

ORDER OF SERVICE
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 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 | church@stjohn316.com

Prelude

**Partita on “The Angel
Gabriel to Mary Came”**

Kevin Sadowsky

Processional Hymn

Common Praise 101

**Hail to the
Lord’s Anointed**

**The Lighting of the Advent Wreath:
The Virgin Mary**

Presider Blessed are you, sovereign Lord,
merciful and gentle: to you be praise and glory
for ever. Your light has shone in our darkened
world through the child-bearing of blessed
Mary; grant that we who have seen your glory
may daily be renewed in your image and
prepared like her for the coming of your Son,
who is the Lord and Saviour of all.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Gathering of the Community

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 of Praise

Holy God

Sing a New Creation 184 (sung three times)

The Collect of the Day

Presider Let us pray.
The community prays silently.
The presider then says the Collect.
People Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalm 80:1-7

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

First Reading

The lesson is read.

Reader Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80.1-7

Refrain: "Turn to us again, O Lord of hosts; look down from heaven and see."

Second Reading

The lesson is read.

Reader Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Common Praise 711

The Gospel

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

The Gospel is read.

Presider The Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon

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 bids the prayers.

Intercessor God, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

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 offers absolution.

The Peace

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

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory

Please place your offering in the plate near the entrance, now or at the end of the service.

Offertory Hymn

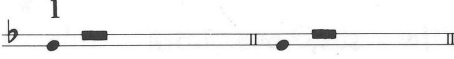
O Ancient Love

Sing a New Creation 36

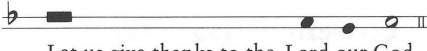
Prayer over the Gifts

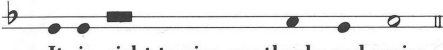
The presider says a prayer over the offerings.

Eucharistic Prayer

1

The Lord be with you. And also with you.


Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.


It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider Blessed are you, gracious God ...
... to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus

James MacMillan

After the Sanctus, the eucharistic prayer continues:

Presider We give thanks to you, Lord our God ...
Therefore, Father, according to his command,

People **we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Presider and we offer our sacrifice ...
... all honour and glory are yours,
almighty Father, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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The Fraction

The presider breaks the bread.

Lamb of God

James MacMillan

The Invitation

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Communion

Communion Hymn

Common Praise 74

**For the Bread
That You Have Broken**

Anthem after Communion

Common Praise 117

**Lo, How a Rose
E'er Blooming**

Prayer After Communion

Presider Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

The presider then says the prayer after communion.

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.

Recessional Hymn

Common Praise 89

**O Come,
O Come Emmanuel**

(vv. 1,2,4,6,7)

Dismissal

The presider dismisses the people.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Noel
d'Aquin

We thank the following people for assisting with worship

Altar Guild

Tech Support

Greeters

Organist

Preacher

Presider

Servers

Reader

Intercessor

Chalice Bearers

Warden on Duty

Jonathan Malton

Carol Thurnell

Charles Stuart

Corinne Dutton

The Revd Dr Preston Parsons

The Revd Dr Preston Parsons

Abby Neil

Lorelai Neil

Tianna Gocan

Karen Sunabacka

Sharon Woodley

Paula Brown

John Loughheed

Bob Humphreys

Jean Wright

Marianne Mellinger

Parish Notices

The Poinsettias on the Altar are given to honor the memory of Laura & Ashlee Coughlin, Stewart Kelland & Walter Kelland, Gilbert & Thea Parker, and Leonard & Margaret Coughlin. A gift of Ann & Al Coughlin.

Christmas Memorial Flowers This Sunday is the deadline. In order to include the names of all those people being commemorated with the Christmas Memorial Flowers. Donations should be made by this weekend. Envelopes, with the names of those being remembered, can be placed on the collection plate and cheques made out to the ACW with Christmas Flowers marked on the Memo line. Thank You. Enid Emery

Christmas Service Dates

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Dec 18, 7p.m. | Lessons & Carols
(Followed by refreshments
in the Upper Parish Hall) |
| Dec 24, 4p.m. | Christmas Eve: Family Communion |
| Dec 24, 7p.m. | Christmas Eve: Eucharist |
| Dec 24, 10p.m. | Christmas Eve: Choral Eucharist
(Haydn's <i>Little Organ Mass</i>) |
| Dec 25, 10a.m. | Christmas Day |

8am Holy Communion Our monthly BCP Holy Communion service will take place at 8am on the 8th of January this month.

