

ORDER OF SERVICE
Baptism of the Lord
January 10th 2021 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
Reader	Deb Sheach
Singer	Rebecca McKay, Corinne Dutton, Jonathan Malton, Angus Sheach
Tech Support	Jonathan Malton
Organist	Sarah Cardwell

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude

Hymn 162

Sing of God Made Manifest

1. Sing of God made manifest
in a child robust and blest,
to whose home in Bethlehem
where a star had guided them,
magi came and gifts unbound,
signs mysterious and profound:
myrrh and frankincense and gold
grave and God and king foretold.
2. Sing of God made manifest
when at Jordan John confessed,
"I should be baptised by you,
but your bidding I will do."
Then from heaven a double sign –
dove-like Spirit, voice divine –
hailed the true Anointed One:
"This is my beloved Son."
3. Sing of God made manifest
when Christ came as wedding-guest
and at Cana gave a sign,
turning water into wine;
further still was love revealed
as he taught, forgave, and healed,
bringing light and life to all
who would listen to God's call.

4. Sing of God made manifest
on the cloud-capped mountain's crest,
where both voice and vision waned
until Christ alone remained:
glimpse of glory, pledge of grace,
given as Jesus set his face
towards the waiting cross and grave,
sign of hope that God would save.

Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit,
keep your children, born of water and the Spirit,
faithful to their calling;
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

The Readings

Reader A Reading from the Book of Genesis
(Genesis 1:1-5)

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

(Psalm 29)

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; *
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendour.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; *
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the Lord *
all are crying, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.

The Lord shall give strength to his people; *
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

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

Reader A reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles
(Acts 19:1-7)

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptised?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptised with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied - altogether there were about twelve of them.

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

Reader A Reading from the Gospel According to Mark.
(Mark 1:4-11)

John the baptiser appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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 the faith of our baptism, 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

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence

For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they may proclaim the forgiveness of sins. We pray for Todd, our Bishop; Preston, our Rector; and other worshipping communities in our community and

beyond. Help us to find ways to work together to bring light to our world.

Reader Let us pray.
People **Have mercy, O God.**

For wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God's goodness may be revealed through creation and that faithful stewards will care for all God has made.

Reader Let us pray.
People **Have mercy, O God.**

For the nations of the world and their leaders, for labourers who work tirelessly, and for peacemakers amid strife. We hold the government and people of the USA in our prayers, that they may find a pathway to peace and unity. Be especially with all who work to turn violence into concord. That God will inspire all people to use their strength wisely.

Reader Let us pray.
People **Have mercy, O God.**

For the sick and those who provide medical care, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer, including those we now name aloud or remember silently, (*A time of reflection*), that God will shower compassion on them.

Reader Let us pray.
People **Have mercy, O God.**

For our parish, for students returning to school, for those seeking renewal in their daily work, and for teachers who struggle to balance in-class and virtual teaching, that all the beloved of God may experience grace and peace.

Reader Let us pray.
People **Have mercy, O God.**

See how in dove-like form the Spirit descends on God's anointed One.

2. From this assurance of God's favour Jesus goes to the wilderness, there to endure a time of testing that readied him to teach and bless. So we, by water and the Spirit baptised into Christ's ministry, are often led to paths of service through mazes of adversity.
3. Grant us, O God, the strength and courage to live the faith our lips declare; bless us in our baptismal calling; Christ's royal priesthood help us share. Turn us from every false allegiance, that we may trust in Christ alone; raise up in us a chosen people transformed by Love to be your own.

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.**

Postlude

Prayer Intentions for the Week of January 10 2021

IN THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for the Diocese of Leeds in the Church of England, The Right Reverend Nicholas Baines, Bishop, and for the people and clergy there.

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 Dr. Andrea Mann, Director, and the staff of Global Relations; Ryan Weston, Lead Animator, Public Witness for Social and Ecological Justice.

In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada this week we pray for the Reverends Douglas Reble, Adam Snook, and Christine Morrow-Wolfe, Assistants to the Bishop, and the staff of the Eastern Synod.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for parishes, people, and clergy in Oxford Deanery, and especially this week for St. Paul's Church, Princeton; St. Luke's, Crumlin; St. John's Church, Thamesford; and St. George's-on-the-Wye, Thorndale.

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 Sue Doran, Laura and Dragan Doric, Sylvia Dugan, Elaine Duncanson, and their families.

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHO ARE ILL

Tracy, Ron and Anne, Wayne, Ida, Vivian, Margaux, Sylvia, Alexander, Percival and Janet, Mike, Todd and Rebecca, Jeannie, Valerie, Cedric, Hazel, Al and Ann, St. John's, Margaret and George Strack, Maxine

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 worshipping together, may we be mindful of each other, and quick to practice love and compassion in all our words and actions. Help us continue to find ways to fulfill our calling to care for all people.

PRAY for students and teachers who return to classrooms, and for those who are learning at home.

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.

Parish Announcements and Events

Parish Prayer List You may notice that the number of people in the “For Friends and Family Who Are Ill” section of the parish prayers has become much shorter. If we’ve made a mistake, and someone has been removed in error, please contact the Rector (rector@stjohn316.com) or the Office (church@stjohn316.com).

BALE: Because of the recent lock down announcement, we will be unable to pack the Bale in January. Further dates will be published in the bulletin and January newsletter. Please keep your contributions until then. Many thanks for your past support.

PEOPLE AT HOME TALKING MOVIES Thoughtful conversations to keep us connected through the pandemic. Join in any of the upcoming online gatherings. Find the movie (check online streaming services, libraries, and brick-and-mortar shops), watch it, and connect via Zoom for a lightly-facilitated hour-long conversation.

Our upcoming series explores the themes of division and divisiveness. What might these movies say about human communities and the human predicament? How can we transcend discord, polarization, and isolation?

- Edward Scissorhands: Saturday, December 26, 3:00 PM
- Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country: Friday, January 1, 3:00 PM
- The King’s Choice: Friday, January 22, 7:00 PM
- The French Lieutenant’s Woman: Saturday, February 13, 3:00 PM
- The Lady in the Van: Friday, February 26, 7:00 PM

- Do the Right Thing: Saturday, March 13, 3:00 PM
- The Endless: Saturday, March 20, 3:00 PM

For the Zoom coordinates send an email to
FrMatthewKieswetter@gmail.com

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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