

ORDER OF SERVICE
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
August 23th 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 & Preacher	The Rev'd Dr. Preston Parsons
Readers	David Sapelak, Ann Coughlin, Angus Sheach
Tech Support	Simon Guthrie
Organist	Bill Hutton
Singers	Sandra Roy, Lynda Smith, Jonathan Malton, Bruce Wheatcroft

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude Prelude à 5 parties – Nicholas-Jacques Lemmens

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.**

Opening Hymn 484 In Christ There Is No East or West

1. In Christ there is no east or west,
in Christ no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.
4. In Christ now meet both east and west,
in Christ meet south and north;

all faithful souls are joined in one
throughout the whole wide earth.

Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God,
we are taught by your word
that all our doings without love are worth nothing.
Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts
that most excellent gift of love,
the true bond of peace and of all virtue;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Reader A Reading from the Book of Exodus.
(Exodus 1:8-2:10)

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the

king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

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

Psalm 124

If the Lord had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;

If the Lord had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;

Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;

Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
and the torrent gone over us;

Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.

Blessed be the Lord! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

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 Letter of Paul to the Romans.
(Romans 12:1-8)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ,

and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn 487 **Where Charity and Love Prevail**

1. Where charity and love prevail,
there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love,
by love are we thus bound.
3. Forgive we now each other's faults
as we our faults confess;
and let us love each other well
in Christian holiness.
5. Let us recall that in our midst
dwells God's begotten Son;
as members of his body joined,
we are in him made one.

Reader A Reading from the Gospel According to Matthew.
(Matthew 16:13-20)

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be

loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Rev'd Dr. Preston Parsons

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

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence

You welcome us, O God, when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies, church schools, confirmation classes, and youth and adult ministries. Nurture new ministries of education and growth. We pray for Todd, our Bishop; Preston, our Rector; and for members of all faith communities in our neighbourhood, that we may find ways to work together to serve the needs of this community, even as we are distanced from each other.

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

The heights of the heavens show us the vastness of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your world.

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

Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom.

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

Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labour; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. We offer up to your healing care those who have asked for our prayers, naming them aloud, or remembering them in silence. (*A time of silence*).

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

Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make us a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbours.

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

Whether we live or die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you.

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

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

Closing Hymn 444 Your Hand, O God, Has Guided

1. Your hand, O God, has guided
your flock from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written,
full clear, on every page.
Our forebears owned your goodness
and we their deeds record,
and both of this bear witness:
one church, one faith, one Lord.
5. Your mercy will not fail us,
nor leave your work undone;
with your right hand to help us,
your people shall be one;
and then, by all creation,
your name shall be adored,
and this shall be their anthem:
one church, one faith, one Lord.

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.**

Announcements

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.**

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Dismissal

Organ Postlude

Postlude from Three Pieces – Hugh Bancroft

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 him at 519-573-7797

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

Raphael, 1483-1520. Christ's Charge to Peter, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55924>

[retrieved August 20, 2020]. Original source:

<http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/t/raphael-cartoons/>.

Prayer Intentions for the Week of August 23, 2020

IN THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Pray for the Church of the Province of South East Asia, The Most Reverend Melter Tais, Archbishop and Bishop of Sab; and for our mutual ministry.

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 Bishops Michael Hawkins and Adam Halkett, the clergy and people of the Diocese of Saskatchewan. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada we pray this week for the dean, council, and congregations of the South West Area of the Synod of Alberta and the Territories.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for parishes, people and clergy in Huron/Perth Deanery, and especially this week for the Regional Ministry of Hope which includes Trinity Church, Blyth; St. John's Church, Brussels; and St. Paul's-Trinity Church, Wingham.

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 Jocelyn Truscott, Michael Tustain, Jennifer and Bruce Uttley, Rick VanBuskirk and their families.

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHO ARE ILL

Colleen, Pat, Tracy, Marlin, John and Family, Nicholas, Catherine, John, 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, Kyle, Sherri, and Elysse, Percival and Janet,

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

PRAY for Preston, our Rector, ministers of the Gospel, and leaders of other faith groups, Help us to support each other as we minister to others. As we prepare for more change, may we 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. We give thanks for those in our community who are working to provide temporary shelter for those who have no place to go.

Parish and Community Announcements

Congrats to the winners of our Garden Contest! They will be announced at Coffee Hour! We are so pleased with the vigour in which everyone participated in this new venture. This experience will allow us to hold more diverse fundraisers in the future!

DEHUMIDIFIER REQUEST. If you happen to have a dehumidifier which isn't being used, and which you'd be willing to donate or loan to the church, we would appreciate it to help keep the basement and contents dry. Please contact Jonathan Malton (jmalton@gto.net) or Dave Sapelak (dbsapelak@gmail.com) to arrange pickup.

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 is 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](#)