

Christmas Eve
Come to the Table Family Service
The Birth of the Lord: Christmas Eve
December 24, 2022



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

Reading #1

Traveling to Bethlehem

Tristen, Kate, Andrew

Procession Hymn

Hamba Nathi

South Africa

Come walk with us to Bethlehem Town
Come walk with us to Bethlehem Town
Come walk with us to Bethlehem Town
Come walk with us to Bethlehem Town

The journey, the journey, the journey is long
The journey, the journey, the journey is long
The journey, the journey, the journey is long
The journey, the journey, the journey is long

Reading #2

The First Christmas

Abby

Hymn 119

Silent Night #119

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

*Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight:
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.*

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light

radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Reading #3

The Shepherds

Sophia

Hymn 138

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled,”
Joyful all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King.”

*Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail, the incarnate deity,
pleased as one of us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King.”*

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,

born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King.”

Reading #4

The Wise Men

Rachel

Hymn

God Welcomes All

South Africa/Scotland

God welcomes all,
Strangers and friends,
God's love is strong
And it never ends

Eating, Drinking, and Celebrating with Jesus

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 thanks and praise.**

Presider It is always right to give you thanks ...

... and filled your world with life.

People **Holy, Holy, Holy**

Presider You sent your Son to live among us ...

... he rose in glory from the dead.

People **Holy, Holy, Holy**

Presider You send your Spirit ...

... we join the angels to celebrate and sing:

**Holy, holy, holy,
holy, holy, holy is our God,**

**God of earth and God of heaven.
Holy, holy is our God.**

Presider Father, on the night before he died ...
 ... Do this to remember me.

Presider Jesus Christ has died.
People **Jesus Christ has died.**

Presider Jesus Christ is risen.
People **Jesus Christ is risen.**

Presider Jesus Christ will come again.
People **Jesus Christ will come again.**

Presider Father, as we bring this bread and wine ...
 ... may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.
People **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

Presider Pour your Spirit on us ...
 ... as we wait for his coming in glory.
People **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

Presider For honour and praise belong to you ...
 ... one God, for ever and ever.
People **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider Let us pray as Jesus taught us,
People **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.**

Hymn 118

O Come All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
come and behold him,
born the King of angels;
 O come let us adore him,
 O come let us adore him,
 O come let us adore him,
 Christ the Lord.

God of God,
Light of Light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God,
begotten not created:
 O come let us adore him,
 O come let us adore him,
 O come let us adore him,
 Christ the Lord.

*Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God
in the highest:
 O come let us adore him,
 O come let us adore him,
 O come let us adore him,
 Christ the Lord.*

See how the shepherds,

summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks,
draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither
bend our joyful footsteps;
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

Dismissal Hymn

When you walk from here

Canada/USA

When you walk from here,
When you walk from here,
Walk with justice, walk with mercy,
And in God's humble care.

Join us in the upper parish hall to sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus and get a special treat to take home.

Mark your calendars! Upcoming dates for Come to the Table in 2023 (4pm start time):

February 4

March 4

April 8 (Easter weekend)

May 6

If you would like to be added to the Come to the Table email list, please email marytneil@gmail.com

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 the on-call pastor at 519-743-0228 ext. 6.

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People's Warden Debbie Sheach
Deputy Warden Eleanor Brown