

A Festival of

Nine Lessons and Carols

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Sunday, December 22, 2024 - 4:00 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 AT FOUR O’CLOCK

Prelude

Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming

Johannes Brahms, arr. E. Power Biggs

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.

Solo

I Wonder As I Wander

Trad.

Hymn

The People That in Darkness Sat

Common Praise 156

Third Lesson

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

Carol

Sans Day Carol

arr. John Rutter

Now the holly bears a berry as white as the milk,
And Mary bore Jesus, who was wrapped up in silk:

*And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be,
And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!*

Now the holly bears a berry as green as the grass,
And Mary bore Jesus, who died on the cross:

Now the holly bears a berry as black as the coal,
And Mary bore Jesus, who died for us all:

Now the holly bears a berry, as blood is it red,
Then trust we our Saviour, who rose from the dead:

Fourth Lesson

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

Carol

Here are We in Bethlehem

Healey Willan

Here are we in Bethlehem;
There the stable door!
Let us go and enter in,
Mary's Babe adore.

See the Kings who come from far,
Bearing myrrh and gold,
Frankincense to offer him,
Treasure manifold.

Take we gifts as well as these,
At his feet to lay:
Clothes to shield him from the cold,
Toys that he may play.

For a baby still is he,
Mary still is poor.
Here are we in Bethlehem,
There the stable door.

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Common Praise 120

Fifth Lesson

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.



Carol

All This Night

Eleanor Daley

All this night bright angels sing,
Never was such caroling,
Hark! A voice which loudly cries,
Mortals, mortals, wake and rise.
Lo! To gladness, Turns your sadness,
From the earth is ris'n a Son,
Shines all night though day be done.

Wake, O earth! Wake ev'ry thing!
Wake! and hear the joy I bring:
Wake and joy! for all this night,
Heav'n and ev'ry twinkling light,
All amazing, Still stand gazing,
Angels, Pow'rs, and all that be,
Wake, and joy this Son to see!

Hail! O Son! O blessed Light,
Sent into this world by night;
Let Thy Rays and Heav'nly Pow'rs
Shine in these dark souls of ours.
For most duly, Thou art truly
God and Man, we do confess,
Hail, O Son of Righteousness!
All this night!

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 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

Lo! the pilgrim magi
Leave their royal halls,
And with eager footsteps,
Speed to Bethlehem's walls;
As they onward journey,
Faith, which firmly rests,
Built on hope unswerving,
Triumphs to their breasts.

There Is No Rose

John Joubert

Lo, the Pilgrim Magi

Walter MacNutt

Costly pomp and splendor
Earthly kings array;
He, a mightier Monarch,
Hath a nobler sway;
Straw may be His pallet
Mean His garb may be,
Yet with power transcendent
He all hearts can free.

At His crib they worship,
Kneeling on the floor,
And their God there present,
In that Babe adore;
To our God and Saviour
We, as Gentiles true,
Give our hearts o'erflowing
Give our tribute due:

Glory to the Father,
Fount of Light alone;
Who unto the Gentiles,
Made His glory known.
Equal praise and glory,
Blessed Son, to Thee,
And to Thee, Blest Spirit,
Evermore shall be.

Ninth Lesson

Standing

St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Hymn

Common Praise 118, vs.1-3

O Come, All Ye Faithful

The Collect and Blessing

Kneeling

Recessional Hymn

Common Praise 138

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Postlude

Carillon de Westminster

Louis Vierne

Join us for hot cider, treats, and fellowship following the service!

Christmas Memorial Flowers - The Altar Guild is asking for donations for the Christmas flowers. Envelopes are on the tables at both entrances to the church. Enter the names of those being commemorated, or if you wish to commemorate a special anniversary, please enter that. Put your name on the donor line. Please make cheques payable to The Church of St. John the Evangelist, indicating Christmas Flowers on the memo line.

PARISH GRATITUDES, NEWS & NOTES

We thank the following for your roles at worship ...

Altar Guild & Choir

Tech Support

Cover Art

Gerald King

Greeter

Anne Hopewell

Presider

The Rev'd Canon Preston Parsons, PhD

Music Director

Angus Sinclair

Soloists

Cathleen Leone, Sue Doran,
Karen MacLeod, Gerald King,
Priya Khatri

Readers

Jumoke Odeka, Simon Guthrie,
Angus Sinclair, Theo McLeod,
Laura Doric, Bruce Wheatcroft,
Albin Philip, Barbara Lavergne,
Preston Parsons

Warden on Duty

Simon Guthrie

Week at a Glance

Dec 24

Come to the Table Christmas Eve (4:00 pm)

Early Christmas Eve Eucharist (7:00 pm)

Late Christmas Eve Eucharist (10:00 pm)

Dec 25

Christmas Day (Office Closed)

Dec 26

Boxing Day (Office Closed & No Choir Rehearsal)

Dec 29

Worship (10:00 am)

Christmas Office Hours – The Church Office is closed from Wed, Dec 25 to Sun, Dec 29, 2024; and Wed, Jan 1, 2025. The *Wed Weekly Check-in* will be suspended during that time. Regular office hours held on Mon, Dec 30, Tues, Dec 31, 2024, and Thurs, Jan 2, 2025.

From the Finance Committee – All invoices to be paid in 2024 must be submitted to the church by Jan 12, 2025.

Advance Notice – Reports for Vestry 2025 are due Mon, Jan 13, 2025. Please submit to church@stjohn316.com in Word or docx file format as mac file formats (such as Pages) are incompatible

with the church's computer system. Thanks for your cooperation.

Twice-weekly E-mailings keep the St. John's community informed. A Wednesday evening **Check-in** and a Saturday evening **Worship** mailing will keep you up-to-date with our worship life and our parish and community events. E-mail church@stjohn316.com to subscribe.

Office Hours are maintained from Monday through Wednesday - 9:30 am to 1:30 pm, and Thursday - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Announcements for the Wednesday *e-mail Check-in* or Sunday's *Bulletin* should be submitted **by Tuesday at 10 am**. E-mail church@stjohn316.com. Thank you for your consideration.

Financial Contributions may be made to St. John's by...

1. **Placing an offering into the plates** located in the narthex and near the baptismal font.
2. **Mail** using offering envelopes. Send post-dated cheques to the office at 23 Water St. N. Kitchener ON N2H 5A4
3. **Dropping off** cash donations at the church office using the mail slot in the Water Street door. Be sure to include your name on the envelope.
4. **Pick-up** by an Errand Buddy.
5. **Signing up** for (or make changes to) Direct Electronic Funds Transfer. Contact the office at giving@stjohn316.com.
6. **Credit Card** via [Canada Helps](#) either on a one-time basis or monthly. Canada Helps takes 3.75%, gives a tax receipt to you and provides a report to us!

Weekend Parking is available at the WLU Faculty of Social Work parking lot on College St., above Duke. Note that College is one-way *from Weber to Duke*. A downtown Kitchener parking map can be found here: <https://shorturl.at/12Xzx>.

Sunday Parking is free at Kitchener City Hall! Enter off Young between Weber and King.

TAKING CARE OF OUR COMMUNITY

If you know of someone who is ill or in hospital, please contact our rector at rector@stjohn316.com or leave a message at 519.743-0228 ext. 4. **In case of emergency**, contact the on-call pastor at 519.743-0228 ext. 6. **In the case of a non-urgent matter**, contact our parish administrator at 519.743-0228 ext. 1.

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 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
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Deputy Warden Paul Schaffelburg
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Livestreaming & Tech Support Jonathan Malton
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