

ORDER OF SERVICE
Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
July 26th 2020



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

MORNING PRAYER AT TEN O'CLOCK

Officiant	Marilyn Malton
Preacher	Dr. Jay Baker
Readers	Nik Ward-Campbell, Angus Sheach
Tech Support	Simon Guthrie
Organist	Marlin Nagtegaal

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude *Christ Jesus fills us with joy - M. Dupre*

Officiant 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.**

Officiant Let us pray.

We thank you, O God,
that you have again brought us together
on the Lord's Day to praise you
for your goodness and to ask your blessing.
Give us grace to see your hand
in the week that is past,
and your purpose in the week to come;
through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Choir Anthem *Lead me Lord, S. S. Wesley*

Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

O God,
the protector of all who trust in you,
without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy,
increase and multiply upon us your mercy,
that with you as our ruler and guide,
we may so pass through things temporal,
that we lose not the things eternal;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,
one God, for ever and ever

People Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Reader A Reading from the Book of Genesis.
(Genesis 29: 15-28)

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country - giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 128

Happy are they all who fear the Lord, *
and who follow in his ways!

You shall eat the fruit of your labour; *
happiness and prosperity shall be yours.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your house, *
your children like olive shoots round about your table.

The man who fears the Lord *
shall thus indeed be blessed.

The Lord bless you from Zion, *
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the
days of your life.

May you live to see your children's children; *
may peace be upon Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.

Reader A Reading from the Book of Romans.
(Romans 8:26-39)

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us

everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn 526 *God is Our Fortress and Our Rock*

1. God is our fortress and our rock,
our mighty help in danger;
he shields us from the battle's shock
and thwarts the devil's anger:
for still the prince of night
prolongs his evil fight;
he uses every skill to work his evil will -
no earthly force is like him.

Reader A Reading from the Gospel According to
Matthew.

(Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52)

Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Dr. Jay Baker

Silent Reflection

Affirmation of Faith

Officiant Let us confess our faith 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

Confident of your care, and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence

Merciful God, your reign is revealed to us in common things: a mustard shrub, a woman baking bread, a fishing net. Help your church witness to the surprising yet common ways we encounter you in daily life. We pray for Todd, our Bishop; Preston, our Rector; and for those of our own and other faiths in our community and neighbourhood, that even as we are distanced from each other we may be faithful in the ministry to which our Lord calls us.

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. Increase our understanding and awe of your creation; guide the work of scientists and researchers, especially those who work to find a vaccine for the covid19 virus. Treasuring the earth, may we live as grateful and healing caretakers of our home.

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

As the birds of the air nest in branches of trees, gather the nations of the world into the welcoming shade of your merciful reign. Direct leaders of nations to build trust with each other and walk in the way of peace.

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Your Spirit helps us in our weakness and intercedes for the saints according to your will. Help us when we do not know how to pray. Give comfort to the dying, refuge to the weary, justice to those who are oppressed, and healing to the sick, those we now name aloud or remember silently. (*A time of silence*).

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

You show steadfast love and direct us to ask of you what we need. Help our parish community to ask boldly for what is most needed. Refresh us with new dreams of being your people in this place and especially at this time.

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

In you our lives are never lost. Strengthen us by the inspiring witness of your people in all times and places Embolden our witness now and one day gather us with all your saints in light.

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

1. Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne:
hark, how the heavenly anthems drown
all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.
2. Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.
4. Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant Gathering our prayers and praises into one
let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

All **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Dismissal

Officiant

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.**

Officiant

May the God of hope
fill us with all joy and peace in believing
through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Organ Postlude

Virtual Hymn featuring members of the St. John's congregation
and choir:

Hymn 431 v. 1,4
Said

Take Up Your Cross, the Saviour

1. Take up your cross, the saviour said,
if you would my disciple be;
deny yourself, the world forsake
and humbly follow after me.
4. Take up your cross, then, in his strength,
nor think till every danger brave:
'twill guide you to a better home
and lead to victory o'er the grave.

***Preston will be away on vacation July 4th- July 27th.
In case of any Pastoral Concerns, please contact
The Rev'd Paul Kett by phone 519-589-2039 or email
exuxrev@rogers.com
or The Ven. Ken Cardwell 519-893-6910 or email
ken.cardwell@gmail.com***

Rector

The Reverend Dr. Preston Parsons

Assistant Clergy

The Venerable Ken Cardwell

The Reverend Paul Kett

People's Warden Gillian Westwood

Rector's Warden Marianne Mellinger

Deputy Warden Debbie Sheach, David Sapelak

Director of Music

Marlin Nagtegaal, BMus., MMus., U.M.

