

ORDER OF SERVICE
Third Sunday of Easter
April 18 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 James Brown
Reader	Marianne Mellinger
Singer	Rebecca McKay
Tech Support	Mohan Thomas
Organist	Sarah Cardwell

Prelude Now the Green Blade Rises - Carl Schalk

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Celebrant May his grace and peace be with you.

People **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Officiant Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

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 220

Christ is Risen, Christ is Risen

1. Christ is risen, Christ is risen,
tell it with a joyful voice;
Christ has burst his three days' prison:
let the whole wide earth rejoice!
Death is conquered, we are free,
Christ has won the victory.

2. Come, ye sad and fearful-hearted,
with glad smile and radiant brow;
Lent's long shadows have departed,
all his woes are over now,
and the Passion that he bore;
sin and pain can vex no more.

3. Christ is risen, Christ is risen;
he hath opened heaven's gate:
we are free from sin's dark prison,
risen to a holier state;
and a bright Easter beam
on our longing eyes shall stream.

Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

The community prays silently.

O God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread.
Open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in his redeeming work,
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 Acts.
(Acts 3:12-19)

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though

he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

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

Psalm

Psalm 4

George Black

Refrain UNISON

The Lord does wonders for the faithful.

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
"You mortals, how long will you dishonour my glory;
how long will you worship dumb idols
and run after false gods?". *Refrain*

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful;
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.
Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed. *Refrain*

Offer the appointed sacrifices
and put your trust in the Lord.
Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!"

Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

Refrain

You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.
I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep;
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety. *Refrain*

Reader A reading from the First Letter of John.
(1 John 3:1-7)

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sins is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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

Reader A Reading from the Gospel According to Luke.
(Luke 24:36B-48)

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he

The Prayers of the People

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

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence

Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church will embody repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. We give thanks for the leadership of Todd, our Bishop, and for the ministry of Preston, our Rector. Give us a common vision for mission and ministry in our neighbourhood, and the commitment to work in cooperation with others.

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

Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration. Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home.

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

God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your lovingkindness to national, provincial, and local leaders of people.

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

Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need, and you answer them in their distress. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion, and nurse them back to health and wholeness. We include all we now name aloud or remember silently. (A space for reflection and personal prayer). Be close to the hearts of the lonely.

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

Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness.

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

God of all times and ages, those who have died in you now see you as you are. We thank you for their lives among us. Assure us of the peace you have promised, that we may join them in everlasting life.

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

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our risen 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 237

Now the Green Blade Rises

1. Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
2. In the grave they laid him, Love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
3. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
4. When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

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

Vulpus - H. Willan

Prayer Intentions for the Week of April 18th 2021

IN THE ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for the Church of Ireland, for clergy and people there, and our common ministry and mission.

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 Most Rev. Anne Germond, Archbishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Algoma.

In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, we pray this week for the dean, council, and congregations of the Manitoba South Area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod

Together, we pray for the right of Indigenous Peoples to Free, Prior and Informed Consent and a renewed commitment to responsible resource extraction.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

PRAY for parishes, people, and clergy in Brant-Norfolk Deanery, and especially this week for All Saint's Church, Mount Pleasant; St. James Church, Paris; and St. Paul's Church, Port Dover.

PRAY for the Diocese of Amazonia, for Bishop Marinez Rosa dos Santos Bassoto, Bishop, and for our common mission and ministry.

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

The flowers on the Altar are given in memory of Loved Ones,
a gift of the Lowe family

FOR MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

WE PRAY this week for Mary and Lucas Neil, Bette Anne
and Jack Nichols, Hazel Nobes, Gladys O'Hara, 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. In this season of Easter, may we continue to be
mindful of each other's need for support and
encouragement, 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 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

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.

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