

HOLY EUCHARIST
Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023



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

EUCCHARIST AT TEN O’CLOCK

Book of Alternative Services

Prelude

**Improvisation on Creator
of the Stars of Night**

Angus Sinclair

Processional Hymn

Common Praise 116

**“Your Kingdom Come” – On
Bended Knee**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Prophets

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 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

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.

Act of Praise

Common Praise 686

Glory to God

David Hurd

The Collect of the Day

Presider Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

The presider then prays the collect.

People **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

Isaiah 40:1-11

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Mark 1:1-8

First Reading

The lesson is read.

Reader Word of God. Word of life.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13

BAS 818

Plainsong

Second Reading

The lesson is read.

Reader Word of God. Word of life.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Common Praise 94

**Wait for the Lord,
Whose Day Is Near**

The Gospel

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

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 gathers the community for prayer:

Intercessor Confident of God's urgent presence among us,
we are drawn to love the incarnate God.

*A period of silence allows for people to settle and prepare.
The intercessor then continues:*

Intercessor We hear "Advent God," and respond, "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 Hymn

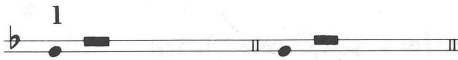
Common Praise 103

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

Prayer over the Gifts

The presider says a prayer over the offerings.

Eucharistic Prayer



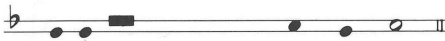
The Lord be with you. And also with you.



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 Worship and praise belong to you ...
 ... singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Common Praise 689

David Hurd

After the Sanctus, the eucharistic prayer continues:

Presider Glory and thanksgiving be to you ...
 ... Lord of all ages,

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Barrie Cabena



Our Father in heav'n, hallow'd be your name, your king-dom
 come, your will be done, on earth as in heav'n. Give us
 to-day our dai-ly bread. Forgive us our sins as we for-
 give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of
 trial, and de-liver us from e-vil. For the kingdom, the
 power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. A--men.

The Fraction

The presider breaks the bread.

Lamb of God

Common Praise 690

David Hurd

The Invitation

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

If you would prefer a gluten free wafer, come forward and let a server or the priest know before you receive.

Communion Hymn

Common Praise 100

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Communion Anthem

How Beauteous Are Their Feet

Text: Isaiah 52:2, 7-10

Charles Villiers Stanford

Prayer After Communion

Presider Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

The presider then prays 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

Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

Common Praise 88

Dismissal

The presider dismisses the people.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Toccata in Seven

John Rutter

PARISH GRATITUDES, NEWS & NOTES

We thank the following for assisting at worship ...

Altar Guild & Choir

Tech Support

Nathaniel Holmes

Bulletin Cover Art

Gerry King

Greeters

Alicia Batten, Eli Boich

Preacher

The Rev'd Canon Dr Preston Parsons

Presider

The Rev'd Dr Eileen Scully

Director of Music

Angus Sinclair

Servers

Sharon Woodley, Karen Sunabacka,

Kate Strathdee

Reader

Angus Sheach

Intercessor

Deb Sheach

Chalice Bearers

Ken Hull, Jean Wright

Warden on duty

Paul Schaffleburg

Week at a Glance

Thursday, Dec 14

Choir Rehearsal (7:30 pm)

Sunday, Dec 17, Advent 3

Sunday Eucharist (10 am)

Nine Lessons and Carols (7 pm)

Advent and Christmas Services

Sunday, Dec 24, Advent 4

Sunday Eucharist (10 am)

Sunday, Dec 24

Come to the Table Family Christmas (4 pm)

Sunday, Dec 24

Early Christmas Eve (7 pm)

Sunday, Dec 24

Late Christmas Eve (10 pm)

Birthdays and Anniversaries will be honoured with the *Blessing Song* at coffee hour on the second Sunday of the month from now on. **December celebrations will be marked today!**

Christmas Office Hours The Church Office will be closed from Monday, Dec 25 through Monday, Jan 1, 2024. The Wednesday *Weekly Check-in* will be suspended during that week. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, Jan 2.

