

ORDER OF SERVICE
First Sunday of Advent
November 29th 2020 10am



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 & Singers	Dave Sapelak, Mary Neil
Tech Support	Jonathan Malton
Organist	Corinne Dutton

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude Wachet auf, Ruft uns die Stimme - J.S. Bach

Opening Prayers

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Hymn 88 **Come, You Long-expected Jesus**

1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
2. Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.
3. Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a King;
born to reign in us forever:
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
4. By thine own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone:
by thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility,
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge both the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Readings

Reader A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.
(Isaiah 64:1-9)

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be

exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

(Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18)

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim,

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance
and we shall be saved.

***Refrain* Lord, let us turn to you.**

O Lord God of hosts;
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your
people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbours,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance
and we shall be saved.

***Refrain* Lord, let us turn to you.**

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance
and we shall be saved.

Refrain Lord, let us turn to you.

Reader A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Church in Corinth. (1 Corinthians 1:3-9)

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind - just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you - so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Gospel

Reader A Reading from the Gospel According to Mark. (Mark 13:24-37)

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my

**the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

God of power and might tear open the heavens and come down quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence

We pray for the ministries we share in Christ's name. Open our hearts to your call for justice, peace, and healing. Attune us to the needs of the world as you draw near. We pray for Todd, our Bishop; Preston, our Rector; and for all faith communities in our neighbourhood. Give us a common vision for mission and ministry, and the commitment to work in cooperation with others.

Reader Hear us, O God.
People **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this planet in need of restoration: for devastated habitats, polluted waters, thawing ice masses, blazing fires, swelling floods, and long-lasting droughts. Renew the face of the earth and our relationship to it.

Reader Hear us, O God.
People **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all people who care for others in our community and around the world. Fill them with compassion and the power to respond with justice for those who are oppressed, with welcome for those who are excluded, and with relief for those who suffer.

Reader Hear us, O God.
People **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for people who are in crisis as the seasons change: for those without homes facing severe weather; for those who are unemployed or underemployed; and for those in

poverty or facing food insecurity. Receive their burdens, sustain their bodies, and ease their minds.

Reader Hear us, O God.
People **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for people in our families and our parish who live with depression, anxiety, chronic pain, addiction, and other invisible illnesses including all who have asked for our prayers, naming them aloud, or remembering them silently. (*A time of silence*). Ease their suffering and support them when they struggle.

Reader Hear us, O God.
People **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for the lives and witness of those who died while waiting for justice, peace, or healing, those whose names we know, and those whose names are known to you. Sustain all who still yearn for the completion of your redeeming work.

Reader Hear us, O God.
People **Your mercy is great.**

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. **AMEN.**

Hymn 89 **O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.
2. O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who orders all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in her ways to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

3. O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law,
in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

Announcements

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.**

Anthem

Malembe

trad. from Congo

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.**

Organ Postlude Fantasia on 'Veni Emmanuel' - Lovelace

Prayer Intentions for the Week of November 29 2020

IN THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for the Lusitanian Church, The Right Reverend Jorge Pina Cabral, Bishop, and for our common mission and ministry.

PRAY for Todd, our Bishop; Anne, our Archbishop and Metropolitan; Linda, our Primate; Mark, National Indigenous Archbishop; Marinez, Bishop of Amazonia, our companion Diocese; 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 the clergy and people of our Canadian Anglican Church.

In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada this week we pray for the clergy and people in our sister Canadian Lutheran Church.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for parishes in London Deanery, this week praying especially for the people and parishes of Holy Trinity-St. Stephen's Memorial, London; St. Aidan's Church, London; St. Andrew Memorial Church, London; and St. Anne's Church (Byron), London.

FOR OUR COMPANION DIOCESE

Pray for the Diocese of Amazonia, for Bishop Marinez Rosa dos Santos Bassoto, Bishop, and for our common mission and ministry.

FOR MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

WE PRAY this week for Jay and Susan Baker, Terry Rothwell and Alicia Batten, Andrew and Inga Beamish, Eli Boich, 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, Elysse, Percival and Janet, Mike, Lee, Tianna, Todd and Rebecca, Jeannie, Susan, Hazel, Alice, Valerie, Cedric

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND FOR THOSE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TODAY

The flowers on the Altar are given in loving memory of Nancy Ann Rose and Timothy Michael Rose and Leslie Ormston. A gift from Larry, Matthew, Sophie and Benjamin Rose. Today, we also remember Michael Tustain, who died this week.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

PRAY for Preston, our Rector, the Bishop, Archdeacon, regional Dean and clergy of our Deanery, ministers of the Gospel everywhere, and leaders of other faith groups. With new restrictions on worshiping together, may we be mindful of each other, and patient in the midst of disappointment. Help us continue to 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 face challenges in our lives. Be with those who care for the sick and those who face increased health compromise in these days. As winter weather advances, pray especially for all who are disadvantaged by hunger, homelessness, mental illness, and unemployment. Give thanks for those in our community who are working to provide temporary shelter for those who have nowhere to call home, and others who are partnering to provide affordable housing and housing for developmentally-challenged adults.

Parish and Community Announcements

LAST CALL PWRDF Christmas Cards Thanks to those members of the Parish who have already purchased PWRDF Christmas cards. There are a few left:

6 "Let Earth receive her King"

2 "Come and Worship".

If a tax receipt is needed, the contribution should be for a minimum \$25, if a receipt is not required, a contribution of less than \$25 can be made for each pack of 12 and will be happily accepted.

I may be contacted at 519-585-0865 or jhmighty@yahoo.com



Canadian Church Calendars After filling all of the orders there are 4 remaining calendars at \$6 each. If you would like one, please contact Stephanie Airey at 519-742-7299 or email acw@stjohn316.com. Many thanks for your support.

Christmas Cookie Sale Jean Wright's beautiful and delicious shortbread cookies are available again this year for Christmas! \$5/dozen with all proceeds going to the ACW to help those in need. They are placed on decorative plates, ready for gift-giving. Call Jean at 519-390-0213 to place your order and arrange delivery. Thank you Jean!

Christmas gift for our Newcomer family Once again, St John's has said yes to providing a gift basket for our latest newcomer family: James and Esperance and their two children Cedric and Ariane. Some of you may have met Esperance and the children at Pancake Supper earlier this year (before everything closed down)

Exciting news for them is that James has a job in Cambridge at Permacon and that they are expecting twins in April!! (They have found a three-bedroom townhouse for January in the same area, so kids will not have to change schools!)

Our plan is to provide a couple of gifts to be wrapped, but mostly to give them gift cards that they can use as most needed.

If you would like to contribute to this, your donation can be sent to the church (cash or cheque) marked clearly for "refugee Christmas gift". Cheques should be written to The Church of St John the Evangelist and "refugee Christmas gift" put on the memo line. This way you will get credit for your tax receipt and we will easily be able to get the money to purchase gift cards.

OR Contact Syd Reginato (reginatosyd@gmail.com 226 988 3627) or David Whitfield (davidswhit@gmail.com 519 579 5543) for more information on how you can contribute to this gift.

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](#)

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

Rector's Warden Marianne Mellinger

People's Warden David Sapelak

Deputy Warden Debbie Sheach

Parish Administrator Rebecca McKay

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