

*A Festival of*

*Nine Lessons and Carols*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Sunday, December 17, 2023 - 7:00 PM*



*The Church of St. John the Evangelist*

*23 Water Street North,  
Kitchener, Ontario N2H 5A4*

*www.stjohn316.com 519-743-0228 church@stjohn316.com*

## THE SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

### Prelude

### O Come, O Come Emmanuel

*Arr. Bernie Herms & Melodee DeVevo*

### Pastorale (Christmas Concerto)

*Archangelo Corelli, arr. Elie Jolliet*

### Processional Hymn

### Once in Royal David's City

**Solo** Once in royal David's city  
stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for his bed.  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.

**Choir** He came down to earth from heaven  
who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable,  
and his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

**All** And our eyes at last shall see him  
through his own redeeming love;  
for that child who seemed so helpless  
is our Lord in Heaven above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone.

**All** Not in that poor lowly stable,  
with the oxen standing by,  
we shall see him, but in heaven,  
set at God's right hand on high,  
when, like stars, his children crowned  
all in white shall wait around.

## **The Bidding Prayer**

*Standing*

### **Carol**

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

### **Fanfare for Christmas Day**

*Martin Shaw*

*Glory to God in the highest.*

### **First Lesson**

*God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.*

### **Carol**

### **Adam lay ybounden**

*Boris Ord*

Adam lay ybounden,  
Bounden in a bond;  
Four thousand winter  
Thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple,  
An apple that he took,  
As clerkes finden  
Written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been,  
The apple taken been,  
Ne had never our lady  
Abeen heavené queen.

Blessed be the time  
That apple taken was,  
Therefore we moun singen,  
*Deo gracias!*

## Second Lesson

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.*

### Carol

O magnum mysterium,  
et admirabile sacramentum,  
ut animalia viderunt Dominum,  
natum, jacentem in praesepio:  
O beata Virgo, cujus viscera  
meruerunt  
portare Jesum Christum.  
Alleluia.

### O Magnum Mysterium

*Tomás Luis de Victoria*

*O great mystery,  
and a sign of great wonder,  
that living creatures should see  
the Lord born, lying in a stall!  
O blessed virgin, whose womb  
was worthy  
to bear Christ the Lord.  
Alleluia.*

## Third Lesson

*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.*

### Hymn

*Common Praise 147, v. 1*

### Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light



## Fourth Lesson

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

### Carol

### The holly and the ivy

*Matthew Owens*

The holly and the ivy  
When they are both full grown;  
Of all the trees that are in the wood  
The holly bears the crown. *Refrain*

*Refrain*            O the rising of the sun  
                          And the running of the deer,  
                          The playing of the merry organ,  
                          Sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom  
As white as any flower;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
To be our sweet Saviour. *Refrain*

The holly bears a berry  
As red as any blood;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
To do poor sinners good. *Refrain*

The holly bears a prickle  
As sharp as any thorn;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
On Christmas Day in the morn. *Refrain*

The holly bears a bark  
As bitt'r as any gall;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
For to redeem us all. *Refrain*

### Hymn

### O Little Town of Bethlehem

*Common Praise 121*

## Fifth Lesson

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

### Carol

### The Angel Gabriel

*Trad., arr. James Hopkirk  
(former Organist at St. John's, Kitchener)*

The Angel Gabriel from God was sent to Galilee,  
Unto a virgin fair and free,  
whose name was call'd Mary;  
And when the angel thither came,  
he fell down on his knee,  
And looking in the virgin's face,  
said "Hail, All Hail Mary."

#### *Refrain*

Then sing we all  
both great and small,  
Noel, Noel, Noel.

We may rejoice to hear the voice of Angel Gabriel.

Good people all, both great and small, the which do hear my voice,  
With one accord let's praise the Lord,  
and in our hearts rejoice;  
In love abound to all around,  
while we our lives do spend,  
While we have space, let's pray for grace,  
so let my carol end.

#### *Refrain*



## Sixth Lesson

*St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

### carol

### In the Bleak Mid-Winter

*Harold Darke*

In the bleak mid-winter,  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone.  
Snow had fallen snow on snow,  
Snow on snow, In the bleak mid-winter long ago.

Our God, Heav'n cannot hold Him,  
Nor earth sustain.  
Heav'n and earth shall flee away,  
When He comes to reign.  
In the bleak mid-winter,  
A stable place sufficed, The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim,  
Worship night and day,  
A breast full of milk  
And a manger full of hay.  
Enough for Him, whom angels,  
Fall down before, The ox and ass and camel, which adore.

