

*Blessed are the
peacemakers, for
they will be called
children of God.*

(Matthew 5:9 NIV)



Church of St. John the Evangelist

Clora, Ontario
Diocese of Niagara

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Choral Eucharist

January 29, 2023
11:00 a.m.

11:00 am Choral Eucharist (BCP)

Mass Setting Communion Service in F

Herbert Sumsion

Introit Blessed are the Pure in Heart

Henry Walford Davies

Hymn 491 The Head that Once was Crowned

St. Magnus

1. *The head that once was crowned with thorns
is crowned with glory now;
a royal diadem adorns
the mighty Victor's brow.*

4. *To whom the cross, with all its shame,
with all its grace, is given,
their name an ever lasting name,
their joy the joy of heaven.*

2. *The highest place that heaven affords
is his, is his by right,
the King of kings and Lord of lords,
and heaven's eternal light,*

5. *They suffer with the Lord below,
they reign wit him above,
their profit and their joy to know
the mystery of his love.*

3. *the joy of all who dwell above,
the joy of all below,
to whom he manifests his love
and grants his name to know.*

6. *The cross he bore is life and health,
though shame and death to him,
his people's hope, his people's wealth,
their everlasting theme.*

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant: ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SUMMARY OF THE LAW *(congregation can kneel or sit for prayer)*

Celebrant: OUR Lord Jesus Christ said: Hear O Israel, The Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it:
Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

People: **Lord, have mercy upon us, and write both these thy laws in our hearts,
we beseech thee.**

Kyrie – sung by Quartet

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

GLORIA

Merbecke

(congregation please stand)

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards all. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Celebrant:

O God, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant to us such strength and protection, as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lesson Micah 6.1-8

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord." "With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Psalm 15 *(plainchant)*

Lord, who shall dwell in thy tabernacle? or who shall rest upon thy holy hill?

Even he that leadeth an uncorrupt life, and doeth the thing which is right, and speaketh the truth from his heart.

He that hath used no deceit in his tongue, nor done evil to his neighbour, and hath not slandered his neighbour.

He in whose eyes an ungodly man is despised, but he maketh much of them that fear the Lord.

He than sweareth unto his neighbour, and disappointeth him not, though it were to his own hindrance.

He that hath not given his money upon usury, nor taken a bribe against the innocent.

Whoso doeth these things shall never fall.

(please stand)

GOSPEL: Matthew 5.1-12

The Lord be with you.

And with thy Spirit

The Holy Gospel is written in the 5th chapter of the gospel of Matthew beginning at the 1st verse.

Glory be to thee O Lord.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED

All: I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God, of God; light, of light; very God, of very God; begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father; through whom all things were made: who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the Giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

ANTHEM O How Amiable

*O how amiable 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 a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her
young:
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King, and my God.*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

*Blessed are they that dwell in thy house.
They will be always praising thee.
The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us;
prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.
O prosper thou our handiwork.
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to
come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal
home.*

HOMILY Rev'd Canon Paul Walker

Offertory Hymn 439 Blest are the Pure in Heart

Franconia

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

*1. Blest are the pure in heart,
for they shall see our God;
the secret of the Lord is theirs,
their soul is Christ's abode.*

*3. still to the lowly soul
his presence doth impart,
and for a dwelling and a throne
chooseth the pure in heart.*

*2. The Lord, who left the heavens
our life and peace to bring,
to dwell in lowliness with us,
our pattern and our King,*

*4. Lord, we thy presence see;
may ours this blessing be:
give us a pure and lowly heart,
a temple fit for thee.*

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

INTERCESSIONS (You may kneel or sit for prayer)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Let us pray for the church, for our community, for the world. Let us pray for reconciliation with indigenous peoples of Canada. Let us pray for all who need our prayers today, and all who have died in the peace of Christ.

Leader: ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all people: we humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our alms and oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: and grant that all they that do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. Lord, in thy mercy.

***People:* Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We beseech thee also to lead all nations in the way of righteousness; and so to guide and direct their governors, that thy people may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace:

And grant unto thy servant CHARLES our King, and to all that are put in authority under him, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue. Lord, in thy mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and specially to thy servant Linda, our Primate, and Susan, our Bishop, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and living Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments: Prosper, we pray thee, all those who proclaim the Gospel of thy kingdom among the nations: And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, that, with meek heart and due reverence, we may hear and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life. Lord, in thy mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all them, who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those for whom our prayers are desired.....Lord, in thy mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We remember before thee, O Lord, all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear: and we bless thy holy Name for all who in life and death have glorified thee; beseeching thee to give us grace that, rejoicing in their fellowship, we may follow their good examples, and with them be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Lord in thy mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: YE that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

Celebrant: ALMIGHTY God,

All: Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people: we acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine majesty. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Leader: Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him:

Come unto me all that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. - *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. - *John 3:16.*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith:

This is a true saying, and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. - *1 Timothy 1:15.*

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any one sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins. - *1 St John 2:1, 2.*

THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

Celebrant: The Lord be with you;

All: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts;

All: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God;

All: **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant: It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, Creator and Preserver of all things.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with the whole company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying:

Choir: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he who cometh in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the Highest.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Celebrant: BLESSING and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all, of this; for this is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy Bread of eternal life and the Cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded; And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy Communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you;

All: And with thy Spirit.

All: We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness, But in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy So much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his Blood, That our sinful bodies May be made clean by his Body, And our souls washed

through his most precious Blood, And that we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen.

Agnus Dei

Administration of Communion

All are invited to come forward to receive the sacrament as a reminder of your baptism. Please come forward during the singing of the Agnus Dei. If mobility challenges prevent you from coming forward safely, the clergy will bring the sacrament to you. If you do not wish to receive the chalice, you are invited to touch the base of the chalice while you hear the words of administration. If you do not wish to receive the sacrament, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee that thou dost graciously feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of thy Son our saviour Jesus Christ; assuring us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are living members of his mystical body, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom.

All: **And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee. And although we are unworthy, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.**

Blessing

Hymn 537 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Cross of Jesus

*1. In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.*

*3. When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more lustre to the day.*

*2. When the woes of life o'er take me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me:
lo, it glows with peace and joy.*

*4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.*

*5. In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.*

Postlude

Quartet	Audrey Coates, Caroline Schmidt, Quade Nielsen, Paul Genyk-Berezowsky
Readers	Jane Houlding, Mark Haslett
Server	Thomas Littlewood
Chalice Bearer	Jeannie Houston
Altar Guild	Wendy Donohue, Mardy Langford
Flower Guild	Jane Anne Murray
Technician	Gerry Hill

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 Haldemand 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.

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.

"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 a special 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. Come this afternoon to be inspired in your faith as the Parish Choir offers this liturgy.

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

This Afternoon	4:00	Choral Evensong with Parish Choir to celebrate Candlemas
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

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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