

**ORDER OF SERVICE**  
**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**  
**February 7 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](http://www.stjohn316.com) 519-743-0228

## MORNING PRAYER AT TEN O'CLOCK

Officiant & Preacher	The Rev'd Dr. Preston Parsons
Reader	Deb Sheach
Singer	Jonathan Malton, Bill Hutton, Bruce Wheatcroft
Tech Support	Simon and Daniel Guthrie
Organist	Corinne Dutton

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Prelude	Sonata II: Grave; Adagio; Allegro Maestoso Felix Mendelssohn
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## THE 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* 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.**

### Hymn 291

### O Christ, the Healer

1. O Christ, the healer, we have come  
to pray for health, to plead for friends.  
How can we fail to be restored,  
when reached by love that never ends?
2. From every ailment flesh endures  
our bodies clamour to be freed;

yet in our hearts we would confess  
that wholeness is our deepest need.

3. How strong, O Lord, are our desires,  
how weak our knowledge of ourselves!  
Release in us those healing truths  
unconscious pride resists or shelves.
4. In conflicts that destroy our health,  
we diagnose the world's disease;  
our common life declares our ills:  
is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
5. Grant that we all, made one in faith,  
in your community may find  
the wholeness that, enriching us,  
shall reach the whole of humankind.

## **Collect of the Day**

*Officiant*      Let us pray.

*The community prays silently.*

Merciful Lord,  
grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,  
that we may be cleansed from all our sins  
and serve you with a quiet mind;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive 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 40:21-31)

*Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been  
told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from  
the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the*

*circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.*

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm**

Psalm 147:1-12

How good is it to sing praises to our God!  
how pleasant it is to honour him with praise!

The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem;  
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

He heals the broken hearted  
and binds up their wounds

He counts the number of the stars  
and calls them all by their names.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power;  
there is no limit to his wisdom

The Lord lifts up the lowly,  
but casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;  
make music to our God upon the harp.

He covers the heavens with clouds  
and prepares rain for the earth;

He makes grass to grow upon the mountains  
and green plants to serve mankind.

He provides food for flocks and heards  
and for the young ravens when they cry.

He is not impressed by the might of a horse;  
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him,  
in those who await his gracious favour.

*Reader* A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the church  
in Corinth. (1 Corinthians 9:16-23)

*If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.*

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

*Reader*   A Reading from the Gospel According to Mark.  
(Mark 1:29-39)

*As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told Jesus about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.*

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

Rector's Vestry Charge           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: for Todd, our Bishop; Preston, our Rector;  
for ministries of healing and wholeness, for hospital, hospice,  
and military chaplains, for those serving in prison ministry,  
for college and university chaplains, and campus ministry  
programmes, for all who proclaim freedom and release in the  
name of Christ,

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

For creation: for insects in the grass, clouds on the  
mountaintops, for cattle and the rainwater they drink, for the  
humility to take our place among all creatures of the earth,

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

For the nations: for all who lead in cities, towns, and rural communities, provinces and territories and countries; for community organizers, school officials, and hospitals; for international health organizations, that in times such as these, times of trial, fear, or hopelessness, they find freedom in service to those most in need,

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

For all wearied by life's burdens: for those who are poor, for those lacking supportive relationships, for those crushed by debt, for those struggling with chronic pain or other sickness, for those exhausted from overwork or stress, and for all who cry out to you, especially those we name aloud or remember silently (a space for reflection),

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

For this parish: for outreach and social ministries centered here; for those who visit and keep in touch with members, for ministries of companionship and support, for the young people who open us to new understandings,

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

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed, who were called by name and now rest from their labours, that their lives serve as witnesses to the goodness of God,

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

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. **AMEN.**

## **Anthem**

# 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 293

## Your Hands, O Lord, in Days of Old

1. Your hands, O Lord, in days of old  
were strong to heal and save;  
they triumphed over pain and death,  
o'er darkness and the grave.  
To you they went, the blind, the mute,  
the palsied and the lame,  
the leper set apart and shunned,  
the sick and those in shame.
2. And then your touch brought life and health,  
gave speech and strength and sight;  
and youth renewed, with health restored,  
claimed you, the Lord of light.  
And so, O Lord, be near to bless,  
almighty now as then,  
in every street, in every home,  
in every troubled friend.
3. O be our mighty healer still,  
O Lord of life and death;  
restore and strengthen, soothe and bless

with your almighty breath.  
On hands that work and eyes that see,  
your healing wisdom pour,  
that whole and sick and weak and strong  
may praise you evermore.