Publication Deadline Please submit any items for the Dec 31 Sunday *Bulletin* by **Tuesday, Dec 19 at 10 am.**

Seniors' Fellowship this Wednesday, Dec 13 at 1:30 pm at St. Columba's. We'll celebrate with a Christmas lunch. Games and fellowship to follow. All are welcome! For information, contact Jennifer Uttley at acw@stjohn316.com or call 519-578-6052.

A beautifully-crafted Advent Cycle of Prayer, composed by four Anglican and Lutheran primatial bishops (Linda, Susan, Michael, Elizabeth), lifts up congregations, communities and ministries in the Holy Land. It's a timely witness! Visit www.anglicanlutheran.ca and click on the graphic link. This is a project of our very-own ACC-ELCIC-TEC-ELCA (Turtle Island) *Churches Beyond Borders*.

Nametags Whether you're a new, not so new, or a longtime member of St. John's, if you'd like a name tag, please contact the church office and we'll make one for you! Call 519-743-0228 or drop a note to church@stjohn316.com.

Hear ye! Jean's Shortbreads are on sale (1/2/3 doz.). There are also crafts (mitts, toques, afghans, baby blankets, soft toys). Money goes to Anglican Church Women to support our parish ministry together with the needs of others. New this year are beautiful Christmas cards at \$1 each! These funds go toward refugee support.

The 2024 Church Calendars are here... we hope! Enid is hoping to have them this Sunday, as they were priority shipped.

William Birdsall's Scouting Group is selling Christmas Trees at Home Hardware (1014 Victoria St. N) while supplies last! M-F 5pm-9pm, Sat 9am-9pm, Sun 11am-7pm. Info: trees.24th.ca.

Sunday School in a Bag Help yourself to today's lesson and colour sheet in the narthex case. Bags include crayons with the sheets underneath. Please replace the bag and crayons after worship.

Weekend Parking is free at Kitchener City Hall. It's a great winter alternative as it is heated and snow-free! Enter off Young Street between Weber and King.

Surface parking is available at the WLU parking lot on College St., between Weber and Duke. Note that College is one-way *from* Weber *to* Duke. Here's a downtown Kitchener [parking map](#).

Christmas Giving This season provides us with the opportunity to reflect and express our gratitude for the gift that St John's is to us. Throughout the remaining days of Advent and Christmas you will find Christmas Giving envelopes next to the offering plates at the Water and Duke St entrances. If you are not able to attend church in-person, but would like to make a Christmas offering, send a cheque to St John's noting that it is a **Christmas offering**.

Donations may be made to St. John's in several ways ...

1. Send weekly envelopes in the mail. You can send post-dated cheques to the office at 23 Water St. N. 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) Direct Electronic Funds Transfer (DEFT) by contacting the office at giving@stjohn316.com.
5. Via canadahelps.org by credit card, once or recurring. Canada Helps takes 3.75%, gives tax receipt to you and report to us!

Regular Office Hours are maintained from Monday through Thursday: Mon to Wed - 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. Thursday - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Announcements for the Wednesday *Weekly Check-in* or Sunday *Bulletin* should be submitted **by Tuesday morning at 10 am**. Email church@stjohn316.com. Thank you for your consideration.

TAKING CARE OF OUR COMMUNITY

If you know of someone who is ill or in hospital, please contact our rector, The Rev'd Dr Preston Parsons, at rector@stjohn316.com or leave a message at 519.743-0228.

In case of emergency, please contact the on-call pastor at 519.743-0228 ext. 6.

Rector	The Rev'd Canon Preston Parsons, PhD rector@stjohn316.com
Director of Music	Angus Sinclair music@stjohn316.com
Parish Administrator	Autumn Debassige church@stjohn316.com
Giving Coordinator	Judy Shantz giving@stjohn316.com
Honorary Assistant Clergy	The Rev'd James Brown The Ven Ken Cardwell The Rev'd Dr Eileen Scully The Rev'd André Lavergne, CWA
Rector's Warden	Eleanor Brown wardens@stjohn316.com
People's Warden	Simon Guthrie wardens@stjohn316.com
Deputy Warden	Paul Schaffelburg wardens@stjohn316.com
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