)                      *J.S Bach*

## **Music Notes**

*During Advent the organ preludes are different meditations on the Advent melody Conditor alme siderum (Creator of the stars of night). This morning's is by the Belgian composer Flor Peeters (1903-1986). We are continuing this Advent to use the Sanctus (Holy, Holy) and Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) from the Mass of St. Denis, by former St John's Director of Music, Barrie Cabena. The anthem today is an arrangement of an English text and Bohemian melody by George Guest (1924-2002), who is well-known as the long time Organist and Choirmaster of St John's College, Cambridge. During communion we will be singing a new metrical arrangement of the Advent Prose, a plainsong setting of scriptural verses appropriate for this liturgical season.*

## Parish Announcements and Events

**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. In-person registration links can be found on the website.

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

**ALTAR GUILD CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** We are once again able to ask for donations towards the Floral decorations for our Christmas services. If you would like to have a friend or relative commemorated in this way or to give thanks for a Personal Blessing, we have placed envelopes on the table at the top of the stairs at the Duke Street entrance.

Please make sure that your name and the person/persons you wish to be remembered are written on the envelope. The envelopes may be put on the collection plate or left at the church office. Any cheques should be made payable to St. John's ACW with Christmas Flowers marked on the memo line.

To have your Christmas Memorial printed in the bulletin we will need your donation by Sunday December 19th.

Many thanks to those folks who have already donated Poinsettias which will also be used to decorate the Church.

**Stamps & Spectacles** The ACW is still collecting stamps and spectacles, we are asking that you collect all the stamps

that come with your Christmas cards, they can be dropped off in an envelope through the letterbox at the church office.

Also, if you have changed your glasses recently we will still recycle them for you. If you are able to get to church there are two boxes on the shelf in the lower cloakroom for both the glasses and the stamps.

The stamps are recycled to "effect hope"--- formerly the Canadian Leprosy Mission and are sold to stamp dealers to raise funds for the organization. The glasses go with optometrists to third world countries where they are reused.

**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](mailto: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. We are working both from the office as well as from home. Please contact the office ahead of time if you need 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](mailto: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>

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<b>Celebrant</b>	The Venerable Ken Cardwell, celebrating 53 years of priesthood.
<b>Tech Support</b>	Mohan Thomas

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***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***

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