

ORDER OF SERVICE
Passion Sunday
with the Blessing of the Palms
March 28 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	Nik Ward-Campbell
Singer	Jocelyn Truscott, Sue Doran Dave Sapelak, Mohan Thomas
Tech Support	Jonathan Malton
Organist	Sarah Cardwell

Prelude Prelude on Winchester New - William Lloyd Webber

THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS

Officiant Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.

People **Hosanna in the highest.**

Officiant Dear friends in Christ,
during Lent we have been preparing
for the celebration of our Lord's paschal
mystery.

On this day our Lord Jesus Christ
entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph.

The people welcomed him
with palms and shouts of praise,
but the path before him led to self-giving,
suffering, and death.

Today we greet him as our King,
although we know his crown is thorns
and his throne a cross.

We follow him this week
from the glory of the palms
to the glory of the resurrection
by way of the dark road of suffering and death.

United with him in his suffering on the cross,
may we share his resurrection and new life.

Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help,
Lord God of our salvation,
that we may enter with joy
into the celebration of those mighty acts
whereby you give us life and immortality;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John. (John 12:12-16)

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Officiant The Gospel of Christ.

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Officiant It is right to praise you, almighty God,
for the acts of love
by which you have redeemed us
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
The Hebrews acclaimed Jesus
as Messiah and King,
with palm branches in their hands, crying,

Hosanna in the highest.
May we also, carrying these emblems,
go forth to meet Christ
and follow him in the way
that leads to eternal life;
who lives and reigns in glory with you
and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Choral Anthem

Hosanna to the Son of David

Noel Rawsthorne

Officiant Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

Almighty God,
whose Son was crucified yet entered into glory,
may we, walking in the way of the cross,
find it is for us the way of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

Hymn 182

Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

1. Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark! all the tribes "Hosanna" cry;
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.
2. Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp, ride on to die;
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.
4. Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh:
the Father on his sapphire throne
expects his own anointed Son.
5. Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp, ride on to die;

bow thy meek head to mortal pain;
then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

Almighty and everliving God,
in tender love for all our human race
you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take our flesh
and suffer death upon a cruel cross.
May we follow the example of his great humility,
and share in the glory of his resurrection;
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 50:4–9A)

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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

Psalm

Psalm 31:9-16

Have mercy on me O God, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.

For my life is wasted with grief and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.

I have become a reproach to all my enemies
and even to my neighbours,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance;
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

I am forgotten like the dead out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.

For I have heard the whispering of the crown;
fear is all around;
they put their heads together against me;
they plot to take my life.

But as for me, I have trusted in your O God.
I have said You are my God.

My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your loving kindness save me.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be
world without end, Amen.

Reader A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the church
in Philippi. (Philippians 2:5-11)

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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 it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify

him!" So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of

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

In Jesus you came among us as a suffering servant. Give your church humility. Redeem your people from pride and the certainty that we always know your will. Heal us and empower us to confess Christ crucified. We pray 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.**

In creation, life springs from death. Redeem your creation awaiting resurrection: restore lost habitats and endangered species. Create new possibilities for areas affected by the climate crisis, grant relief from natural disasters, and nurture new growth.

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

Jesus was handed over to the powers of this world. In all nations, instruct the powerful, that they would not exploit their powers, but maintain justice tempered with mercy. Sustain military personnel, peacekeepers, and those who lead them, that they may serve those in greatest need with mercy and compassion.

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

On the cross, Jesus joined all who feel forsaken. Abide with those who are condemned to death. Defend those who are falsely accused. Console and strengthen those who are

mocked or bullied. Accompany all who suffer, including those we now name aloud, or remember silently. (A time for reflection and personal prayer).

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

You called followers to tend Jesus' body in death. Sustain hospice workers and funeral directors. Bless this congregation's ministries at times of death: all who plan and lead funerals, all who prepare food to sustain mourners, and all who offer support in grief

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

You inspired the centurion to confess Jesus as your Son. We praise you for the faith you have given to people of all places and times. Give us also such faith to trust the promises of baptism and, with them, to look for the resurrection of the dead.

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.**

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 184

My Song is Love Unknown

1. My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me;
love to the loveless shown
that they might lovely be.
O who am I,
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh and die?
2. He came from his blest throng
salvation to bestow;
but all made strange, and one
the longed-for Christ would know:
but O my friend,
my friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend!
4. They rise and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the Prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
to suffering goes,
that he his foes from then might free.

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 Wondrous Love - D. Wood

Prayer Intentions for the Week of March 28 2021

IN THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui, (the Anglican Church in Hong Kong), 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 the theological colleges and training programs within the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada: The Atlantic School of Theology, Montreal Diocesan Theological, College, and Queen's College

In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, we pray for the dean, council, and congregations of the Northwestern Ontario Area 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 All Saints', Waterloo; St. Bede's Chapel, Waterloo; Church of the Holy Saviour, Waterloo; and St. Columba's, Waterloo.

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 Maxine Lindsay, Willy Lootens, Robin and Phyllis Lowe, Jonathan and Marilyn Malton 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. Give thanks for all who are volunteering and working in vaccination clinics in our region and beyond. 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

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.

THANK YOU The logistics to collect clothing for the Bales was a little different/difficult this year but we managed it and a good number of boxes were finally delivered to Home Hardware last Thursday for the journey to Kenora. Thank you to all those who contributed new and used clothing. It was very much appreciated. As well a big thank you to those people who helped with packing and to those who offered but whose services were not needed.

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 extended to April 8 from 7 to 8 pm (not meeting April 1). 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 70 is now eligible to 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#>

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

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