

ORDER OF WORSHIP
February 28th, 2021
Second Sunday of Lent



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	Marianne Mellinger
Singers	Laura Doric, Sue Doran, Jonathan Malton, Bruce Wheatcroft
Tech Support	Jonathan Malton
Organist	Bill Hutton

Prelude	Folk Tune - Percy Whitlock
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GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

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 Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Officiant Almighty God,

All **to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

LENTEN PENITENTIAL ORDER

Presider Dear Friends in Christ,
as we prepare for the Paschal Feast,
continuing in the apostles' teaching
and fellowship, in the breaking of bread,
and in the prayers,
let us make ready our hearts

to renew the covenant of our baptism.
Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

All kneel.

Let us ask God to bring to light
the things now hidden in darkness,
and to disclose to us
the secret purposes of our hearts.
And most especially,
let us remember the covenant of our baptism
and test our hearts and conscience
to know how faithfully
we have proclaimed by word and example
the good news of God in Christ.

Silence is kept.

Officiant Holy and immortal God,

All **you formed us from the dust in your image,
and redeemed us from sin and death
by the cross of our Saviour.
Through the washing of baptism
you raised us up with him
to share in the new covenant
with all your holy people.
But we have squandered the inheritance
of your saints,
and have wandered far in a land that is waste.
Therefore we turn to you
in penitence and humility.
In your great mercy, forgive us and restore us,
that we may rejoice in your presence,
and walk in your ways
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Officiant Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Trisagion

To be sung three times.

Ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y,
ho - ly im - mor - tal one have mer - cy on us.

Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

Almighty God,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross,
give us faith to perceive his glory,
that being strengthened by his grace
we may be changed into his likeness,
from glory to glory;
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 17:1-7, 15-16)

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me,

and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

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

Psalm

Psalm 22:22-30

Praise the Lord, you that fear him
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them;
but when they cry to him he hears them.

My praise is of him in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship
him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him:
"May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the Lord;
he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him;
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn
the saving deeds that he has done.

Reader A reading from the First Letter of Paul
to the church in Rome. (Romans 4:13-25)

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

Hymn 431

Take Up Your Cross, the Saviour Said

1. Take up your cross, the Saviour said,
if you would my disciple be;
deny yourself, the world forsake,
and humble follow after me.
2. Take up your cross; let not its weight
fill your weak soul with vain alarm;
his strength shall bear your spirit up,
and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.
3. Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
and let your foolish pride be still;
your Lord for you endured to die
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.
4. Take up your cross, then, in his strength,
and calmly every danger brave:
'twill guide you to a better home
and lead to victory o'er the grave.
5. Take up your cross and follow Christ
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

Reader A Reading from the Gospel According to Mark.
(Mark 8:31-38)

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their

The Prayers of the People

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence

Your gift of grace is for all people. Give confident faith to all the baptized, that they may follow you wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. We pray for Todd, our Bishop; Preston, our Rector; and all who lead congregations of faith in our community.

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

All the ends of the earth worship you. From galaxies to micro-organisms, preserve your creation. Teach humanity to wonder at your works and to join you in tending to creation's well-being.

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

You rule over the nations. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine.

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

In Jesus you joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all the depth of your love shown on the cross. Accompany all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, including those we now name aloud or remember silently (a space for reflection). Restore all who are sick or grieving. Bring vindication for victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression.

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

You made Abraham and Sarah the ancestors of a multitude of nations. Bless grandparents, parents, and foster parents, and the children who look to them for care and guidance. Console

those who deal with infertility, parents who have entrusted their children to adoption, and children longing to be adopted. Equip ministries and services to families.

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

We await the day of Christ's coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you.

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

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

Anthem

O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days arr. R. Gieseke

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 forever. Amen.**

Hymn 176

By the Holy Spirit Sent

1. By the Holy Spirit sent,
Jesus to the desert went,
that he might his children show
how sin's power to overthrow.
2. With a word he could have made
bread from stones around him laid;
yet till forty days were past,
still he kept a holy fast.
3. When the devil at his side
tried to make him sin through pride,
he would give no outward sign
that he was God's son divine.
4. Calmly he refused to win
by a single act of sin
of the whole wide world the throne;
he would worship God alone.
5. Since our loving Saviour thus
kept a sacred Lent for us,
we, through him, can conquer sin
and a royal victory win.

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 Pastorale - Johann Sebastian Bach

Prayer Intentions for the Week of February 28 2021

IN THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for the Anglican Church of the Region of Central America, (Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America) and its people and clergy.

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 Right Reverend John Organ, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Western Newfoundland.

In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada we pray this week for the dean, council, and congregations of the Georgian, Huronia and Bay Areas of the Eastern Synod.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for parishes, people, and clergy in The Saugeens Deanery, and especially this week for St. Margaret's Chapel, Cape Chin; and for the Regional Ministry of Saugeen Shore, Tara/Chatsworth, which includes St. Paul's Church, Southampton; Christ Church, Tara; and St. John's Church, Port Elgin.

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 Ron and Anne Hopewell, Melanie Horst, Nathan Michael Bonn, John House, Ken Hull and Marianne Mellinger, and their families.

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHO ARE ILL

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

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

PRAY for Preston, our Rector, the clergy of our Deanery, church leaders everywhere, and members of other faith groups. May we continue to 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 work with others, that we may fulfill our calling to care for all people.

PRAY for students who are learning at home; for those attending schools, colleges, and universities; for teachers who continue to teach in creative and engaging ways; and for parents who must find ways of working at home as well as supporting children in their studies.

PRAY for the health of people in our community, and throughout the world, as we continue to face challenges in our lives. Be with those who care for the sick and those who serve the public while facing personal health risks. In this winter season 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 food, clothing, and temporary shelter for those who have nowhere to call home, and others who are partnering to provide affordable housing.

Parish Announcements and Events

Bales We are happy to report that the Bales project is to go ahead in the next two weeks and we are

looking for donations of clean, gently used clothing, as well as boots. To make life easier for you during this pandemic we will come and collect your donations directly from your home on either Wednesday March 3 or Wednesday March 10 between 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon and would appreciate your putting your donations in bags/boxes. Please e-mail the church at acw@stjohn316.com if you are able to make a donation and state which day you would like your donation to be picked up. If neither of these days/times work for you please let us know in your e-mail. If you need to speak to a member of the team please call Rosemary Cliff at 519.578.4405.

Lenten Bible Study One of the many ways you may choose to observe Lent is by joining a study programme. I intend to offer time and space to reflect on the Gospel of Mark, and particularly the Gospel readings for each Sunday in Lent, all in the comfort of your own home. We will use the Zoom format for our meetings, beginning Thursday February 18, and concluding Thursday March 25 7 to 8 pm. Please email Paul Kett paulkett45@gmail.com if you are interested in joining us.

New Weekly Bible Study St John's is starting a weekly online Bible study on Tuesday mornings from 11:00am-noon. If you are interested in participating, please contact Ken Hull at krhull@uwaterloo.ca or 519-579-8335.

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 Debbie Sheach

Deputy Warden Dave Sapelak, Eleanor Brown

Interim Music Director Sarah Cardwell

Parish Administrator Rebecca McKay

Cover Art: Provoost, Jan. Abraham, Sarah, and the Angel, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

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