



Church of St. John the Evangelist

Sunday, January 8, 2023

11am

Feast of Epiphany

11:00 am Choral Mattins (BCP)

Welcome to St. John's Elora.

*Hymn books, prayer books and hearing assist devices
are available at the back of the church.*

Face masks are recommended when indoors at St. John's.

This liturgy is live-streamed on St. John's Elora You Tube.

St. John's church sits on the traditional unceded territories of the Attawandaron, Mississauga, and Haudenosaunee First Nations. These lands are covered by the Between the Lakes Treaty and the Haldimand land grant. These lands are also part of The Dish With One Spoon Treaty, all subsequent newcomers have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect. Today this land is home to many diverse Inuit, Metis and First Nations peoples.

Processional Hymn 160 As with Gladness Men of Old

Dix

*1.As with gladness men of old did the guiding
star behold; as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be
led to thee.*

*3.As they offered gifts most rare at that cradle
rude and bare, so may we with joyful song,
raising voices pure and strong,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee our
heavenly king.*

*2.As with joyful steps they sped, Saviour, to
thy lowly bed, there to bend the knee before
thee, whom heaven and earth adore; so may
we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.*

*4.In the heavenly country bright need they no
created light: thou its light, its joy, its crown,
thou its sun which goes not down;
there forever may we sing alleluias to our king.*

"The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

- Habakkuk 2.14

Minister: Dearly beloved, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy.

And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul.

Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace.

(you may kneel or sit for prayer)

Minister: ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father,

All: **We have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto humankind in Christ Jesu our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

Minister: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness, and live, hath given power and commandment to his ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins.
God pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.
Wherefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Responses are sung.

Minister: O LORD, open thou our lips;

All: **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Minister: O God, make speed to save us;

All: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

(please stand)

Minister: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

All: **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Minister: Praise ye the Lord;

All: **The Lord's Name be praised.**

Canticle Venite

(remain standing)

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners of the earth; and the strength of the hills is his also.

The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship, and fall down, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is the Lord our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Glory be to the father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

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

Lesson 1 Ephesians 3.1-12

This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you gentiles, for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Psalm 72.1-7, 10-14

(Congregation remain seated)

Give the king thy judgement, O God, and thy righteousness unto the king's son.
Then shall he judge thy people according unto right, and thy poor with justice.
The mountains also shall bring peace, and the little hills righteousness unto the people.
He shall keep the simple folk by their right,
save the children of the poor, and punish the wrong doer.
He shall live as long as the sun, and while the moon endureth, from one generation to another.
He shall come down like the rain upon the mown grass, even as the showers that water the earth.
In his time shall righteousness flourish;
yea, and abundance of peace, so long as the moon endureth.
Let the kings of Tarshish and of the isles give presents,
and the kings of Arabia and Seba bring gifts.
Let all kings fall down before him, and all nations do him service.
For he shall deliver the poor when he crieth; the needy also, and him that hath no helper.
He shall have pity on the weak and the needy, and shall preserve the souls of the poor.
He shall deliver their souls from falsehood and wrong; and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Lesson II Matthew 2.1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for

from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.' ”

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Jubilate Deo in F

John Ireland

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands;

serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:

it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,

and into his courts with praise.

be thankful unto him and speak good of his name.

For the Lord is gracious, His mercy is everlasting;

and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

(Please stand)

Minister: I believe in God

All: **the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth: and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Responses are sung.

Minister: The Lord be with you;

All: **And with thy spirit.**

Minister. Let us pray.

(please kneel or sit for prayer)

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All: **OUR Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that**

trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Minister: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
All: **And grant us thy salvation.**
Minister: O Lord, save the King;
All: **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**
Minister: Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;
All: **And make thy chosen people joyful.**
Minister: O Lord, save thy people;
All: **And bless thine inheritance.**
Minister: Give peace in our time, O Lord;
All: **And evermore mightily defend us.**
Minister: O God, make clean our hearts within us;
All: **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

Collect for the Day

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the Gentiles: Mercifully grant, that we, who know thee now by faith, may be led onward through this early life, until we see the vision of thy heavenly glory; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The Second Collect, for Peace.

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Third Collect, for Grace.

O LORD our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Anthem *Bethlehem Down*

*When He is King we will give Him the King's gifts,
Myrrh for its sweetness, and gold for a crown,
"Beautiful robes", said the young girl to Joseph
Fair with her first-born on Bethlehem Down.*

*Bethlehem Down is full of the starlight
Winds for the spices, and stars for the gold,
Mary for sleep, and for lullaby music
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.*

Peter Warlock

*When He is King they will clothe Him in grave-sheets,
Myrrh for embalming, and wood for a crown,
He that lies now in the white arms of Mary
Sleeping so lightly on Bethlehem Down.*

*Here He has peace and a short while for dreaming,
Close-huddled oxen to keep Him from cold,
Mary for love, and for lullaby music
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.*

Homily Rev'd Canon Paul Walker

Offertory Hymn 159 Brightest and Best

Stella Orientis

An offering plate will be passed during this hymn. Your donation to support St. John's is most welcome.

1. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid: gem of the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

3. Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion, odours of Edom and offerings divine, gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean, myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?

2. Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining, low lies his head with the beasts of the stall; angels adore him in slumber reclining, Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.

4. Vainly we offer each ample oblation, vainly with gifts would his favour secure; richer by far is the heart's adoration, dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

5. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid: gem of the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Closing Prayers for the community, the world and those in need.
(you may kneel or sit)

The Grace **May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 158 Earth has Many a Noble City

Stuttgart

1. Earth has many a noble city; Bethlehem, thou dost all excel: out of thee the Lord from heaven came to rule his Israel.

3. Eastern sages at his cradle make oblation rich and rare; see them give, in deep devotion, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

2. Fairer than the sun at morning was the star that told his birth, to the world its God announcing seen in fleshly form on earth.

4. Sacred gift of mystic meaning: incense doth their God disclose, gold the King of kings proclaimeth, myrrh his sepulchre foreshows.

5. Jesus, whom the Gentiles worshipped at thy glad epiphany, unto thee, with God the Father and the Spirit, glory be.

Postlude

Flowers are given to the glory of God.

Quartet Rebecca McKay, Emily Burnett, Lanny Fleming, Alan Macdonald
Readers Doug Wilson, Chris Rynberk
Greeters
Technician

St. John's Four Areas of Ministry

Proclaim the Love of Christ - Engage and Involve - Musical Outreach - Open Doors

Rector: The Rev'd Canon Paul J. Walker rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Director of Music: Dr. Patrick Murray music.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Organist: Jurgen Petrenko
Sexton and Caretaker: Garry Cantlon sexton.stjohnselora@gmail.com

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Welcome to St. John's

It is a delight to welcome you to participate in worship this morning. To subscribe to the weekly Pastoral Letter from the Rector, with a reflection and news about what is coming up, please send an email to rector.stjohnsleroa@gmail.com

Boxes of Offering Envelopes for 2023

Please pick up your box of Offering Envelopes for 2023 at the back of the church. Even if you use E-Transfer there should be a box there for you. If you do not see your name on a box, and would like a box, please let us know.

Bach Meditations: A New Lecture-Performance Series at St. John's

Beginning this month, we're pleased to launch a new Sunday afternoon series exploring the sacred cantatas of Johann Sebastian Bach. In his time, Bach wrote cantatas as a form of "musical sermon" on the scripture readings for specific days during the liturgical year, and these shorter works also served as musical prototypes for his larger, more famous Passions. We look forward to presenting a few cantatas this season as they correspond to our own liturgical year.

Please join us for a lecture-performance of Cantata 111: Was mein Gott will, das g'scheh allzeit (God's will is best, it shall be done), a cantata for the Third Sunday after Epiphany, on Sunday, January 22, 3:15pm.

This 45-minute event will feature a combination of musical exploration and lecture with music director Patrick Murray, a scripture reading and short homily exploring the readings that the work is based on, and a performance of the piece featuring soloists from the Parish Choir and professional instrumental ensemble.

Sung in German, with English translation available to follow along. Admission by donation.

"What We Say We Believe"

WHAT: An open informal weekly discussion-study group to explore and talk about Church statements of belief: the three creeds and some other scriptural, historical, and liturgical statements. [Facilitated by Fr. John]

WHEN: begins next Monday January 9 afternoon at 2:00 pm for 60 to 90 minutes

WHERE: The Parish Centre

Vestry Reports

If you were involved in a ministry or activity at St. John's last year, please create a written report of what you accomplished and send it to Thomas Littlewood at parish.stjohnselora@gmail.com.

The deadline for Vestry Reports is January 28. Vestry will be held on Sunday February 26.

This Week at St. John's

Monday	2:00	"What We Say We Believe" (Parish Centre)
	7:00	Bible Study at Portage
Tuesday	11:00	Clericus
	5:30	Volunteer Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday	9:30	Knitters and Quilters
	10:00	Holy Communion
Thursday	9:00	Yoga (Parish Centre)
	7:00	Parish Choir Rehearsal

Sunday January 15

8:00	Holy Communion
9:00	Holy Eucharist with Volunteer Choir
11:00	Choral Communion with Parish Choir