

ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 21st, 2021

Fifth Sunday in 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

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 striven to safeguard
the integrity of God's creation, respecting,
sustaining and renewing the life of the earth.

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.

Most merciful God,
by the death and resurrection
of your Son Jesus Christ,
you created humanity anew.
May the power of his victorious cross
transform those who turn in faith
to 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 Jeremiah.
(Jeremiah 31:31-34)

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

Psalm

Psalm 51

1. Have mercy, Lord, on us,
for you are ever kind;
though we have sinned before you, Lord,
your mercy let us find.
2. Lord, wash away our guilt,
and cleanse us from our sin;
for we confess our wrongs, and see
how great our guilt has been.
3. The joy your grace can give,
let us again obtain,
and may your Spirit's firm support
our spirits then sustain.

Reader A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.
 (Hebrews 5:5-10)

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." In

Reader A Reading from the Gospel According to John.
(John 12:20-33)

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say - 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

Intercessor: The response to each of the petitions is, "Your mercy is great."

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

A brief silence

O God, you wash us through and through and remember our sins no more. Make your church a community of forgiveness throughout the world. Give your people courage to forgive; through them show the world new possibilities. Bless ministries of repentance and reconciliation. We give thanks for the ministry of 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.**

You fill the earth – from tiny grains of wheat to the mighty thunder – with your presence, and you call us to attend to your will for all creation. Grant weather that prepares soils for seeds; protect all from violent storms, flooding, and wildfires.

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

You promise to write your law on our hearts. Guide citizens throughout the world to shape communities that reflect your mercy, justice, and peace; give them creativity to work for the welfare of all.

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

You sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Restore the joy of all who need to know your presence: those who are lonely or feel unforgivable; those who look for healing of mind or body; those who are dying; and all who grieve. We include those who have asked for our prayers, naming them aloud, or remembering them silently. (A space for reflection).

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

Jesus calls us to follow him in life and death. Empower this congregation in discipleship. Equip all who teach. Give us your truth and wisdom, and teach us to follow Jesus.

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

In the cross of Christ, your name is glorified. We praise you for those who have given us words to worship you, especially Thomas Cranmer who we remember today. With all those who have died in Christ, bring us into life everlasting.

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

Blute nur du liebes Herz
from *Matthäus-Passion* BWV 244

J.S. Bach

Blute nur, du liebes Herz!

Bleed now, loving heart!

Ach! ein Kind, das du erzogen,

Ah! A child, whom you reared,

Das an deiner Brust gesogen,

That sucked at your breast,

Droht den Pfleger zu ermorden,

Is threatening to murder its guardian

Denn es ist zur Schlange worden.

For that child has become a serpent.

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 582

Weary of All Trumpeting

1. Weary of all trumpeting,
weary of all killing,
weary of all songs that sing
promise, nonfulfilling,
we would raise, O Christ, one song;
we would join in singing
that great music pure and strong,
wherewith heaven is ringing.

2. Captain Christ, O lowly Lord,
servant King, your dying
bade us sheathe the foolish sword,
bade us cease denying.
Trumpet with your Spirit's breath
through each height and hollow;
into your self-giving death
call us all to follow.

3. To the triumph of your cross
summon all the living;
summon us to love by loss,
gaining all by giving;
suffering all, that we may see
triumph in surrender;
leaving all, that we may be
partners in your splendour.

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

Fugue in C Minor - J.S.Bach

Prayer Intentions for the Week of March 21 2021

IN THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for the Church of England, its people and clergy, and 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 we pray this week for Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson, and the people and clergy of the Diocese of Montreal.

In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, we pray for Deacon Michelle Collins, Assistant to the Bishop and the staff of the Manitoba – Northwestern Ontario Synod.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for parishes, people, and clergy in our own Deanery of Waterloo, and especially this week for St. George's of Forest Hill, Kitchener; our own parish of St. John the Evangelist, Kitchener; and St. George's, New Hamburg.

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 William and Phillipine Langenhoven, Louise Lazarowich, Jennifer Levitt-Birdsall, Bob and Maureen Lichti, and their families.

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHO ARE ILL

Tracy, Marlin, Ron and Anne, Wayne, Ida, Vivian, Margaux,

Sylvia, Alexander, Percival and Janet, Jeannie, Valerie, Cedric, Hazel, Al and Ann, St. John's, Margaret and George Strack, Pat, Franco, Janice and Family, John and Jennings family.

