

ORDER OF SERVICE

The Birth of the Lord: Christmas Eve, 10pm
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 | church@stjohn316.com

Prelude Trio Sonata for Flute, Oboe & Continuo
J.J. Quantz

Processional Hymn O Come, All Ye Faithful
Common Praise 118 (vv. 1,2,4,3,5)

**The Lighting of the Advent Wreath:
The Christ**

Presider Blessed are you, sovereign Lord,
King of peace: to you be praise and
glory for ever. The new light of your
incarnate Word gives gladness in our
sorrow, and a presence in our isolation.
Fill our lives with your light,
until they overflow with gladness and praise.

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.

Kyrie

Haydn

Sung by choir

Glory to God

William Mathias

Music on pew card

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 62:6-12

Psalms 96.1-4,7-10,12-23

Titus 3:4-7

Luke 2:8-20

First Reading

The lesson is read.

Reader Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96.1-4, 7-10, 12-23

Sung by the choir; Book of Alternative Services page 834

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 Luke.

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 Nicene Creed

Presider Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified**

**under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

The intercessor bids the prayers.

Intercessor God, of grace,
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 Little Town of Bethlehem

Common Praise 121

Prayer over the Gifts

The presider says a prayer over the offerings.

Eucharistic Prayer

Music on pew card

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

Sanctus and Benedictus

Haydn

Sung by choir

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

Book of Alternative Services page 918

The Fraction

The presider breaks the bread.

Agnus Dei

Sung by choir

Haydn

The Invitation

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Communion

Communion Hymns

In the Bleak Midwinter

Common Praise 122

Of Eternal Love Begotten

Common Praise 132

Communion Anthem

Ding Dong! Merrily on High

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.**

Hymn after Communion

Silent Night

Common Praise 119

The Blessing

The presider blesses the people.

Recessional Hymn

Hark! The

Herald Angels Sing

Common Praise 138

Dismissal

The presider dismisses the people.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Noël Suisse

Louis-Claude Daquin

We thank the following people for assisting with worship

Altar Guild

Tech Support

Jonathan Malton

Greeters

Charles Stuart

John House

Organist

Dr Peter Nikiforuk

Instrumentalists

Bruce Gremo

Sarah Cardwell

Karen Sunabacka

Ken Hull

Preacher

The Revd Dr Preston Parsons

Presider

The Revd Dr Preston Parsons

Servers

Chris Rietkerk

Karen Sunabacka

Reader

Mary Neil

Intercessor

The Revd André Lavergne, CWA

Chalice Bearers

Jean Wright

Bob Humphreys

Warden on Duty

Deb Sheach

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 Service Dates

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.

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.

Parking at Duke Street 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