



*Church of St. John the Evangelist
Elora, Ontario*

*Choral Evensong
for the
Feast of Candlemas
(transferred from February 2)*

*January 29, 2023
4:00 pm*

4:00pm Choral Evensong (BCP)

Welcome to St. John's Elora.

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.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness: let the whole earth stand in awe of him. *Psalm 96.9*

Introit: When to the Temple Mary Went

Johannes Eccard

Minister: Dearly beloved, let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

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.**

Versicles and Responses are sung by Choir.

Humphrey Clucas

O LORD, open thou our lips;
And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
O God, make speed to save us;
O Lord, make haste to help us.

(please stand)

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.
Praise ye the Lord;
The Lord's Name be praised.

(congregation may be seated)

Psalm 84 (sung)

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry

O how lovely are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house; thy will be always praising thee.
Blessed are the men whose strength is in thee, in whose heart are the pilgrim ways;
Who going through the Vale of Misery use it for a well; yea, the early rain covereth it with blessings.
They go from strength to strength, and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.
O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: hearken, O God of Jacob.
Behold, O God, our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed.
For one day in thy courts is better than a thousand.
I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
For the Lord God is a light and defence; the Lord will give grade and glory;
and no good thing shall he withhold from them that lead a godly life.
O Lord God of hosts, blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee.

FIRST LESSON

Hebrews 2.14-18

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Magnificat Evening Service in G

Herbert Sumsion

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me; and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.

He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel;

As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

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.

SECOND LESSON

Luke 2.22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

*LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word.*

*For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;*

*To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.*

*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.*

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.

Versicles and Responses are sung by Choir.

Humphrey Clucas

The Lord be with you;

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

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.**

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King;

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people;

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord;
Because there is none other that fighteth for us but only thou, O God.
O God, make clean our hearts within us;
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in substance of our flesh, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Second Collect, for Peace.

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Collect For Aid Against all Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Anthem Hail, Gladdening Light

Charles Wood

*Hail! gladdening Light, of His pure glory poured
Who is the 'immortal Father, heavenly, blest,
Holiest of Holies – Jesus Christ our Lord!*

*Now we are come to the Sun's hour of rest;
The lights of evening round us shine;
We hymn the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit
divine!*

*Worthiest are thou at all times to be sung
With undefiled tongue,
Son of our God, giver of life, along:
Therefore in all the world thy glories,
Lord they own. Amen.*

Homily Canon Paul Walker

Offertory Hymn 14 O Gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ

Tallis Canon

*1. O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ,
in you the Father's glory shone,
Immortal, holy, blest is he,
and blest are you, his holy Son.*

*2. Now sunset comes, but light shines forth;
the lamps are lit to pierce the night.
Praise Father, Son, and Spirit:
God who dwells in the eternal light.*

*3. Worthy are you of endless praise,
O Son of God, life giving Lord;
wherefore you are through all the earth
and in the highest heaven adored.*

Prayers for the World

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 369 Thy Strong Word did Cleave the Darkness

Ebenezer

*1. Thy strong Word did cleave the darkness;
at thy speaking it was done;
for created light we thank thee
while thine ordered seasons run:
alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia without end!*

*3. Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
bright with thine own holiness,
glorious now, we press toward glory,
and our lives our hope confess:
alleluia, alleluia!
praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia without end!*

*2. Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
dark as night and deep as death,
broke the light of thy salvation,
breathed thine own life giving breath:
alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia without end!*

*4. God the Father, Light Creator,
to thee laud and honour be;
to thee, Light of Light begotten,
praise be sung eternally;
Holy Spirit, Light Revealer,
glory, glory, be to thee:
Mortals, angels, now and ever praise the holy Trinity!*

Readers: Dinah Bristowe, Peter Barr

Technician: Rod Murray

Choir: Lesley Bouza, Audrey Coates, Rebecca McKay, Janelle Santi, Kate Wright, Emily Burnett, Autumn Debassige, Nathalie Nasr, Caroline Schmidt, Jerome Chang, Lanny Fleming, Quade Nielsen, Jeffrey Smith, Daniel Cockayne, Paul Genyk-Berezowsky, Alan Macdonald, Luke MacLean

Next Service of Evensong - Sunday February 26 at 4:00pm.

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

Church of St. John the Evangelist
36 Henderson Street
Elora, ON N0B 1S0
519-846-5911

Follow St. John's Elora on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube

stjohns@sentex.net
www.stjohnselora.ca



Welcome to St. John's

It is a delight to welcome you to participate in worship. 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.

"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. The conversation is facilitated by Rev'd John Lockyer.

WHEN: **Monday afternoon at 2:00** pm for 60 to 90 minutes

WHERE: The Parish Centre

Parish Council:

Parish Council meets on Tuesday at 2pm both in-person and by Zoom. Please send regrets to Susan Edwards. This is our last Parish Council meeting of the year before Vestry which meets on Sunday February 26.

If you are interested in the coming year in participating on Parish Council or being a member of Synod or a Warden, please let one of the Wardens know.

Candlemas

Forty days after Christmas, one of the oldest feasts in the Christian tradition, is the Feast of Candlemas on February 2. We are marking this feast this afternoon with this liturgy of Choral Evensong. It celebrates the presentation of Christ in the temple as the light of the world, and for some places the local custom is to use this as an opportunity to bless all the candles used in the church. May the light of Christ fill your life and guide your path.

94 Calls to Action Reading Group

As a result of guest homilist Michael Freeman's challenge to the Parish last summer, we were invited to begin our reconciliation journey by reading the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action. A group led by Guinevere Kern and Reverend Paul has met since October on Tuesday evenings. We have read, researched, discussed and struggled with the 94 actions that were identified in 2015 as a means for seeking reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples in Canada.

We began with the Legacy of Residential Schools and, over the last three months, examined action items 1-42 under Child Welfare, Education, Language and Culture, Health, and Justice. We have assigned ourselves homework, researching which action items have been completed, which are in progress and those, sadly, which have not been started. Each of us have brought our own biases and beliefs to the discussion; yet we've also discovered many things we did not know. When challenged with facts and

information we've discovered, we've changed our thinking and wrestled with the many challenges that Reconciliation asks of us. We continue to ask what actions we can take as individuals, as a community, and as a Parish, to take steps along the Reconciliation path.

If you wish to join our journey, you are most welcome to join us on Zoom where on Tuesdays at 7:30 pm. Contact the Rector for the Zoom link and the shared notes where the discussion is recorded and additional resources are available.

World Day of Prayer March 3

St John's will be hosting the area service. It is the first World Day of Prayer service since 2020. The service is prepared by the women of Taiwan and revolves around the theme of "I have heard of your faith" (Ephesians 1:15-19). If you would like to participate in the service, please join us at a planning meeting on Friday, February 3 at 2:00PM in the Parish Centre.

Compline - Tuesday February 7 at 8:00 p.m.

All are welcome to this meditative choral liturgy to end the day. To participate in the Compline Choir please contact Patrick Murray. The Compline Choir rehearses the music at 6:30.

This Week at St. John's

Monday	2:00	"What We Say We Believe" (Parish Centre)
	7:00	Bible Study at Portage
Tuesday	2:00	Parish Council
	5:30	Volunteer Choir Rehearsal
	7:30	Calls to Action Reading Group (on Zoom)
Wednesday	9:30	Knitters and Quilters
	10:00	Holy Communion
Thursday	9:00	Yoga (Parish Centre)
	11:00	Communion Service at Wellington Terrace
	7:00	Parish Choir Rehearsal
Friday	2:00	Planning Meeting for World Day of Prayer (Parish Centre)

Sunday February 5

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