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, medical care and temporary shelter for those who have nowhere to call home, and all who are partnering to provide affordable housing.

Parish Announcements and Events

March 28th, 10am

The Sunday of the Passion with the Blessing of the Palms

Broadcast on YouTube from St. John's.

April 1st, 6pm

Maundy Thursday

Join together with the Rector by ZOOM for prayers, music, and

readings, celebrating the Last Supper over a meal you've prepared at home. Email the Rector for the ZOOM link at rector@stjohn316.com.

April 2nd, 10am

Good Friday

A service of penitence and adoration, with hymns, broadcast on YouTube from St. John's.

April 3rd, 4pm

Come to the Table Easter Celebration

Our family and children focussed Easter celebration will take place by ZOOM. The link will be sent out to our Come to the Table email list, or email the Rector at rector@stjohn316.com.

April 3rd, 8pm

Easter Vigil: Lighting the New Fire, Neighbourhood Procession, and the Singing of the Exsultet

After lighting the new fire in the Memorial Garden, we will process around the neighbourhood with banners, ending up back at the Water Street doors of the church for the singing of the Exsultet. *This service will be weather dependent.*

April 4th, 10am

Easter Sunday

Drop off a bottle of wine at the church, and it will be blessed at the celebration of the Eucharist!

There are also a limited number of dry or sweet bottles of sherry available with a non-receipted cash donation of \$20. Email the Rector right away at rector@stjohn316.com to

reserve your bottle! More details about dropping off or picking up your bottle to come.

EASTER MEMORIAL FLOWERS. The Altar Guild are asking for donations toward the Easter flowers. Traditionally donations have been made by members of the congregation in memory of Family, Friends or in Thanksgiving for a special blessing. If you would like to help celebrate the Resurrection in this way we ask that you send your donation to the Church Office by Palm Sunday.

All checks should be made out to St. John the Evangelist ACW and marked "Easter Flowers" in the Memo line. Please make sure you include your name and the names of those whom you wish to be remembered, as these will be needed for the Easter Bulletin. If you have any questions please contact Enid Emery at 519-896-0637

ENCOUNTERING THE PSALMS: A six-week program on understanding and singing the Psalms will be offered on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning April 13. Our Rector, Preston Parsons, Alicia Batten, Bruce Wheatcroft and Ken Hull will each explore different aspects of the psalms, and a concluding presentation on the Psalms in Anglican Worship will be given by Prof. Lizette Larson-Miller of Huron College. Each week we'll conclude our session by singing a psalm in a different way. To attend please register [here](#). More details about the course can be found [here](#).

Confirmations On Thursday, June 3rd, the bishop will be visiting the deanery for a confirmation service. It will be held outside and observe all COVID protocols that will be in place. If you are interested in confirmation—as an unconfirmed adult who would like to make a fresh profession of faith, or as a young person—be in touch with the Rector, rector@stjohn316.com.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Prayer shawls and prayer squares have been an integral part of St. John's ministry since at least 2005. This ministry was begun in 1998 by 2 women in Hartford, Connecticut and has grown to involve many caring organizations since then throughout North America. Compassion and the love of knitting/crocheting have been combined into a prayerful ministry and spiritual practice which reaches out to those in need of comfort as well as celebration. In this time of social isolation, it is even a more important way to wrap our arms around those we can't visit in their time of need or joy.

I have taken over the coordination of this ministry and will work in conjunction with our parish visitor team. I am looking for anyone who knits and/or crochets to join me in providing physical representations of the love and care we have for fellow parishioners. Please help me provide a supply of shawls so that our parish visitors never have to say that we have run out.

If you are interested please email me at kluscott@gmail.com or phone 519-500-8742.

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.

Vaccine Registration for 70 and Up You or someone you know over the age of 80 is now eligible to register for your COVID-19 vaccine! You can find the link below.
<https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/health-and-wellness/covid-19-vaccination-pre-registration.aspx#>

ITEMS FOR MONICA PLACE

Donations Needed

Our babies and toddlers are growing fast - we need donations of size 5 and 6 diapers and larger new clothing sizes 12-24 months for spring time



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:

https://www.msasperu.org/grafic/graficoslit/cuaresma_pascua/05_cua_b.htm