## 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                      Prelude from Three Pieces - Pierne.

# **Prayer Intentions for the Week of February 7 2021**

## **IN THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER**

PRAY for The Anglican Church of Burundi, 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 Watton, Bishop, and the people and clergy of the Diocese of Central Newfoundland.

In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada we pray for the dean, council, and congregations of the Two Rivers, Nith Valley and Niagara Areas of the Eastern Synod

## **IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER**

PRAY for parishes, people, and clergy in Saugeens Deanery, and especially this week for St. James Church, Fairmont; Church of the Ascension, Kinlough; Christ Church, Markdale; and Christ Church, Meaford.

## **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 Simon and Sarah Guthrie, James and Marianne Hahn, Brain and Margaret Hendley, Richard and Penny Hobson, 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, Maxine, Pat, Franco, Daisy

## **WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND FOR WHOM FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TODAY**

The flowers on the Altar are in loving memory of Linda Pelton-Duff, a gift of her sister Carol Cockfield.

## **SPECIAL INTENTIONS**

PRAY for Preston, our Rector, the Archdeacon, regional Dean and clergy of our Deanery, ministers of the Gospel everywhere, and leaders of other faith groups. With restrictions on our worship life 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 our annual Vestry meeting today, that we may meet together as the family of God in this place, celebrate our past year with thanksgiving, and look to the year ahead with hopefulness. GIVE THANKS for those retiring from leadership roles, and for those taking on new duties, that they may be upheld by our prayers and our support for the work they undertake on our behalf.

PRAY for students who are learning at home, 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 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 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**

**Vestry Meeting** The Annual Vestry Meeting will be held Sunday, February 7, in a Zoom meeting following the 10am service.

**Young(ish) Adults Group** The young adults of St. John are gathering for bible studies and social gatherings on a bi-weekly basis. If you identify as a young adult feel free to join our Facebook group [St. John the Evangelist Young\(ish\) Adult Group](#) or email [church@stjohn316.com](mailto:church@stjohn316.com) to be added to the email list. We are meeting virtually and would love to have you join us! We are LGBTQ+ friendly and welcome young adults from other churches and the broader community.

**Thank you!** A heartfelt thank you to our Parish family for generously donating \$600 for the purchase of a Christmas Gift Hamper for our Newcomer family. We were able to buy a few gifts for the children (Cedric and Ariane), and gift cards for Esperance and James. A lovely thank you note from the Behavu family was printed in a recent Weekly Check-in, and in OEW.

**Lenten Bible Study** The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17, this year. 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. I am suggesting an evening meeting, about an hour in length, say 7 to 8 pm. Please email me if you are interested in joining us.

Paul Kett [paulkett45@gmail.com](mailto:paulkett45@gmail.com)

**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](mailto:krhull@uwaterloo.ca) or 519-579-8335.

**Christmas Cookies** THANK YOU to our tireless and beloved baker extraordinaire, Jean Wright, who raised \$230 for the ACW this year selling her dee-lish Christmas shortbread cookies. Her beautifully decorated and gift-wrapped cookies were sent as far away as Chemainus, BC this year! Many thanks Jean!

**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](mailto:rector@stjohn316.com)) or the Office ([church@stjohn316.com](mailto:church@stjohn316.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](mailto: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](mailto: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

**Interim Music Director** Sarah Cardwell

**Parish Administrator** Rebecca McKay

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