Parish Administrator

Rebecca McKay

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<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54267> [retrieved June 29, 2020]. Original source:
<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:JvFuhrichJosephRachel.jpg>.

The Prayers of the People July 26, 2020

IN THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Pray for the team responsible for preparing the Lambeth Conference, which was due to be taking place at this time. Inspire them as they consider the implications of its postponement in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

PRAY for Todd, our Bishop; Anne, our Archbishop and Metropolitan; Linda, our Primate; Mark, National Indigenous Archbishop; Marinez, Bishop of our companion Diocese of Amazonia; Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Susan, National Bishop, and Michael, Bishop of the Eastern Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

In the Anglican Church of Canada this week we pray for Bishop Jane Alexander, the clergy and people of the Diocese of Edmonton. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada we pray this week for the dean, council, and congregations of the East Central Area of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for parishes, people and clergy in Essex Deanery, and especially this week for the Parishes of St. Augustine of Canterbury, Windsor; Parish of St. David and St. Mark, Windsor; St. James Church, Windsor; St. John's Church (Sandwich), Windsor.

FOR OUR COMPANION DIOCESE

PRAY for the Diocese of Amazonia, companion diocese of the Diocese of Huron, for its ministry and mission, and for the people it serves. Pray for the Right Reverend Marinez Rosa dos Santos Bassotto, Bishop of Amazonia.

FOR MEMBERS OF THE PARISH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, KITCHENER

WE PRAY this week for Larry Rose and Gina Gorenc, Michelle Salt, David and Sharon Sapelak, Naomi Sargeant, and their families.

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHO ARE ILL

Colleen, Pat, Tracy, Marlin, John and Family, Nicholas, Catherine, Miriam, John, Cy, Guy, Connor, Emily, Ron and Anne, Melanie, Alison, Jennifer, Franco, Joe and Gabrielle, David, Scott, Andrea, James, Linda, Wayne, Ida, Catherine, Carman, Heather, Sherri, Ann, Sheila, Farzana, Scott, Vivian, Margaux, Sylvia, Alexander, Jennifer, Kristine, Kyle, Sherri, and Elysse.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

PRAY for Preston, our Rector, the bishop and clergy of our Deanery, ministers of the Gospel everywhere, and leaders of other faith groups, as we continue to deal with challenges to performing effective ministry during these days. Pray for rest and refreshment during vacation time. Help us to support them and to respect all they are doing for us and for the church. Help us to know and to understand that the church continues, even when our worship together is temporarily suspended. May we embrace this temporary change, and still find ways to fulfill our calling to care for all people.

PRAY for the health of people throughout the world, and in our own community as we continue to deal with the Covid19 virus. Be with those who are ill, those who care for the sick, and with the families of all who have died due to this illness. Give us wisdom to keep ourselves safe, and to show consideration for how our actions may affect others. Help us to find patience to deal with all things that may seem to inconvenience us, and to find joy and happiness in the small things each day. Pray especially for all who are disadvantaged by hunger, homelessness, mental illness, and unemployment.

Parish and Community Announcements

St. John's Garden Contest Fundraiser! We are thrilled to present our newest fundraising venture! We at St. John's have a distinct green thumb. Now is the chance to showcase your green passion.

Parishioners are invited to submit their gardens in 12 different categories. We are all invited to vote for our favourite gardens! The winners of each category will be featured in a special 2021 calendar. The grand prize winner (chosen by a juror) will be featured on the cover of the calendar, receive a \$100 gift card graciously donated by Colour Paradise Greenhouses and 2nd prize winner will receive \$25 to Sheridan Nurseries

Entries are \$10 each.

Votes cost \$1 each (minimum purchase of 5 votes).

The categories are as follows

- Best Annuals Garden
- Best Perennial Garden
- Best New Garden
- Best Planter or Hanger
- Best Balcony or Patio Garden
- Best Indoor Garden
- Best Food Garden
- Best Curb Appeal
- Best Nighttime Garden
- Best Roses
- Best Water Feature
- Best Hedge/Shrub Trimming and Pruning

Submissions close July 31st (EXTENDED!)

Voting begins August 1 and closes August 15

Winners will be announced August 23

For info, contest rules, and submissions go to <https://www.stjohn316.com/st-johns-garden-contest/>

From the Office The *virtual* office is open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 9am-noon. Calls and emails will only be answered during those hours. Meetings for Preston and Rebecca will only be held virtually, by phone or over zoom. Neither Preston nor Rebecca are currently working from the church building.

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 (519-743-0228 or church@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! [Here's the link](#)