What can I give Him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man,  
I would do my part. Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

### Hymn

### All Poor Folk and Humble

*Common Praise 151*

## Seventh Lesson

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

### Carol

### There is no rose

*John Joubert*

There is no rose of such virtue  
As is the rose that bare Jesu:  
*Alleluia.*

For in this rose containèd was  
Heav'n and earth in little space:  
*Resmiranda.*

By that rose we may well see  
There be one God in Persons Three:  
*Pares forma.*

Then leave we all this worldly mirth  
And follow we this joyous birth:  
*Transeamus.*





## **Eighth Lesson**

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

### **Carol**

### **In Bethlehem's Low Stable**

*Trad., arr. Angus Sinclair*

In Bethlehem's low stable our Saviour Christ is born;  
My soul to Him I offer upon this blessed morn:  
*Eia, Eia*, upon this blessed morn.

O child of love from heaven, my heart I give to thee.  
In all life's joys and sorrows, Thine always shall I be.  
*Eia, Eia*, Thine always shall I be.

Depart Thou never from me, but make me pure within  
that I may bear Thine image in this dark world of sin.  
*Eia, Eia*, in this dark world of sin.

In Thy blest love rejoicing, Thy praises shall I sing:  
Accept my heart's pure off'ring, Lord Jesus, new-born king.  
*Eia, Eia*, Lord Jesus, new-born king.

### **Ninth Lesson (stand)**

*St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

### **Hymn**

### **O Come, All Ye Faithful**

*Common Praise 118, vs. 1, 2, 4, 3 (note order of verses)*

### **The Collect and Blessing**

*Kneel*

### **Recessional Hymn**

*Common Praise 138*

### **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

### **Postlude**

### **Carillon-Sortie** *Henri Mulet*

## GRATITUDES, NEWS & NOTES

*We thank the following for your roles at this service ...*

### **Altar Guild**

#### **Tech Support**

Nathaniel Holmes

#### **Bulletin Cover Art**

Gerry King

#### **Greeter**

Charles Stuart

#### **Presider**

The Rev'd Canon Dr Preston Parsons

#### **Director of Music**

Angus Sinclair

#### **Violin**

Ann Green

### **Choir**

Barbara Lavergne, Cathleen Leone, Karen MacLeod, Jocelyn Truscott, Sue Doran, Corinne Dutton, Deb Sheach, Henriette Thompson, James Brown, Gerry King, Danny Chirilenco, Bruce Gremo, Jonathan Malton, Angus Sheach, Mohan Thomas, Bruce Wheatcroft

### **Readers**

Paula Brown, Jean Wright, Linda Jarett, Angus Sinclair, Sophia Coughlin, Bruce Wheatcroft, Nonso Ndukwe, Cassey Howard, Eleanor Brown, Preston Parsons

### **Warden on Duty**

Eleanor Brown

### **Week at a Glance**

Tues, Dec 19      Deadline for Dec 24/31 Bulletin content (10 am)

Wed, Dec 20      Youngish Adults (7:30 pm)

Thur, Dec 21      Choir Rehearsal (7:30 pm)

### **Advent and Christmas Services**

Sun, Dec 24      **Advent 4 Sunday Eucharist** (10 am)

Sun, Dec 24      **Come to the Table Family Christmas** (4 pm)

Sun, Dec 24      **Early Christmas Eve Eucharist** (7 pm)

Sun, Dec 24      **Late Christmas Eve Eucharist** (10 pm)

**Christmas Giving** This season provides us with the opportunity to reflect upon 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 would like to make an offering by mail, send a cheque to St John's noting that it is a Christmas offering.

**An Advent Cycle of Prayer**, composed by four Anglican and Lutheran primate bishops, lifts up congregations, communities and ministries in the Holy Land. Visit [www.anglicanlutheran.ca](http://www.anglicanlutheran.ca) and click on the link. This is a project of our very-own *Churches Beyond Borders*.

**Church Calendars are here!** Available during the Sunday coffee hour.

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

**Christmas Office Hours** The Church Office will be closed from Mon, Dec 25 through Mon, Jan 1. The Wednesday *Weekly Check-in* will be suspended for the week. Regular office hours will resume Tues, Jan 2.

**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.

**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). Contact the office at [giving@stjohn316.com](mailto:giving@stjohn316.com).
5. Via [canadahelps.org](http://canadahelps.org) by credit card, once or recurring. Canada Helps takes 3.75%, gives tax receipt to you and report to us!

## TAKING CARE OF OUR COMMUNITY

If you know of someone who is ill or in hospital, please contact the rector at [rector@stjohn316.com](mailto:rector@stjohn316.com) or leave a message at 519.743-0228 ext. 2.

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

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**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  
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