Church Office Hours Normal Parish Administrator hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am-2pm. On occasion these hours may need to be adjusted, so please do call ahead of time if you need to drop by the Church office.

My Christmas Offering St John's has a long tradition of special Festival Offerings during the seasons of Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas. If you would like to participate in this

offering, My Christmas Offering envelopes are available at the Church Office and at the Advent and Christmas services. If you are not able to come into the Church but would like to write a cheque please note My Christmas Offering in the memo line of the cheque.

Christmas in a Box DeliWorks is offering Christmas in a Box traditional turkey dinners similar to ones we have provided to the church during the early months of Covid lockdowns. Each box contains a complete meal with dessert and is ready to be heated in your oven for a fresh hot meal when you want. Boxes can also be popped into the freezer to enjoy later. (Simply defrost fully and then follow the easy instructions included in each box).

Pickup will be at DeliWorks, 40 Weber St. E. in Kitchener on Friday, December 23 between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm.

To order please call DeliWorks Monday to Friday, between 7:30 and 2:00 pm. Quantities will be limited so don't delay.

Fancy Shortbreads It's that time again! Jean's shortbreads will be on sale starting Nov 20th in the Parish Hall. Proceeds go to church programs. The same price for the last 5 years - \$5 a dozen. Ideal for a gift, Christmas or just eating them before you get home. Can we surpass last year's amount of \$540?

Parking at City Hall The parking garage at Kitchener City Hall is open again and is FREE on Sundays. It's a great winter alternative since it is heated, and you don't have to clear snow off your vehicle. Enter off Young Street.

Duke Street Parking If you are mobile and/or able to walk a few steps, do consider leaving the parking spaces by the Duke Street accessible doors for people with mobility impairments. There is plenty of parking nearby at the School of Social Work and the City Hall parking, both of which are free on Sundays. Thank you for this consideration.

Announcement Deadlines Going forward we are asking that any announcement requests for the Weekly Check-in are submitted by Wednesday at 10:30A.M. and for the Sunday Bulletin are submitted by Thursday morning at 10:30A.M. Please continue to email your announcements to church@stjohn316.com. Thank you for your understanding!

Zoom Bible Study Adjourned The Tuesday morning Zoom Bible Study has adjourned for the holiday season. It will resume on Tuesday, January 10th, 2023.

Opportunity to make some extra cash – and attend concerts for free! We are in need of someone who can be present in the church while the groups are here. Your role would be to open the church and ensure lights are on when the group arrives, be available for questions and to assist with set up / take down if needed, and ensure the church is locked and lights are off when the group leaves. A portion of our rental fee covers this service so this would be passed on to you – typically \$75 for the rehearsal and \$75 for the performance. These events usually take place on a weekend, rehearsals are often Friday afternoon/evening with performances on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon/evening. The time commitment is 3 – 4 hours at a time.

If you are interested in taking this on, or in being part of a team of people who can handle this on a rotational basis, please contact Eleanor Brown at (519)578-9519 or at southpaw66@rogers.com.

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>

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.

Rector The Revd Dr Preston Parsons
rector@stjohn316.com

Interim Director of Music Dr Ken Hull
music@stjohn316.com

Parish Administrator Emma Sponagle
church@stjohn316.com

Giving Coordinator Judy Shantz
giving@stjohn316.com

Assistant Clergy The Revd James Brown
The Ven. Ken Cardwell
The Revd Paul Kett
The Revd Dr Eileen Scully

Rector's Warden Marianne Mellinger
People's Warden Debbie Sheach
Deputy Warden Eleanor Brown